

The Sentinel.

BY LEW. A. CATES.

Subscription Rates.
One Year.....\$1.50
Six Months......75
Three Months......40
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OFFICE, FIFTH ST., SOUTH OF POSTOFFICE

Entered at the Cottage Grove Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

ANTAGONISTIC MAN.

The attempt to stop the Jeffries-Johnson fight, a movement that appears to have a wide scope, recalls to mind that from time immemorial men have fought one with another and will continue to do so as long as time runs on. It seems to be the law of this world that all that men attain in any way, physical, mental, moral or spiritual, comes by the way of conflict. The Good Book records the story of the first great fight in the world at the dawn of civilization, when Cain and Abel had their contest as to which might offer the most acceptable sacrifice. The Good Book also gives a picture of the last great conflict, when at the end of time, Michael, the archangel, and Satan, the prince of darkness, come together in a final contest for supremacy. Time, that began with a fight and ends with a fight, must witness through its various unfoldings many battles.

Because it is human nature, there is something about a good, stiff, square fight that appeals to men with red blood in their veins. The attention men of all classes pay to arenic contests is not necessarily a sign of degeneration; frequently it is an indication of their manhood. Others are doing what they would like to do. Men honor a fighter when he fights fair. The reason Sullivan is still the admired of two continents is because he was never known to win on a foul. When a man descends to fight according to discredited methods he not only disgraces himself, but brings upon himself the contempt of all decent-minded men. When he fights like a man, even if he is beaten, he has the respect of everybody because he fought honorably. Lee fought honorably and is honored. Cornwallis fought dishonorably and is dishonored.

Rarely today does one hear of fist fights. More frequently the fight is between brains. Rarely do you hear of men going out to horse-whip, pummel or shoot their antagonists. Men today fight with brains. The brainiest man wins. When a man couples to his brains sterling honesty and fights, even though he be vanquished, he still has the respect of the people. When a man wins his fight after having coupled to his brains dishonesty, he has no laurel placed on his brow by an admiring throng. You watch an honest man and a dishonest man today as they make their fight in the arena of publicity. The honest man brings to bear upon his antagonist all that a trained fighter can use legitimately. Point after point he scores, higher and higher he ascends in public estimation, winning along every line. When all at once his antagonist changes his tactics and begins using the weapon of slander. He whispers among his henchmen: "I could to thee a tale unfold relative to him, my antagonist." He deals in the innuendo. He tells of debaucheries, visits to gambling hells, midnight carousals and iniquities that would blanch the face of the devil. Of one thing you may rest assured—when a man's antagonist begins using slander it's a sign that somebody is sparring for wind. Slander is the cheap refuge of a coward. It attracts the attention of the unthinking from the real issue. There are many people whose eyes are blinded by the chaff of "I could tell things of him if I would."

In a fight where slander is used by a dishonorable fighter there is but little that the honorable fighter can do save fight it out on honora-

ble lines if it takes all winter. You can possibly silence the thunder of Niagara; you cannot silence the voice of a slanderer. Slander has wings. It flies faster than the truth every time. Bad news invariably outruns good news. The slanderer knows this, and he hopes by the time those interested in watching the struggle have discovered the slander to be slander, that something will have turned up that will give him a new fighting point.

DWINDLING RAPIDLY.

Ireland boasted a population of nearly 9,000,000 in 1847. Today it is little more than 4,250,000, says Seumas MacManus in Travel Magazine, and nearly 50,000 of the finest, strongest and ablest young people of the country, the flower of the land, are annually emigrating, nearly 95 per cent of them going to the United States, where went at least 90 per cent of the total emigration from Ireland in the last century, and where today people with a large percentage of Irish blood number not less than 20,000,000. At the natural rate of increase Ireland should have today, instead of 4,250,000 inhabitants, at least three times that number.

