

OREGON CITY COURIER
OREGON CITY HERALD

CONSOLIDATED.

A. W. CHENEY, Publisher

Legal and Official Newspaper
Of Clackamas County.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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Standing business advertisements: Per month—1 inch \$1, 2 inches \$1.25, 3 inches \$1.75, 4 inches \$2, 5 inches (2 columns) \$2.25, 10 inches (3 columns) \$3, 20 inches (6 columns) \$4, yearly contracts 10 percent less.
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PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY.

OREGON CITY, MAY 12, 1899.

An American Internal Policy.

First—Public ownership of public franchises. The values created by the community should belong to the community.
Second—Destruction of criminal trusts. No monopolization of the national resources by lawless private combinations more powerful than the people's government.
Third—A graduated income tax. Every citizen should contribute to the support of the government according to his means, and not according to his necessities.
Fourth—Selection of senators by the people. The senate, now becoming the private property of corporations and bosses, to be made truly representative, and the state legislatures to be redeemed from recurring scandals.
Fifth—National, state and municipal improvement of the public school system. As the duties of citizenship are both general and local, every government, both general and local, should do its share toward fitting every individual to perform them.
Sixth—Currency reform. All the nation's money to be issued by the nation's government, and its supply to be regulated by the people and not by the banks.

To Subscribers.

The COURIER-HERALD has put no accounts in any agent's hands for collection, but we understand Mr. Fitch has attempted to collect some of his back accounts in this way. We have nothing to do with these. The date opposite your name on the paper represents the time to which you have paid. If any errors occur we are ever ready to correct them.

It is not the labor saving machinery that is driving mechanics out on the road as tramps, in this country. It is the political machinery that is to blame for all our evils.

The issue in 1900 will be free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, anti-imperialism and abolish the trusts—with W. J. Bryan as the standard bearer on the side of the people.

What kind of a 16-to-1 man is Secretary Alger that he should find such favor in ex-Governor Penney's eyes? Perhaps it is 16-to-1 beef—16 pounds of bad to 1 of good.—Telegram.

Some wise sage has truly said: "When the wicked reign, the fools carry torchlights and follow brass bands and drink bad whiskey." This sage must have foreseen the present reign of Hanna and Rothschild.

The way some of the gold bug senators now construe the Declaration of Independence, is that governments derive their just powers from the consent of "some of the governed." This is no doubt their honest opinion of the matter; but there are many millions of honest and patriotic American citizens who beg to differ from such republican interpretation of our Declaration of Independence.

SENATOR HOAR, one of the very few brainy men of the Senate, although a republican, says there is "no constitutional power to conquer foreign nations and hold their people in subjection against their will." But Senator Hoar ought to know by this time that his party, in the hands of Hanna and his Cantonian freak care naught for constitutional power, justice or humanity—they are out for the long green, army contracts and such like things.

The intelligent reading public are fast catching on to the fact that the leaders and the ablest advocates of the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1—of an American system of finance for the American people, are also the foremost in the war against the aggregated trusts of this country, are also foremost in the movement against the criminal aggression and imperialism of the gold standard party. In fact the bimetalists are the only party who are the true and loyal friends of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. The imperialism of the Hanna administration has already driven many of the brainiest republicans of 1896 into the ranks of the bimetalists for the 1900 campaign.

Things are coming to a pretty pass in this "free country" when the utterances of some drunken sailor at a private dinner in this country, must be apologized for by our cabinet officials to the ambassador of some foreign sap head emperor whose hobby it is to insult Americans and curb free speech.

When the Chicago platform was adopted in 1896 there were very few newspapers that had taken a decided stand on the 16 to 1 silver issue. Now there are many thousands of the brightest papers in America that thoroughly understand the question and most ably advocate the restoration of silver.

Just as we predicted several months ago, the embalmed beef scandal has been sugarcoated, and the big packers who chipped in so liberally to Hanna's campaign fund in 1896, have been paid for their rotten meat and exonerated from all blame. Certainly, what else could be expected after the Egan episode?

It is no trouble, no, not the least bit of trouble for district, supreme or federal judges to twist, distort, juggle or change "the law;" in fact utterly ignore the state or federal statutes, if necessary, in order to favor any of the big corporations who demand a special privilege to be granted to them—or who are brought into court for some of their many misdeeds.

ALTHOUGH it is several months until congress will meet, the patriotic conspirators who are such lovers of the wage earners, are busy preparing a "bill" to relieve the government of all labor in the management of finances—except to pay tribute to the bond mongers and bankers who are scheming to destroy all government paper money and control the issue themselves.

