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Why Not Hughes?

When the Republican National Convention opens at Chicago a week from Tuesday it will be confronted by one of the most difficult problems that such a gathering has ever undertaken to solve—a divided party, with both candidates claiming a majority of the delegates. All eyes will be turned on the Coliseum next week and the developments will be of intense interest from one end of the country to the other. What the outcome of the convention will be not even the most accomplished political prophets are undertaking to predict. One thing is certain—that the session will be a stormy one and that there is likely to be a lot of pulling and pushing before anything like harmony can be secured.

Roosevelt's supporters are asserting that they now have a clear majority of the delegates and that the Colonel is beyond question the choice of the majority of Republicans. Their recent victories in Ohio and New Jersey have strengthened their position to such an extent that impartial commentators are inclined to believe that Roosevelt's chances are considerably the stronger.

Despite the recent reverses that have come to the Taft forces, his friends still insist that he has a safe majority and show no signs of weakening in their fight against the ex-President.

Any one of several things may happen at the convention, but there is a growing feeling that unless Roosevelt sweeps everything before him a deadlock is likely to result. In that case there are many reasons why a compromise candidate should be considered and in this connection there is no stronger or more capable man than Justice Charles E. Hughes. It is safe to say that a great proportion of the Republican voters, however partisan they may be to either Taft or Roosevelt, would welcome the selection of Mr. Hughes as a compromise candidate. He has the qualities which would commend him to both wings of the Republican party. Mr. Hughes might well be termed a conservative Progressive. He has Roosevelt's aggressiveness without his headstrong impulsiveness. He has Taft's calm judgment and executive ability. He has had valuable experience as an executive and made a splendid record as governor of New York state. He can without doubt render much more valuable service to the country in an executive rather than in a judicial position, and he is the stamp of man upon whom both wings of the party could unite.

The Republican National Convention has a Gordian knot to cut. If the party is to win at the November elections it must be united. It would be rash to predict how that knot will be cut or whether it will be cut at all. But if it is to be, and if the Grand Old Party is to be united, Charles E. Hughes is the one man whose qualifications most pre-eminently fit him for the task.

Credit to Governor West

Governor West is entitled to a large share of the credit for having started work upon the Columbia River road. He has taken a strong personal interest in this splendid project and if it had not been for his efforts it is doubtful whether the \$10,000 donated by Mr. Benson would ever have been utilized. Governor West has shown himself to be a man of keen executive ability

and of great public spirit. It has been he more than any other who has overcome the many difficulties which presented themselves in this undertaking.

Citizens of Hood River county owe the governor a particular debt of gratitude for the reason that he has conscientiously safeguarded the county's interests throughout and has seen to it that Hood River stands to gain all and to lose nothing.

Especially is credit due Governor West for his part in insisting that the county should not sign the contract with the railroad whereby extensive liabilities would have been assumed for accidents of any kind which might occur as a result of the road being constructed over the company's right of way around the Shell Rock. When strong efforts were being made by the railroad to secure such an agreement, Governor West stepped into the breach and insisted that the county should assume no such liabilities, his position being that the state relinquished its old wagon road to the railroad for the latter's right of way and that the road is morally and legally bound to permit the road's being reconstructed. He declares that if the railroad takes exception to this procedure the issues must be tried out in the courts.

Good For the Nerves

Those who know declare that the best thing for nerves that do not run true, is gardening. This is highly recommended for the women who remain in the house most of the time. They make a prison of the house when they should and can in most cases get out and work in the flower or vegetable garden an hour or so each day. This will bring back the bloom of health to the pale and wan cheeks, and at the same time bring forth confidence in the future, that life is worth living, and the activity of youth will be partially restored. With good health the world is always brighter and more cheerful. There is nothing more beneficial than outdoor exercise, particularly for the person who is shut up in the home every hour of the 24.

WOMAN AS JUDGE IS NOW SUGGESTED

As a solution of the county judge question it is possible that all could unite upon a representative of the weaker sex. At least J. M. Ellison of this city believes that a woman might be well qualified for the position. His argument is as follows:

"If we trust women to take care of children in the home and the school while the husband is alive, why is it not reasonable to suppose they would handle this matter all right later on when the husband has gone.

"A county judge in this state is also judge of the probate court, and as such has a very great responsibility as regards widows, orphans, the insane and some other matters. Now if men can trust their wives and mothers as teachers, lawyers, preachers, doctors, policemen, jurors, lecturers and in other just as important positions, why not try one as a county judge—I am satisfied the average woman would do as well as the average man when it came to looking after the widow and the orphan. I admit good roads are very important but the two other members of the county court could look after the good roads. Of course a whole lot of the hot air about good roads is to get the farmers' vote, still we can miss something of more importance when we ignore the rights of the weak."

NEW SAWMILL AT MOSIER STARTS ITS OPERATIONS

E. L. Root and B. W. Yeatch have just installed a new commercial industry in Mosier, in the form of a new sawmill, which started operating the last of the week. The new mill has a capacity of 20,000 feet per day, and they expect to work it to the limit in order to fill the large number of orders on hand; in addition to the sawmill they will operate a new planer which is being set up, and will manufacture a finished product. Such an industry is quite an acquisition to the town, as it will increase the payroll to a marked extent, and the owners are assured of every support of the district.

UPPER VALLEY TO CELEBRATE FOURTH

Announcement is made that the Upper Valley is going to celebrate the Fourth of July. At a recent meeting of the Upper Valley Progressive Association a committee was appointed to start making plans for the event.

The celebration will be held at Parkdale. Last year it was held at Mt. Hood and it has been deemed advisable to hold it nearer the railroad this year. There will be a program to furnish entertainment during the entire day. There will probably be speaking in the morning and a baseball game with one of the Hood River teams in the afternoon. Games and athletic stunts are also being arranged. In the evening a dance is being planned, to take place at Parkdale Hall.

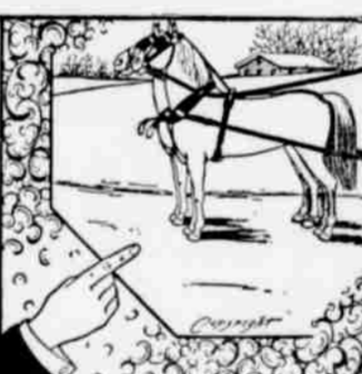
The Upper Valley people are famous for their hospitality and ability as entertainers and they will invite the lower valley residents to participate with them in their celebration. Arrangements are being made with the Mt. Hood Railway Company to run an excursion to Parkdale on the Fourth.

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