With 32,000 square miles of land, the greater portion of it exceptionally favorable for the raising of grains, roots, fruits and cattle; with magnificent water power—a water power equalled by few countries—and with its well-known, if undeveloped, great mineral resources, Ireland is capable of supporting in comfort and plenty 20,000,000 people.

Emigration has been a blessing as well as a curse to Ireland. While for sixty or seventy years it has gone on depriving Ireland of all that was healthiest and brainiest and best in the country, thus enervating the race at home, the Irish nation is not at the same time unmindful of the fact that the millions of American money poured home to Ireland in steady streams has helped, through the trying decades that have gone by, to keep alive an Ireland-at-home. In at least 20 of the 32 counties of Ireland it is rare to find a family that has not a representative in America. Some of them have four or five. In all the poorer mountainous counties that border on the rugged western coast there is hardly a comfortable new house erected that has not been erected by American money.

SOCIALIST ORGAN?

The Grants Pass Courier, in quoting The Sentinel's article on the initiative, says this publication is a socialistic organ. If supporting the initiative is socialistic, then we plead guilty in this particular. And we have a large following, for when the qualified electors of Oregon adopted the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution, in June 1902, the measure carried by a vote of 62,024 against 5,668 who opposed it, and its popularity has not waned. The Sentinel believes that legislative authority should be vested in a legislative assembly, but that the people reserve to themselves the power to propose laws and amendments to the constitution and to enact or reject them at the polls independent of the legislative body, and also to approve or reject at the polls any act of the legislature. The legislatures are not otherwise under the control of the people, but are influenced by politicians and lobbyists, corporationists and monopolists, which is a dangerous situation to contend with when the people want anything, and consequently the check made possible through the initiative and referendum cannot fail to result in good. Abraham Lincoln used to say, "The people are always right and can be trusted to act when aroused to a sense of duty."

In Oregon, fruit growing is fast becoming the leading industry of the state, says the Pacific Monthly for June. It has already reached enormous proportions and each succeeding year records increased development. The apple is considered the king of fruits in the Northwest country, and is now little short of perfection. The fame of the Oregon apple has spread rapidly until

it is well known in most of the leading markets of the world. The demand from Europe and other foreign countries is increasing. Even now New York and London take almost the entire production. It is not at all unusual for Oregon apples to sell in those cities at \$4.00 and \$5.00 a box. A box contains an even bushel. Fortunes are being made every year in apple culture. A single acre often earns from \$200 to \$1,000. There are fifty-five to seventy trees set to the acre, and trees in full bearing will yield from ten to twenty boxes each.

COUNTY DIVISION.

There is a great deal of talk all over the state about county division, and movements are being made at numerous places with that object in view. Of course there are a variety of opinions, as to whether or not such division would prove beneficial. Some argue that a large county can conduct its business at, comparatively, less expense than two small counties, and that therefore it is to the interest of the taxpayers to maintain a large county. Others entertain a different view. Col. Hofer, of the Salem Journal, argues in favor of dividing the large counties, and says that it will tend to develop the state, just the same as cutting the large farms of the country up into smaller holdings is improving those sections and increasing their wealth, as well as the amount and value of the different crops produced. The Siuslaw West says Col. Hofer is right and adds: "It is well known that the tendency in all counties is to expend most of the money used for roads and bridges in places nearest to the county seat, and to neglect the outlying districts. The farther away any place is from the county seat, and the fewer people, the harder it is to get an apportionment for public improvements, yet these same citizens pay the same rate of taxes to meet the public expenses of the county. Now, if Oregon, instead of having thirty-four counties, had two or three times that number, with due regard for compactness in shape and natural boundaries, it is certain that the funds laid out in public improvements would be more evenly distributed over the state, and many places which now receive little or no share of the funds, would then have their highways improved and their streams bridged, so people could travel over their roads with ease and safety."—Marshfield News.

THE GOOD OLD WAY.

