

THE OBSERVER

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JUST A WORD.

Vote for Roosevelt for President because he was chosen by the rank and file of the Republicans, and then a national committee stole the nomination from him.

Vote for B. E. Kennedy for secretary of state because Kennedy is made right and will make a good official, while his opponent, Ben Olcott, has been chiefly occupied in double crossing the Republicans of Oregon and playing with the West machine. Olcott is West's pet. A vote against Olcott means as near a vote against West this year as it is possible to give.

Vote against Jonathan Bourne because he is a political gambler; he is insincere in his attitude on popular government, judging by his entering the senatorial race after the people had turned him down in the spring. He is not the man to represent Oregon in the senate for a bunch of reason the volume of which would fill the new Carnegie library La Grande is soon to have.

Vote against Single Tax because it is a nefarious, deeply cushioned plan to wreck the state, and in our judgment reduce the value of real estate. It is the whim of a man who is insane on alleged reforms; a novelty scheme backed by a millionaire.

Attend to these little matters mentioned above and you will not regret your action.

EASTERN OREGON AND BOURNE.

We know of no stronger argument why Senator Bourne should not be considered than a statement made by a Malheur county man. Along with the admission of Bourne, by his actions, that he has been using the direct primary merely as a vehicle to ride upon, along with the fact that he is practically a non-resident of the state, that his interests are in the extreme east, that this vote upon the tariff question showed just how selfish a mortal he is, comes a man from the hills of Eastern Oregon who knows what it means to have a country developed, and this is what he says:

"Granting for the sake of argument that Senator Bourne obtained for Oregon all of the appropriations credited to him by the advisory committee of the 'Popular Government Club' he has lost dollars to the state where he secured cents in appropriations," said W. J. Morrison, of Jamieson, Walheur county. "This is true from the fact that Bourne permitted the repeal of section 9 of the reclamation act, which guaranteed to each state the expenditure for reclamation, a part of the major part of the funds derived from the sale of public lands within its borders. The repeal of this provision of the reclamation act virtually

cost Oregon \$9,000,000."

Referring to the list of appropriations represented by the advisory committee to have been secured by Bourne through his individual efforts, Mr. Morrison incidentally pointed out a number of items for which the senator, he said was not entitled to credit.

"If the \$9,000,000 derived from the sale of public lands in this state had been expended here in reclamation work, as was contemplated in the original act," continued Mr. Morrison, "it would have been ample to reclaim a vast area of Eastern Oregon and make available desirable homes for hundreds of new settlers. It is not unreasonable to say that home-ekers settling on the lands thus reclaimed would have brought into the state funds equal in amount to the cost to the Government of installing the projects. Pursuing the argument still farther, I am fully justified in saying that the revenue from land that could have been reclaimed with the funds to which the state would be entitled would by this time have amounted to the cost of the project and the additional investment in improvements by the settlers.

"Of course, I will probably be charged with being mercenary in discussing this situation on a basis of dollars and cents, but the fact remains that, deprived of these funds, the reclamation and development of Eastern Oregon has been retarded. And to the extent that this development of the arid sections of the state has been rendered impossible, in the same proportion the business of Portland and the general prosperity of the entire state has suffered. The loss to the state of its share of the reclamation fund has not only prevented the extending and completing of projects already started, but has made it impossible to initiate other projects equally necessary to the state."

NEW TREATY WITH RUSSIA.

The announcement that Russia is about to move for a new treaty with this country to take the place of that which soon expires will be welcome news to most Americans. When Congress denounced the existing treaty on the ground that it had been interpreted in such a manner as to discriminate unjustly against our Jewish citizens public opinion was back of that action. It was generally felt that, at the expense of any sacrifice of trade or mutual commercial interests with the great Muscovite empire, we should assert the right of Americans, without respect to race, to equal treatment in a foreign land.

This judgment was reached without bitterness or undue excitement. It was just a simple matter of duty. The issue was clear-cut. We either had to hells our own declaration that all men are mad, free and equal and are entitled to equal political privileges, or we had to denounce a treaty under which discrimination against a particular race was practiced. We chose the latter method. To have done otherwise would have been inconsistency.

Russians, trained in an altogether different manner of thought, accustomed to making distinctions on account of race and religion, misunderstood our attitude. They felt that our action had something personal in it,

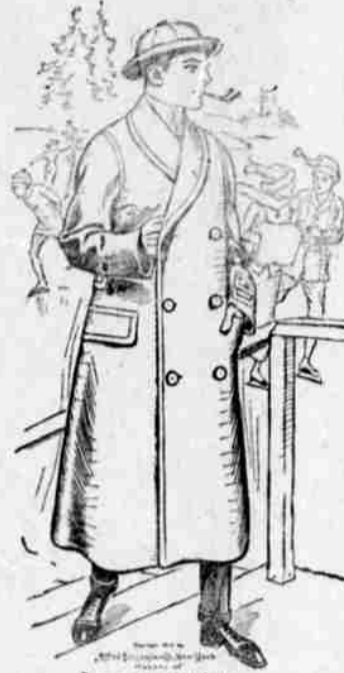
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that it was anti-Russian in its intent. The hasty and ill-advised manner in which congress acted in the preliminaries perhaps gave them ground for this opinion. The language of the resolution was anything but diplomatic or even decently polite, but the nation was saved from the full consequence of this blunder by the prompt action of the president in ratifying the treaty on his own initiative.

It is likely that Russia in the months that have intervened has realized that the American people were not back of the ill-considered action of congress and that, differing though we do on the interpretation of the treaty, we yet have toward Russia feelings of friendliness and good will. If this sentiment has gained any ground it is a sufficient explanation of the movement there to secure a new treaty before the old one expires.

How infinitesimal all other great achievements now seem to that of the man who has discovered how to grow large crops of rhubarb in the winter. We nominate him for the Hall of Fame.

No one is with us at all except the common people and we had them with us in the primaries. No such appeal to righteousness has ever been made

since the Civil war and no platform much, and I ask Kansas to take the stand for the right of the people to since the days of Lincoln means so lead in standing with us because we rule.—Roosevelt at Pittsburg, Kansas.

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