

Oregon City Enterprise

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1905

SENATOR GEO. C. BROWNELL

At a picnic at Canby last Saturday, State Senator George C. Brownell announced that he would be a candidate to succeed himself at the election to be held next June.

In thus announcing his candidacy and inaugurating his campaign, Senator Brownell must necessarily submit to the people his record. We would ask what has it been in the past and what does the future promise? And in criticizing the Senator and his record, the Enterprise bears no malice towards that gentleman whose continued manipulation of Clackamas county politics is, however, a matter of indifference to this paper. But we propose to publish the facts for the information of the voters of Clackamas county.

Senator Brownell has always appeared on the official ballot as the Republican nominee although his election has each time been due to Democratic and Independent votes. But a pirate, politically, indeed is the man who sacrifices the entire ticket for the perpetuation of himself in office. What sort of Republican is he who will assert that it is a matter of no serious objection to himself if George E. Chamberlain is re-elected Governor of the state, that he would not make any serious complaint if the Democrats of Clackamas county elected one or more county officers as well as a part of the legislative ticket, so long as they assist to elect himself to the office to which he aspires? Can such a double dealer inspire confidence and the unanimous support of the party he so readily sacrifices and has sacrificed in years past for his own selfish interests, politically? Can such a man command the respect and suffrage of a sincere Democrat or a consistent independent voter? Such tactics should be repudiated by every honorable voter.

Senator Brownell in twelve long years of continuous service in the state senate cannot point to a single bit of legislation for which he is actually responsible, that has operated in the interest of the common people of Clackamas county or the state at large. He is a man of great pretensions, but there is a deplorable deficiency in net results. His election has always been materially aided by the influences of the railroads and allied interests. The hiring of corporate interests, what may be expected of him by the common people whose interests he must necessarily oppose. Measure after measure of remedial legislation relating to corporations and calculated to relieve the burden of the individual tax payer by enhancing the state's revenues, have at each session of the legislature been quietly consigned to a mysterious burying ground by committees to which they had been referred and of which the Clackamas county senator was either chairman or a prominent member.

What is the natural consequence? The rate of taxation in this county has for a number of years been exceedingly high. And who has been paying the bulk of the taxes? The producer. The monied interests have been assessed on a minimum basis, considering the large capital invested.

Senator Brownell's announcement that he will be a candidate to succeed himself was not unexpected even following the positive declaration a short time before that under no circumstances would he again ask for the office at the hands of a long-suffering constituency. It was generally believed he would run again. But if one's usefulness to the people can be demonstrated at all, there certainly should have developed some slight evidence of it in twelve years' service.

What the people desire is fewer promises and more legislation in their behalf; less profession of a sincere regard for the interests of the "dear people" and more substantial results; a less intimate relationship between legislators and corpor-

ate interests and a closer fellowship with the common people. It is about time that some definite results were being attained along this direction and such cannot be reasonably expected from those who manipulate their political office for their own selfish advancement and gain to the detriment of the popular government.

Under the direct primary, the people have been delegated the power of remedying these conditions, for a further continuance of which they will themselves be directly responsible.

NO FREE DELIVERY.

If there is another community in the state that is short-changed more frequently at the hands of the federal authorities than is Oregon City, we would like to become acquainted with its location. On the recommendation of a few special land office officials, and apparently for no other reason, the Oregon City Land Office was removed to Portland in the face of a largely signed protest representing the people of every county constituting this Land District. Promise after promise has been made that with each succeeding session of Congress an appropriation would be made available for a public building in this city but as yet there is nothing doing in that direction. And now to cap the climax, free delivery of mail is denied the city although every requirement of the postal laws, essential to the securing of this service, has been complied with.

It is provided in the postal laws that when the population of a city reaches 10,000 or the gross receipts of an office exceed \$10,000 then the postoffice department "may" establish a free mail delivery service. According to the report of Postmaster Randall for the year ending June 30 last, the receipts of the Oregon City office aggregated \$10,300. Application was at once made by Mr. Randall for the establishment of a free delivery service here and this was forwarded to the proper authorities at Washington, from whom the pleasing information is now received that the service cannot be granted. The reason assigned is that in granting the service, the use of mail boxes at the post office will be largely abandoned. The aggregate of the rental of these boxes is about \$1100 per annum and deducting this item from the gross receipts of the office, it is held that the revenues of the Oregon City office fall below the required \$10,000.

This objection appears unfair. It is not recorded that any such consideration figured when a similar service was granted Albany or Eugene. Then why should such a ridiculous proposition enter into consideration at this time. Oregon City people are right in feeling displeased with such treatment and they have splendid grounds on which to ask the indorsement of the Board of Trade and enlist the services of Senator Fulton in presenting the matter before the post office authorities at Washington. But if protests and petitions in this particular instance avail no more than similar action did in the Land Office removal, we may as well sit back and fold our hands and say we like the situation as it is now presented.

PRAISE OF THE COUNTRY PRESS.

An encomium of the country press is going the rounds. It is something on the Champ Clark style of eulogy of the country press—fulsome, ornate, exaggerated, insincere, yet as to a large portion of the country press largely true.

Every city exchange editor knows, however, that there are country papers and country papers. There are those that rustle for local news; that discriminate between news and nonsense, between sense and bosh; that watch for and haste to narrate occurrences of local interest; that if they venture to write or reprint editorials do so with good judgment and with a sincere effort to instruct and enlighten their readers. Such papers are well worthy the encomium spoken of, even though it be verbose and vulgarly baited.

But there are others—some of them in Oregon. The week through "ye editor" can find no news worth printing, has not ideas worth presenting; month after month, year after year. There are specimens of the "country press in Oregon" that are not appreciably better than they were ten, fifteen or twenty years ago; they use the same type, have the same make-up, don't know that the world in that time has moved faster than would a snail in running a race.