A republican tells that he is in favor of an assembly because of the good old fights they used to have in the convention. Now we have been in one or two of those meetings ourselves, and our remembrance is that everything was fixed up by the bosses, at least the night before, and that as far as delegates having any hand in the nomination of the candidates, they might as well have stayed at home. Committees were appointed, officers chosen—named by the boss previously—resolutions introduced and listened to or not, as the chairman thought them worthy, or vice versa, speeches made about the grand old party and the beautiful promises they had made in their platform—which they had no idea of adhering to—and the candidates voted for by the delegates as they had been told to. Lots of fight about that, now wasn't there?—Polk County Observer.

The "country" newspapers of Oregon should not express their opinions on matters other than of local interest unless those opinions coincide with the views of the self-constituted dictator, The Oregonian. All measures of state-wide interest should be "shadowed" and kept under close surveillance until such time as that watch-dog of the corporations and monopolies gives the cue, and then with one accord there should be a great outpouring of "public sentiment."

Every citizen should contribute much or little, according to his means, to the booster fund. It is an investment that will give large returns.

WHAT'S A DRUNK?

The editor of the Roseburg Leader having recently charged one of Cottage Grove's officials with having been intoxicated in that city, the question arises, what constitutes the state of being "drunk?" The courts and lexicographers, the economists and the prohibitionists, the poets and the historians have struggled with this all-important question in vain, arriving often at ridiculously diametrical results in the face of the same facts. Does the editor of The Leader think it can conclusively settle a problem before which a learned judge once stood aghast? The magistrate went for a rule to the poet to learn:

"He is not drunk who from the floor Can rise again and drink once more. But he is drunk who helpless lies And cannot either drink or rise."

That at least brought certainty to the test. But apparently The Leader contemplates rushing in where Noah Webster feared to tread. Noah, who classifies "drunk" as slang, defines it thus: "A spree; a fit of drunkenness." To The Sentinel a "drunk" is when a man can't "navigate." If The Leader contemplates defining the term it is charitable to offer poetic testimony, not that whose classic form finds favor in Roseburg, perhaps, but a strain which seems to comport more with the free spirit of the West. It is:

"When your heels hit hard
And your head feels queer,
And your thoughts rise up
Like the froth on beer;
And your legs are weak,
And your voice is strong,
And you laugh like—at some fool song,
You're drunk—
B' Gosh, you're drunk."

Judge Dimmick, who aspires to the governorship, advises people to vote against any initiative measure that they do not thoroughly understand. If Judge Dimmick waits for a sufficient number of votes to bestow gubernatorial honors upon him on the same ground, he will not become the chief executive of Oregon for a few hundred years.

Cottage Grove will continue its publicity work for another year and has a committee at work raising the necessary funds. The cities that are getting to the front these days are the ones that spend money in keeping their advantages before the homeseeking public.—Eugene Register.

Col. Hofer, who has been frequently spoken of as a candidate for governor, announces that he will do nothing to secure the honor, but will leave it to the people. He holds that the office should be free from the use of money, and should not be bought by any one.

Cottage Grove will not celebrate the glorious Fourth, but its citizens will join those of the rural realm who observe the day. This is as it should be. Let's get better acquainted with one another. It cannot fail to prove advantageous to all concerned.

The miners of the Bohemia district went into the camp this spring more hopeful than ever before, and good results are looked for. The Sentinel predicts that this will eventually become the leading gold mining field of the Pacific Northwest. Every indication points that way.

Forty churches of Brooklyn have joined forces to protest against the Jeffries-Johnson fight. They have requested every member of the congregations to mail a post card or letter to Governor Gillett or some other state official voicing their anti-fight sentiments.

A press dispatch says Pinchot is still silent. It's a pity the other fellows do not follow his example.

The senate has adopted Chamberlain's amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill appropriating \$15,000 for the survey of a road to Crater Lake.

The Oregon railroads are fast adopting oil for fuel. The advantages are said to be many, aside from an economic viewpoint, in that it gives a steadier heat, greater pulling capacity and eliminates the objectionable and dangerous sparks and cinders.

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