The republican party, through its officials and their owners, has become so accustomed to catering to the un-American whims of Johnny Bull-child, that no one need be in the least surprised to see the present administration, in the very near future, form an alliance with the crown of Great Britain, and not only on the gold standard proposition, but on the question of imperialism, or land-grabbing steals. It's coming sure, just so sure as republicans are continued in power.

The powerful cinch that the whiskey trust has on the McHanna goldized administration, is plainly shown by the fact that even congress is powerless to pass any law, and have it enforced, that will take dollars out of the maw of that trust. The attorney-general says that the army canteen must not be abolished. "Canteen" means saloon; so the soldiers can have the blessed privilege of "blowing in" their thirteen dollars a month to enrich the whiskey trust simply because the whiskey trust donated liberally to the boodle fund to elect Hanna's president.

New York City is conceded by all men of all parties to be the "money center" of the United States. In fact the Clearing House reports bear this out. In New York City there are also more millionaires than in any other city in the world—and more poverty and crime also. In truth there are more evictions of tenants in New York City alone, than in Ireland. And yet it is the New York City hoodlums that want to dominate and dictate the politics of all the balance of the country. Let every progressive and earnest bimetalist in the land put his kibosh on the attempts of these New York City hoodlums to dictate the national platform next year.

SOMEHOW or another Brother Scott is unable to reconcile himself to the nomination that will come to W. J. Bryan next year. He sees dangers dark and desperate to the reformer's success if that terrible man is brought forward again. I can hardly blame the old man for feeling scared. He has cause to feel very, very uneasy. Should Bryan run again, and there is no doubt about that fact at this time, a different story will have to be told by Scott and the rest of the gang after the election is over. It would most certainly break the old man's heart to see in flaming headlines in the Oregonian this: "President William Jennings Bryan Won." One peep at such rampant anarchy would kill him dead.—Portland Town Topics.

Much has been said pro and con about the recent lynching of a man-shaped brute in the state of Georgia—but as is usual in this degenerate day, none of the loud mouthed spouters strike the right trail. While it is a fact that the great mass of the people are opposed to mob law, the fact remains that mob law is about the only law in which a semblance of justice is left. When white men, called lawyers, can be found who are so degraded that for a fee, they will defend a ravisher and murderer—and by chicanery, jugglery and trickery cheat justice, as they so often do, and at enormous public expense; mob law is the inevitable result. When such justice strangling lawyers and lawyer-judges are side-tracked, and the people know that criminals will be properly punished, then lynching will cease—but not until then.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

The question of public ownership of natural monopolies, or, in other words, of public utilities, has suddenly been lifted into the practical politics of the country. Since the voters of Detroit have authorized the purchase by the municipality of the local street railway system, several other Western cities, including Chicago, have been agitating the policy involved in this departure, and the outlook as for a general "movement" in the same direction. The principle is not new in Oregon, where for nearly fifteen years the Portland water system has been under public ownership. Nor is it new in many other parts of the country. In particular lines, notably in water and lighting plants, it has been quite generally accepted. According to M. N. Baker, a well-known engineering authority of New York, there are 3196 large systems of city water supply in the United States, of which 1690, more than one-half, are publicly owned. The tendency everywhere is toward public ownership, that system being, curiously enough, most general in the more conservative parts of the country. In Massachusetts, for example, 113 out of 151 city water plants are in public hands. An interesting fact in connection with the water supply question is that in 1890 there were but sixteen water systems in the whole country.

In city lighting, as in water supply, the tendency of the time is toward publicly owned plants. According to Professor John R. Commons, in 1890 the number of municipal electric light plants was little more than 50. But in 1892 it had increased to 198, and in 1898 to about 400. Gas, Professor Commons declares, has been neglected in the growth of electric lighting, but it continues to be the cheaper illuminant. There are now twelve cities in the United States which maintain their own gas plants.

The interesting question in connection with the public ownership of public utilities lies in their administration; and with respect to this question, Professor Bemis, a well-known expert, has recently published a book, "Municipal Monopolies," from which the figures above are taken. Professor Bemis declares that corruption in city ownership cannot possibly equal the corruption growing out of the attempts of private capital to secure from city councils and governments the unfair and immensely profitable position of monopoly control, and because an extension of the functions of city government into matters so closely touching the people will increase rather than deaden public interest in and watchfulness over the conduct of their government. He leans strongly to the policy of full ownership and operation of street monopolies, such as street railways, gas and water plants, regarding them as "monopolies which cannot justly and safely be given into the hands of private capital."—Oregonian.

