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H. B. DENNETT EDITOR
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Lost--A National Hero

It is inevitable that a feeling of regret should linger in the hearts of those who have been numbered among the ardent admirers of Roosevelt, for his star is waning. He who has distinguished himself as the first American of his day, looked upon with a kind of hero worship by thousands, has forfeited in large measure the reputation which he had created by his strenuous career. Americans have taken pride in pointing to him as "the greatest man in the world." As a result the experience through which Roosevelt is now passing is not only deeply humiliating to himself, but it cannot but occasion a sense of disappointment in the minds of the American people in that their national hero has stepped down off the pedestal of his fame led by a misdirected and inopportune ambition.

It is well that Colonel Roosevelt's unfortunate mistake in this matter should be looked upon with charity. To err is human and even the wisest is not above mistakes when circumstances distort his better judgment. To Roosevelt, who is still a big man, even if not still a great man, the humiliating experience may prove a blessing in disguise by reducing his estimation of his own prowess in matters political to proper proportions, thus qualifying him to fit into a sphere of greater usefulness in the future.

Consolidation in Colorado

Fruitmen of the Northwest are not the only ones who have seen the material benefits which would follow the perfection of a co-operative marketing arrangement between sections whose interests are similar, but whose products have heretofore been placed on the market in competition with each other. Amalgamation of all the fruit growers' associations in Colorado may be effected if plans being considered materialize. Such a movement is being discussed in various parts of the state, at least to the extent of establishing a selling agency.

A. E. Johnson, president of the Grand Junction Fruit Growers Association, has initiated the movement, and it is gaining ground steadily in all of the fruit growing sections of the state. Arkansas Valley fruit men are considering the movement, it is said, in a favorable light, and have already endorsed the plan.

The arguments in favor of merging the different associations into a central organization, are that more uniform prices will prevail and shipping facilities will be greatly bettered. With all of the associations working harmoniously for the same things, more effective progress can be made in securing better rates and transportation facilities.

Last season the fruit men complained of the number of cars furnished. Late in the season they were compelled to use stock cars in some sections to ship their apples, being unable to procure refrigerator cars. This resulted in heavy losses in some instances from freezing. There was a car shortage for awhile. These conditions could be remedied, it is pointed out, if there were a general organization of all associations to present their claims more effectively to the railroads.

From the attitude of many fruit men, the amalgamation may be effected in time to handle the fruit crop this season.

Although the first detachment of convicts is expected to arrive this week, Governor West insists it will not be necessary to lock a single hencoop in the county.

That journalistic tact is still in evidence can be readily seen by the editorial remark made by an exchange that it is almost always the handsome men who go bald. The same assertion can be made in Hood River, however, without swerving even an iota from the narrow path of strict veracity.

Those who are planning the Blossom Festival are carrying a number of gilt-edged schemes for making the occasion a success under their hats. Everything is working out splendidly and prospects for a gala affair are as bright as "Bill" Taft's smile.

Holmes, the poet, said that perfect days come in June. If he had lived in Hood River, however, he would have enlarged upon that statement by starting at March and including all the months right through to December.

Some good work has been done locally of late in cleaning up the unsightly and unsanitary rubbish that accumulated in yards during the winter. Already many places have been metamorphosed and beauty has taken the place of ugliness.

LIVE NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

Success for William H. Taft in Oregon is predicted by W. B. Ayer, chairman of the president's campaign committee in this state. Mr. Ayer went further, and said he believed that if a full vote were to be polled today, Taft would have a majority over the combined forces of LaFollette and Roosevelt.

Captain Henry Bailey, master of the steamer W. R. Todd, plying the Columbia between Kennewick and the foot of Priest Rapids, states that at no time since he has been navigating the stream has the water been at as low a stage as it is at this time.

Death from exposure and cold was the fate of Daniel T. Entler and William Entler, father and son, of Portland, who were found 18 miles from McMinnville. The bodies still lay in the snow where the two became exhausted, probably early in February, and lay down to die. The father, 65 years old, wrapped his sweater around the son, a Portland student aged 15.

With the filing at Salem of the nominating petition of Governor Harmon of Ohio for endorsement as candidate for President, Oregon Democrats in the primary election this month will have three candidates from which to select the head of their National ticket. Petitions for Champ Clark and Woodrow Wilson have already been filed. The name of William Jennings Bryan will not appear on the primary nominating ballot in this state.