There are other country papers that "start," merely to get a few land notices and sheriff's advertisements and some little pickups of patronage, and pay no more atten-

tion to obtaining and disseminating local news than the sphynx does to the movement to consolidate religious sects. For one, The Journal refuses to indorse this wholesale eulogy of the "country press," because there are these exceptions, and they are not few.

But having said this much, and kicked out the lazybones and pretenders, we cheerfully indorse all that has been said laudatory of the country press. When we get hold of a paper like the Medford Mail for instance, or the Sanitum (Seio) News or the Hood River Glacier, or the Echo News, or the Klamath Falls papers, or the Grant County News (John Day City), or the Oregon City papers, or the Dayton Herald, or—if it can be classed as a country paper, the East Oregonian—we know there is work, effort, enterprise, appreciation of a country editor's and publisher's duties, behind those papers, and that they deserve to be supported and upheld and praised. We do not mean that there are no others equally or nearly equally worthy, nor that all those not mentioned are unworthy. We do mean to say again, however, that a considerable portion of the country press is not worthy of the laudation mentioned.

As a whole the country press is worthy, admirable, influential, deserving of warm approbation and cordial local support; but when we come to individualize and differentiate we must discriminate. There is a scale of the country press, running from do all up through re, mi, fa, sol, la, si, up to do again—all the way from A to Izzard.—Portland Journal.

A SOUND OF GROANING.

The Republic hears a sound of groaning in the land. "The whole country for several years," says the Republic, "has groaned under the burdens of the Dingley tariff." The Republic is the victim of an auricular illusion. There is groaning in all our ears, but it is the groaning of machinery in mine and manufactory, of the loaded trains, the engines throbbing under ground, the rumblings of traffic in a thousand directions. The groans of the workers are heavy and incessant. By day they are emitted through a great forest of smokestacks, which darken the skies of great cities, and burden taxpayers with the employment of smoke inspectors, whose work is all in vain for the clearing of a clouded firmament. This may be "the burden of the Dingley tariff referred to by the Republic, which remembers that during the last Cleveland term the burden of smoke inspectors was not necessary, thus effecting a saving which was the most brilliant stroke in the financial policy of the last democratic administration this country will ever see.

The Republic seems to understand that the groaning it hears is not from the people. With its ear close to the ground, it is unable to distinguish a voice of the masses in the noise it hears. Speaking of the reciprocity convention which meets in Chicago next week, it says that the call for it "did not come from farmers or cattle raisers, or cattle feeders, but from cattle dealers, who want wider markets for the dressed and salted meats turned out by the packing houses." The Republic is disingenuous. As one affiliated with that party in which the trusts have found the only refuge they have had, the Republic uses a multitude of words to cover up the fact that it is the beef trust which is behind the reciprocity movement. "But behind the meat-packers and the railroads," it says, "are the masses of western farmers." So far behind, dear Republic, that they are not yet in sight; so far behind, in fact, that they will never catch up.

If the Republic is uncanid at the first it is certainly candid enough at the last. "Democrats will look approvingly on at the efforts of the reciprocity champions," it says, and there can be no doubt of that. Democrats will not only "look approvingly on," but they will doubtless participate largely, under cover or openly, in the proceedings of the Chicago convention. The Democrats in the convention may mask themselves behind a specious pretense of public good, but the Republic disdains such limitation. No pent-up Utica contracts its powers. It looks beyond the public interest to see the old democratic party rising Phoenixlike out of the ashes, the fire at which the country burned its multitudinous fingers in 1892. It throws open the doors to reciprocity republicans whose "eyes may be opened to the real merits of the old Jackson policy of a tariff for revenue with incidental protection." When the eyes of enough republicans are opened in that way, their ears will be no longer afflicted with a groaning, for it shall cease. The burden of the smoke inspector will be lifted and we shall be no longer frightened by the moans, screams or roars of a vulgar traffic.—Globe-Democrat.

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509 MAIN T

Thousands of Elks and their wives enjoyed a big clambake at the Lewis & Clark Exposition on Elk's Day, August 14. The bake was prepared and served in the open air, on the Government Peninsula, the Portland lodge of Elks being the hosts. The admissions to the fair during the day were 23,819.

Preparations are in progress for the Custer massacre spectacle at the Lewis & Clark Exposition, which was postponed from August 19 to August 29. The great tragedy of the Little Big Horn river, in the summer of 1876, will be reproduced by the use of Indians and United States troops--except the actual killing and scalping. This is to be followed on the 31st by Japan's peace jubilee carnival on the waters of Guild's Lake.

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Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Pritchard*

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Week Days

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|-------------------|-------|-------|------|
| Leave Portland | 8:00 | 11:30 | 3:30 |
| Leave Oregon City | 10:00 | 1:30 | 5:30 |

ROUND TRIP 45c
Tickets exchanged with O. W. P. & Ry. cars.

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ROUND TRIP 25c

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Leave Portland | 8:30 | 9:30 | 11:30 | 1:30 | 3:30 |
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Deserves Your Patronage.
The growth of a community and the success of its local institutions depends entirely on the loyalty of its people. It is well enough to preach "patronize home industry" but except the service given at a home institution equals that of out-of-town enterprises, this argument carries no weight and is entirely disregarded, as it should be. But with Oregon City people it is different. A few months ago E. L. Johnson established the Cascade Laundry. It is equipped with the latest improved machinery and is daily turning out work that is equal to any and superior to much of the laundry work that is being done in Portland. Being a home institution and furnishing employment for many Oregon City people it is enjoying an immense patronage. The high standard of the work being done commends it to the general public. Laundry left at the O. K. barber shop will be promptly called for and delivered to any part of the city. Telephone 1204. E. L. Johnson, proprietor.