

THE OBSERVER

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REVIEW OF THE ASSEMBLY

The first Republican assembly under the direct primary law has been held. Attendance showed that it was more than a passing thought for delegates were present from every section of Oregon. This alone convinces the average thinker that matters as they have stood in Oregon for the past few years are not satisfactory.

There are many voters who honestly hold to the right of assembly, whether the same is ever endorsed in its entirety by the majority of the electors or not.

It was not a meeting of "bosses" or would-be "bosses." Neither was it a meeting where everything was "cut and dried" as some would make believe. The temporary and permanent organizations plainly show that no slate-maker was responsible for the events of the assembly. Everyone who has ever been in politics of years gone by knows that the heavy hand in a convention always centered on the organization of the house. At the Portland meeting W. C. Bristol was named for temporary chairman without opposition. And he made the best presiding officer we have ever seen.

When it came to naming a candidate for governor there was the hottest kind of rivalry. No one can truthfully say that the Oregonian made a slate and forced it through the assembly, although that was freely predicted by opponents to republican organization.

In fact, it was a gathering of men wherein no one got everything he wanted but taken as a whole it was decidedly satisfactory. For instance, there were many splendid men from over the state who worked for Dr. Smith for governor, and for that matter no better man could have been named for that place than Dr. A. C. Smith. But the friends of Jay Bowerman outnumbered the friends of Dr. Smith and naturally the nomination went to Bowerman. It was then that such loyal republicans as John L. Rand of Baker, was an earnest supporter of Dr. Smith, struck the key note of party affiliation when he said, "I preferred Dr. Smith for governor, but the majority of this assembly of honest, thinking republicans is for Mr. Bowerman and I take pleasure in announcing that the majority rules with me, and that I shall be pleased to work hard for the success of Bowerman."

If there is anything wrong with such a declaration coming from a republican, a gentleman and a splendid citizen such as we personally know John L. Rand to be then there is nothing of a public nature above criticism and it is out of reason to expect anything but discord no matter what happens. But, there is nothing wrong with it. It is absolutely the right method in politics. Let the majority rule at all times.

As we stated before, no one got everything he wanted. In several instances we felt things could have been done differently and more satisfactorily, but it was a case of one man's judgment against another, either of which was liable to be wrong, but honestly wrong at that.

Personally we regretted to see eastern Oregon secure so many men before supreme judge nominations were reached, for we would have deemed it a distinguished pleasure to have voted for Judge Bean of Pendleton for a place on the bench. That was made impossible after Senator Hart of Baker City was named for attorney general, as this section of the state then had the governor and attorney general and could hope for no such distinction as a further nomination for one of her sons to the bench.

This assembly was merely held for the purpose of recommendation and the voters of the state have it as a guide for their benefit in casting their ballots at the primary election. There is no attempt being made to "stuff anything down someone's throat" as has been quoted, and the men who were in attendance at the gathering present the ticket named to the voters with their recommendation for its approval.

The charge that one faction only was represented in the assembly is without foundation. Mr. Scott of the Oregonian was responsible for the assembly. He insisted long ago that it be called. Naturally he had many friends present, but the man he was working for—Dr. A. C. Smith—did not receive the nomination for governor. This would indicate that there were others present besides Mr. Scott's friends. He also wanted Willis Dunlavy endorsed for state printer and failed in securing that. Another evidence that more than one faction was represented.

Senator Bourne had friends in the assembly. They believed in party organization, yet they are warm friends of the senator. And, when you analyze the entire situation as it really existed it will easily be seen that the gathering in Portland was a meeting of republicans representing all of the different factions.

The electors of the state will have the opportunity of passing on the work of the assembly—either endorsing it as a whole, in part, or rejecting it entirely. Whatever the outcome may be it will not remove from the minds of many republicans that assemblies of political parties are right and it is our opinion that they will prevail in the future, even though the entire ticket headed by Jay Bowerman is defeated this fall.

The radical step taken in Oregon politics when all conventions were abolished has been so far reaching that it may require more than one campaign to get the party to dwell together. This will in no wise be discouraging, although it is perfectly natural for all to want success.

When success is demanded above



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principle then it is conditions grow serious and even dangerous. And if the republicans of Oregon who met in assembly have the assembly principle uppermost—and we believe they have—mere defeat will not change them. It is almost safe to predict another assembly for Oregon in two years regardless of results. We believe however, that the assembly ticket just nominated will win this year but in event that it should not win, we still contend the right to assemble will be maintained.

NEWSPAPER HONESTY.

There was a meeting of the Republican press of Oregon in Portland a few days ago and it was refreshing to note how pronounced and decided each member was in advocating open honesty between candidate, newspaper and the voter.

The worst curse that ever polluted the newspaper business was the man who was willing to sell his editorial opinion and boost some candidate or measure because he was receiving pay for so doing. Doubtless in the early days Oregon had some country papers, and possibly metropolitan papers, that were guilty of this criminal act. But, if there ever was such a condition in this state, it has vanished. The newspapermen of this state today put the stamp of disapproval on the fifty-dollar candidate—the candidate who thinks he can buy the local press for a few shillings.