Though all of the six occupants of an automobile which plunged off the Calapooia bridge just southwest of Albany were buried beneath it, when it turned turtle and struck the ground 25 feet below, not one sustained fatal injuries. Their remarkable escape from death was because the car fell into a thicket of hazel brush, which acted as a buffer and both broke the force of the fall and partially held up the weight of the car.

Twelve well-to-do farmers' daughters in northern Washington county have organized a "Bachelor Girls' Club" to raise the social standard of the community and to keep tab systematically on their various young men acquaintances eligible for matrimony.

Mrs. E. W. Birge spent the week end visiting in Portland.

C. A. Cass was among those who spent the week end in Portland.

Mrs. L. H. Parkhurst arrived Thursday to be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gillam at Circle G ranch.

ROOSEVELT HAS HAD SOME HARD BUMPS

His Recent Campaigns Show He Has Failed to Muster Votes.

Can a man who disregards the whole course of American history and tradition, spurred on by his personal ambition, overcome the tremendous handicap of the third term precedent and land himself in the White House?

This is a question all Republicans are asking. All agree that no American has ever been able to do it and they can count on one finger the number who even had the hardihood to try it, and that only when spurred on by self-seeking politicians who posed as friends. People are asking themselves if this is not the condition in the present campaign.

Past performances are as valuable in the case of candidates as of race horses. How a candidate will run is best determined by noting how he has run.

Not a Strong Vote Getter.

Despite a tremendous popularity in the past, Roosevelt has never been a remarkable vote-getter. Mr. Bryan too, is remarkably strong all over the country and has been for years, but everyone knows how he failed to muster the votes. When Roosevelt was elected to the presidency, he ran against a weak opponent. Judge Parker did not have the support of his own party in that election.

But what Roosevelt has done since, and indeed very recently, in vote-getting is more significant than his former campaigns. Results of the last election speak louder than anything else.

In New York, where the personality of the ex-president actually overshadowed that of Mr. Stimson, the republican candidate for governor, a democrat was elected by a majority of 67,000.

In Indiana, where Mr. Roosevelt made a whirlwind campaign in his effort to save the state and re-elect

himself, he was defeated by a majority of 12,000. His attacks helped. In Connecticut, Mr. Roosevelt attacked the democratic candidate for governor, but he was elected by a majority of 3,700.

In New Hampshire, where Mr. Roosevelt's friend and champion, Robert P. Bass, was elected, the vote fell off 12,000 as compared with the majority given to Mr. Taft in 1908. As further evidence that Mr. Roosevelt's star is waning, may be cited the fact, that the announcement of the Roosevelt candidacy for the third term did not evoke throughout the country anywhere near the predicted enthusiasm. In fact, the big shout that was supposed to follow the throwing of T. R.'s hat into the ring was noticeably absent, from Massachusetts to Oregon. In many places it never rose above a whisper.

His intimate friend and would-be running mate, Senator Beveridge, the democratic candidate was elected by a majority of 12,000.

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COMMENT ON ROOSEVELT

A Day of Repentance Ahead
 (From the Baltimore American, Rep.)
 Some day Roosevelt will be sorry he ever went to Columbus.

As Inconsistent as He.
 (From the Detroit Free Press)
 It looks now as though the colonel is apt to learn that many people do not vote as they cheer.

Befooled His Honor And Word.
 (From the Burlington (Ia.) Gazette, Dem.)
 His ambition has made mince-meat of any common sense he ever owned. His honor and his word are befooled.

A Heavy Handicap.
 (From the Detroit Free Press, Ind't.)
 The third term issue is a tremendous handicap for the republicans to assume. It is our own honest belief that it will outweigh all possible gain Mr. Roosevelt can show over Mr. Taft in any other way.

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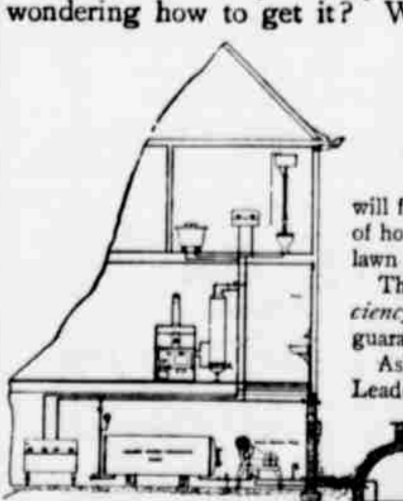
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