

THE OBSERVER

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EDITOR AND OWNER

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OREGON LOSES A GOOD MAN

Everyone in Oregon who has anything to do with public affairs knew Charlie Merrick, who died of heart failure at Lakeview a few days ago. And everyone who knew Mr. Merrick had a high regard for him. While yet a young man he had shown himself not only a man of ability but really an extraordinary character. He was postmaster of Portland, but that did not half tell the story of his capability, his manhood and his desire at all times to do the right thing. He was the first man in Oregon to organize the retail merchants into a state body and as their organizer he proved he was an executive to be reckoned with.

In politics Charlie Merrick was active but always fair and considerate. From every corner of this state the most profound regret will be expressed at the untimely death of this young man who certainly had a bright future before him.

PLATFORM IN BRIEF.

The Progressive platform adopted at the late Chicago convention has not been given wide circulation and for the benefit of many readers of the Observer who have requested a copy of it, we give below a brief synopsis of what it contains:

The platform declares for the "principle of government by a self-controlled democracy, expressing its will through representatives;" direct primaries for nominating state and national officers; nation wide preferential primaries for presidential nominations; direct election of United States senators; the short ballot; the initiative, referendum and recall; "a more easy and expeditious method of amending the federal constitution;" national jurisdiction over "those problems which have expanded beyond the reach of the individual states;" "equal suffrage to men and women alike;" limitation of campaign funds and detailed publicity both before and after primaries and elections, registration of lobbyists; publicity of committee hearings except on foreign affairs; and recording of all votes in committee; exclusion of federal appointees from political activities; referendum on court decisions nullifying state legislation; reforms in legal procedure and methods, with particular reference to injunctions, "an enlarged measure of social and industrial justice," including legislation regarding industrial health and accidents, child labor, wage standards, women's labor, hours and days of labor, convict labor, industrial educa-

tion, and industrial research; "the organization of the workers' men and women, as a means of protecting their interests and of promoting their progress;" "a labor seat in the president's cabinet;" "the development of agricultural credit and co-operation," and agricultural education; information about and correction of high costs of living; consolidated federal health service without discrimination as to conflicting curative schools; national regulation of interstate corporations through a permanent federal commission; reform of the patent laws; physical valuation of railroads by the interstate commerce commission and abolition of the commerce court; currency reform and opposition to the Aldrich bill; extension of foreign commerce by subsidies; conservation of natural resources; extension of good roads and rural postal delivery; opening of Alaskan resources, not through sale or gift, but "upon liberal terms requiring immediate development;" territorial self-government for Alaska; development of rivers, especially the Mississippi; American ships engaged in coastwise trade to pay no tolls for use of the Panama canal; a "protective tariff which shall equalize conditions of competition between the United States and foreign countries, both for the farmer and the manufacturer, and which shall maintain for labor an adequate standard of living;" immediate downward revision of those tariff "schedules wherein duties are shown to be unjust or excessive;" a "non-partisan scientific tariff commission" to report "as to the costs of production, efficiency of labor, capitalization, industrial organization and efficiency, and the general competitive position in this country and abroad of industries seeking protection from congress," as well as to revenue-producing power and the effect on prices and purchasing power; against the Payne-Aldrich bill; immediate repeal of the Canadian reciprocity act; a national inheritance tax; the national income tax; international arbitration in place of war; international agreement for limiting naval forces, and meantime, two battleships a year "as the best means of preserving peace;" protection "of the rights of American citizenship at home and abroad;" larger opportunities for the "able bodied immigrant," and "his native fellow workers" through "the establishment of industrial standards;" supervision of immigration; federal pensions for soldiers and sailors; pensions by the southern states for ex-Confederates and their widows and children; a zone system of parcels post; enforcement of the civil service law in letter and spirit; co-ordination of federal bureaus; protection of the people by the government from deceptive investment schemes.

The foregoing resume comprises every specific demand of the platform, as it was printed in the Chicago Daily Tribune (the principal newspaper representative of the Roosevelt party) in its issue of August 8th.

"THIS IS MY 62ND BIRTHDAY."