The public buys newspapers both for news and information. The public expects the truth in all instances and has a right to expect it. If a newspaper fails to be truthful with its people; if it is found that a newspaper is around selling support of candidate and measures its influence is little. Years ago this was done so adroitly that it seldom came to the surface, but nowadays things are different and the honest newspaper has done more to clear up the atmosphere than any other one cause.

A state legislator, a member of congress of a city alderman has as much right to sell his vote as a newspaper has to sell its influence. One is as honorable as the other. This was plainly spoken at the Oregon Republican Press association and every member agreed that it was right.

Advertising space in a newspaper is that newspaper's merchandise and is for sale at all times to people who do not purpose running objectionable

matter. Candidates for office on any ticket have the right to purchase space and run any matter they may see fit, so long as it is not libelous and conforms to law. This in no way bears on the editorial columns of a good newspaper, for the editorial space of an honorable paper is never for sale at any price.

PLEASED WITH THE OBSERVER

The Observer has received telephone calls and many letters from Joseph offering thanks for the Joseph section printed in the Observer July 20th. Every token of appreciation is heartily received by this paper. We have felt since locating in La Grande that this is the biggest and best field for a good bright newspaper in the northwest. Naturally, the Wallowa country is a part of our field and we are pleased to know that the people of Joseph join us in the undertaking of establishing a newspaper of standing and reliability—a newspaper that purposes caring for the news of all sections of the country, and especially the local field.

Joseph is one of the finest towns in Oregon and it is peopled by hospitable, energetic, honest people. The latch string of La Grande and the Grande Ronde valley is always hanging on the outside for these neighbors and we only hope it will be possible to bring closer together the interests and wishes of the two counties.

Easy.

The voter approached the politician with his usual humility. "What will we do with the new bathtub trust?" he asked. The politician presently looked up with his usual show of annoyance. "Eh! What? It'll come in handy to whitewash the other trusts in," he said.

Double bowing the voter backed out.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A Double Turn.

The juggler does a turn so neat; But, after all is said, We realize a juggler's feat Depends upon his head.—New York Times.

So Careless of Him. "Don't worry, my friend. There's nothing the matter with you but a slight indigestion." "Great Scott, doc! The physician I

sent for yesterday said I had appendicitis." "That was very careless of him. He should have known you couldn't afford such an expensive disease."—Brownings Magazine.

Beats Any Sunrise.

The rooster's crow does very well As "music" now and then, But the thing that stands for something Is the cackle of the hen. While the first may crow the sun up, We aren't likely to forget That a fresh egg served for breakfast Beats the finest sunrise yet.—Christian Science Monitor.

His Record.

Buyer—I'm afraid he wouldn't make a good watchdog. Dealer (with bull terrier)—Not a good watchdog! Why, bless your heart, it was only last week that this very animal held a burglar down by the throat and beat out his brains with his tail.—Harper's Bazaar.

His Dearly.

"'Tis very nice. To kiss her twice." Said Andrew Jackson Carter. "But, glory be, So sweet is she, Two times is just a starter!"—Birmingham Age-Herald.

If No Substitute Be Found.

Mrs. Dorkins (calling from top of stairway)—John, have you locked all the rubber shoes in the safe? Mr. Dorkins—Yes. Mrs. Dorkins—Well, tie the dog near the rubber plant and turn out the lights.—Chicago Tribune.

Speaking of Horns.

Two horns will make more noise, of course, Than one will make, 'tis true; The auto makes more noise with one Than a cow can make with two.—Yonkers Statesman.

Her Performance.

Ethel—The man I marry must be a hero, one who can beard the lion in his den. Percy—I see. Kind of combination circus man and barber.—The Merry Thought.

The Brute!

They tell it that he's "a savin' brute"—No penny can pass him by. He even says that a bathin' suit Comes too amazin' high.—Atlanta Constitution.

Counting the Cost.

"So you want to marry my daughter, do you, young man?" "Y-e-s, s-i-r." "Well, can you support a family?" "H-how many are there of you, s-sir?"—St. Louis Star.

Paradox.

In this by hook or crook One can't escape a bull—You'll note a vacant look In persons that are full!—Cleveland Leader.

Your complexion as well as your temper is rendered miserable by a disordered liver. By taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets you can improve both.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the District Court of the United States, for the District of Oregon. In the matter of Albert Graham, bankrupt, in Bankruptcy. To the Creditors of Albert Graham of Troy, in the county of Wallowa and District aforesaid, a bankrupt: Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of July, 1910, the said Albert Graham was duly adjudicated bankrupt; and that the first meeting of his creditors will be held in the office of the Referee in Bankruptcy in La Grande, Oregon, on the 4th day of August, 1910, A. D. at 3 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt, and transact business as may properly come before said meeting.

JNO. S. HODGIN, Referee in Bankruptcy. July 22, 1910. July 23-25.

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