AN OCEAN OF WHITEWASH.

The court of inquiry's report on the beef scandal has been made public by the president. From beginning to end it is a bold effort to whitewash the commissary department, excuse Alger and give the Chicago beef contractors a certificate of character.

General Miles is sacrificed to the political necessities of the McKinley administration. Although he sold no beef, shared in no contracts and had nothing to do with the commissary department, he is censured by this remarkable court of inquiry, which pronounced the beef sound and nutritious when it was purchased, and charges all the decayed and poisonous beef up to the climate of Cuba.

All the whitewashing reports that the friends of McKinley might frame from now till doomsday could not hide the stain on Alger or wipe out the crimes of the commissary department, in league with the rascally beef contractors against our soldiers.

The truth is that the people have no interest in anything the court of inquiry may say about the beef scandal. They have read the testimony in the newspapers, and they have made up their minds as to where the responsibility rests. Not one person out of a thousand will agree with the court of inquiry in its condemnation of General Miles. The public has confidence in his integrity and no faith whatever in the sincerity or honesty of his accusers.

The report, no doubt, will give great personal satisfaction to the president and his secretary of war. It was planned to do that very thing. But it will make no votes for McKinley, and it will not change the verdict of the public, which is adverse to Alger, Egan and the beef trust.

General Miles has nothing to regret. He has done his duty fearlessly. He has won a moral victory that cannot be tarnished by the report of a court organized to save the administration from the convictions of its blunders.

This little republican postmaster editors are about the only bowlers left who favor the murder of both American soldiers and the natives of the Philippine Islands. Of course they must beat the tom-toms for their masters, the imperialists, in order to hold their jobs.

The Man Who Wields the Hoe.

(Answer to "The Man With the Hoe.") Is there no future for the man who wields the hoe? May not the heart of labor with ambition glow? Can honest toiling dim the eye or dull the brain? If genius e'er has dwelt there shall it not remain? Can man thus be brought down from noble purpose high, To live like the ox and like the ox to die? Is man by toil made dead to rapture or despair, Dead to the future, dead to hope, and dead to fear, and care? Ah, no! God helps the toiler who from toil would rise. Labor, and labor only, can secure the prize God-given hope—an inspiration and a feast— That lifts mankind above the level of the beast. But whence came he of clouded mind and sloping brow? From generations of the hammer or the plow? Nay verily, for honest toil ennobles man, And brings him nearer to the Wise Creator's plan. But he who with the vacant face leans on his hoe— Whose nature can but sink him to a plane more low— Came from the centuries of vice and wasted time. Product of ignorance, intemperance, and crime, No intellect to think, to plan, or to command, No brain to guide the labor of his unskilled hand. Whom shall we censure for this low estate? Can aught the world can give make this man great? Could wealth or power restore this mind again? Make this man a peer among his fellow-men? Then why condemn the toiler who has won the prize, Because this man has not the force from toil to rise? And why restrain him, who in life's race would win, Waiting for some fool who would not venture in? Dark paths there may be upon this earth, Where man can hardly rise from lowly birth, Where brutes in human form sometimes may rule And power be the birthright of a fool. And in those lands where ignorance triumphant reigns That man indeed is fortunate who has no brains; But where true merit may some voice obtain Toil with a purpose cannot be in vain, And in our own free country there is hope, we know, For each true-hearted, manly man who wields the hoe. —Chas. K. Burnside.

The "trade follows the flag" crew are not patriots—they are plunderers and oppressors, and use the flag as a cloak to cover their crimes, as a burglar uses a dark lantern.

Following the last rate war of 1893 between the Northern overland lines, over the question of differentials, peace was declared on a basis of equal rates "all round," but the lines between St. Paul and Chicago were still disturbed by local troubles, and the combination of rates east and west of St. Paul made Chicago \$37.75 first class and \$47.75 second class. This last difficulty in the way of complete restoration of standard fares has at last been adjusted, and, on April 25th, through rates to Chicago and points west were rebuilt to normal figures by all lines, so that it now costs no more to travel by way of the Southern Pacific through California than by the Northern lines, through Vancouver, Helena or Spokane.—Pioneer Press.

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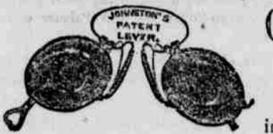
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