

La Grande Evening Observer

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We often neglect to credit commercialism to the extent that is its due, in the so-called moral reforms that are and have been spreading and extending to all portions of the United States. The exacting requirements of the commercial conditions were the large factors that brought about the change from wide-open towns to closed and dry towns. It was not many years ago when it was no uncommon thing to see clerks and proprietors sitting around the gambling table after business hours. The boys knew about which saloon they would meet their fellow associates. This has all been changed, and so effectively that it requires a suggestion to recall the fact that such were the conditions. A few years ago the bright call boys on the western railroads knew which saloon, as a rule, to expect to find the men he desired to take out the next passenger and freight train. Business could not tolerate these conditions and the business men who for years held the balance of power in conflicts for the abolishment of the gambling table and the saloon finally began to see that for purely commercial reasons these things should be legislated out, and wherever they gave their support it was easily accomplished. Much has been and is being printed at present regarding the recent action of Mayor Lane of Portland, regarding his order to remove the inmates of the redlight district. This, according to the mayor's statement a few days ago, was because the business interests of that section of the city so requested him to do. This is reasonable to all who know the conditions of Portland. The Bad Lands are situated in the northern portion of the city, near the large union depot, covering a large territory which for legitimate business purposes would be valuable. Portland is growing rapidly in all directions except in this vicinity. The wiping out of this element of vice means a rapid increase in land values. Thus commercial demands demanded that this part of the city be cleaned up. About two-thirds of the stuff that has been printed, presumably on moral lines, had underneath it ulterior motives. Those who wanted to clean it up so the ground would become more valuable shouted morality, and some of those who wept tears of sympathy for the poor girls who were being so ruthlessly driven out into the cold world know very well that while the Bad Lands were being rebuilt and occupied that their property might not increase in rental values so they tried to form a public sentiment, the object, if possible, to prevent the mayor's order being effective. It is true, as is always the case where there is a certain moral element that stands prudely on what it conceives to be right, but beyond laying the foundation and educating the public generally until the commercial interests are aligned along with the moral, little is seldom accomplished.

JOHN D. ARCHBOLD.

But all the while, what shall be thought of John D. Archbold, the slimy officer of the Standard Oil company, who apparently has been its chief purchasing agent in buying politicians and public officials? Foraker and the rest are getting it from all sides. The man who bought is neglected.

For his deeds Archbold should be wearing stripes. Decent men should not speak to him. Clubs should expel him. Society should regard him as an enemy. Patriots should hold him a traitor. Self-respecting burglars

should have nothing to do with him.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Rain is badly needed by the farmers of the Willamette valley. The ground is yet too hard to permit fall plowing. The idea that the Willamette valley should ever need rain at this season of the year. The facts are that this section of our state never does have the rainfall that is commonly accredited; this is evidenced by the fact that irrigation is a live question there as elsewhere, wherever it is possible to secure water.

A dispatch from the Willamette valley tells of the killing of a wild deer within four miles of the city of Albany. Those who reside in the east and entertain the idea that the west comprises little but wild beasts and savage Indians, of which there are many, would believe this news item if they read it.

ENEMY OF TARIFF.

Labor World Sees Danger in Bryan Plan of Tariff for Revenue Only.
(From the Labor World.)

Workingmen and producers generally should not delude themselves with the belief that, if Mr. Bryan shall be elected President, his plans for revision of the tariff will present no menace to the country. Mr. Bryan is the professed enemy of the tariff system. He would impose duties, if at all, for revenue purposes only. On articles competing with what he chooses to call trust-made goods he would have no duty at all. Any apparent deficit in import duties arising from revised schedules he estimates would be more than made up by increased imports. Of course, his hope is to strike at the great protection States, which happen to be Republican in politics, like Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, West Virginia, etc. It does not seem to matter to him that every dollar's worth of foreign goods in the competitive class coming into the United States on a revenue or free trade basis necessarily by so much reduces the demand for home goods, thus displacing just that much American labor. What he wants to do is to rebuke and avenge himself upon protected manufacturers who do not agree with him in politics and who will have none of him at the polls, says an exchange.

But while Mr. Bryan is gunning for protected industries and Republican States, once his proposed tariff law should be in force it would fall alike upon all sections of the country, the only differences between one State and another being in the degree of hardship imposed.

We hear of workingmen saying that this time they intend to vote for Mr. Bryan, because for the past ten months we have had hard times. But what good will that do? How is a tariff for revenue, ignoring the protection idea altogether, going to open the shops and mills? How will the election of Senators by direct vote start the wheels of industry? Or the publication of campaign contributions? Or the further harassment of the railroads? Or the reorganization of the House, so that the Speaker may be powerless? Why open this country now to the markets of the world when we have not sufficient demand to consume what we ourselves manufacture? Under Republican rule we have just had ten years of unparalleled prosperity. Under Democratic administrations we have never had prosperity for any period, long or short.

Can't Disaffect the Farmers.

The failure of Bryan's desperate attempts to curry favor with the farmers is illustrated by the manner in which he was received at Crookston, Minn. According to Congressman Halvor Stevenson the event went off as follows:

"Bryan's speech at Crookston was a great disappointment. He actually lost ground there for Democracy. Thousands of people were there to hear him and waited till ten o'clock in the evening before he appeared. The address was a narrow appeal to farmers, a harangue, trying to prejudice them against Republicanism. It didn't take at all. Only once was there the slightest symptom of applause. He spoke to a silent, disappointed audience."

Campaign of Education.

In the great battle of 1896 the Republican party again stood for the maintenance of the integrity of the nation. The fight was against odds produced by a great industrial depression, and against the most sophistical arguments. The Republican party maintained a campaign of education among the wage-earners and the farmers, which ultimately led to the complete defeat of this second financial heresy which has threatened the integrity of our business structure.—Hon. Wm. H. Taft, at Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Bryan shaves himself, and Mr. Taft patronizes only union barbers. In the meantime Mr. Kern apparently thinks that it is easier to raise whiskers than it is to raise the price of a shave.

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Announcement

The Real Estate firm of Parr-Logan Co., has been superseded by the LOGAN-SHERWOOD CO. Mr. Logan remains in the firm, and Mr. Sherwood enters as the new member. The new firm will open and maintain offices in the most important Eastern and Middle West cities, where descriptions of all property listed with them will be kept on file.

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