Col. George Andrews, the new adjutant-general of the United States army was born in Providence, R. I. August 26, 1850. He graduated from West Point in 1876, and served as second lieutenant, first lieutenant and cap-



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tain of the 25th infantry until February, 1898, a period of 22 years, when he was transferred to the adjutant-general's department with the rank of major. He reached the grade of colonel in 1902. During the 14 years that he has been attached to the department of which he has now become the head, Col. Andrews has served in all parts of the United States and its possessions. For several years he was stationed at the war department. Until his recent duties called him to Washington he served as adjutant general of the Eastern division, with headquarters at Governor's Island, New York.

GREAT CIRCUS NEAR CITY

(Continued from page one)

The beautiful scenic setting represents Cleopatra's palace. Vast hordes of soldiers, mounted and on foot, trumpeters and other musicians, dancing women, palm bearers and Egyptians in every walk of life surge through the street before the palace and then encircle the hippodrome track.

Antony appears upon the scene in a carlet chariot, overlaid with gold and gems. The historical episode of his faithfulness to his country is re-enacted. A feature of the spectacle which for magnificent beauty, is unparalleled in circus annals, is the dancing of the enormous ballet. Otakar Bartik, maitre de ballet of the Metropolitan opera house in New York City, directs it.

Following the spectacle comes the rapid and dazzling succession of circus acts.

Big Night at the Elite.

The Elite theatre has an exceptionally fine program to offer its patrons tonight, and Tuesday. In addition to the regular program, which features "The Barrier That Was Burned," a drama of Alaska, staged amid eternal snows there will be shown the Elk's parade, taken by the Pathe Film company at Portland during the recent convention. C. P. Ferris, La Grande's popular tenor will sing the official Elk's song, "Brother Bill, the Town Belongs to You." There will be no raise in admission.

Tom Lewis is to be featured in George M. Cohan's "Yankee Prince."

May Robson will continue with "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary"

Defense of Literature.

Thackeray was a past patron of the royal literary fund and frequently appeared at its annual dinners. It was at one of these dinners—on May 14, 1851—that the novelist made a noble vindication of the dignity of letters. "We don't want patrons," he said; "we want friends, and I thank God we have them. And as for any idea that our calling is despised by the world, I do, for my part, protest against and deny the whole statement. I have been in all sorts of society in this world, and I have never been despised that I know of. I don't believe there has been a literary man of the slightest merit or of the slightest mark who did not greatly advance himself by his literary labors. . . . And therefore, I say don't let us be pitied any more."

Filing an Alibi.

Parson White's precautionary measure of protecting his chicken coop with chilled steel bars was futile, for that very night four more of his choice Leghorns disappeared, leaving the severed bars as the only visible evidence of the theft. However, his suspicious pointed toward his next door neighbor, whom he had seen prowling around his yard that day, and accordingly he had this suspect up in the justice court the next morning.

"If the prisoner can file an alibi I'll let him off with a suspended sentence," announced the judge at the end of the evidence. "Can you file an alibi, Han?"

"I guess I can," eagerly rejoined the suspect. "If it ain't any harder den Parson White's chicken coop bars."—San Francisco Star.

Grace Knives.

There is a curious class of knives of the sixteenth century the blades of which have engraved on one side the musical notes to the benediction of the table, or grace before meat, and on the other the grace after meat. These knives usually went in sets of four, representing a four part harmony of bass, tenor, alto and treble. They were kept in an upright case of stamped leather and were placed before the singers according to the adaptation of each one to his particular part. As may be supposed, the inscription was usually in Latin. The following specimen is taken from actual knives of the period: "Pro tuis beneficiis Deus, gratias agimus tibi" (For thy good gifts, O God, we thank thee).

Notice to Creditors.

In the district court of the United States for the district of Oregon. In the matter of O. Phelps Pratt bankrupt; No. 2164 in bankruptcy. Notice is hereby given that on the

22nd day of August, A. D. 1912, O. Phelps Pratt, of Union, Oregon, the bankrupt above named, was duly adjudicated bankrupt; and that the first meeting of his creditors will be held at the offices of the undersigned, rooms 401-2-3-4-5 Penton building, Portland, Oregon, on the 5th day of September, 1912, at 10 a. m., at which time said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, ex-

amine the bankrupt, and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

Claims must be presented in form required by the bankruptcy act, and sworn to.

The schedule filed discloses estimated assets amounting to \$15,713.07. Dated August 24th, 1912.

CHESTER G. MURPHY,
Referee in Bankruptcy.

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