

THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

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The New Political Map

With the passing into history of the Republican convention at Chicago the political map of the country has undergone a radical change- Instead of effecting a compromise between the opposing wings of the Republican party, the convention resulted in the formation of the new Roosevelt party. The line is thereby drawn more sharply than ever before between the standpat and radical wings of the G. O. P.

To those who had given their allegiance to Taft in the hope and belief that he and his advisers would show some concessions to the progressive element in the party and thereby align themselves, to a reasonable extent at least, with the sentiment which has demonstrated its predominance in the country, the result of the convention was a distinct disappointment. If the recent primaries showed anything it was that there is a strong popular demand for progressive policies in the administration of the national government.

There were many who believed that the Taft wing of the party would take heed to the popular demand and make reasonable concessions with a view to following the plainly expressed will of the majority of the party.

Instead of doing so, however, the Chicago convention showed the standpat wing of the party insisting absolutely upon the old style machine methods. If Roosevelt was led to exceed the bounds of political propriety in his pre-convention campaign, it would certainly appear that the machine crowd has made an even more serious mistake by taking the bit in its mouth as it did at the convention.

Judging from reports of the tactics pursued it could hardly be denied that Roosevelt was given far from a square deal. The political ring which was in control regarded only its own wishes. Delegates sent to the convention by the people of their respective states to vote for Roosevelt were peremptorily unseated, the only reason being, according to newspaper dispatches, that Taft "needed the votes."

The selection of Sherman as Taft's running mate is significant. The writer happens to hail from Sherman's home city and knows that his only recommendation is the fact that he has for years been one of the Republican ringleaders in the Empire state, hand in hand with Barnes and his fellows, who have run New York politics just as they are now attempting to run the national machine.

With the splitting of both the old organizations a condition which is practically unprecedented in this country has been evolved. The recent primaries left no doubt that the overwhelming tendency all over the country is toward the progressive policies. If the Democrats now in session at Baltimore have the political sagacity with which they are accredited they will put up a strongly progressive ticket, and they will do so unless, as at Chicago, the steam roller methods of the old line leaders prove successful. With the Democratic party united upon a progressive ticket it would then resolve itself into a three-cornered fight.

It has for some time been apparent that the Democratic chances for victory have rarely been brighter. This would be especially true on account of the split in the Republican ranks with the machine organization fighting Roosevelt tooth and nail. It is plain that the paramount

issue in the campaign this Fall is going to be something else than the timeworn political creeds of the two great parties. The progressive and standpat policies are to be weighed in the balance. For the first time the issues are to be sharply drawn and the battle promises to be one of tremendous national importance.

Monday's Election

Next Monday is the date set for the special election called for the purpose of voting on the \$90,000 bond issue for the reconstruction of the city water system. The council is desirous that the intent of the election be fully understood and that its importance be realized. The bond issue is not a new one for the citizens of Hood River have already carried the proposition at a previous election. However, under the provisions of the city charter as revised it becomes desirable that the issue be fully legalized under the new conditions. This will insure the more ready sale of the bonds and will therefore do away with the delays which might occur were the attempt made to sell the issue which was voted under the former charter provisions governing bond elections.

The urgent need of constructing a new water system is fully realized and the floating of this bond issue is now all that prevents work being started. It is hoped that the preliminaries may be so facilitated that actual work on the system may be begun this Fall, possibly by September 1. If this can be done the new system may be installed this year. The council desires a full expression of the people on the proposition to be submitted at Monday's election in order that the bond issue may be floated as expeditiously and as auspiciously as possible.

Finds Fortune in Poultry

Local poultrymen, who not long ago contributed some egg-laying records to the News, can no doubt obtain some inspiration from the experience of the champion poultryman of the country -H. W. Sanborn, a New Hampshire farmer. Sanborn has outdone the official poultry experts and has put the fanciers in the shade. His glory is a hen that laid 255 eggs in one year and 645 eggs in three years running; produced eight pullets in a flock of eighteen that yielded 200 to 237 eggs a year; and became the mother of a cockerel, a pullet from which laid 282 eggs in one year. This last pullet did not stop at the year mark, but rounded out a laying period of 365 days with a record of 302 eggs. Mr. Sanborn, whose farm is in Belknap county, New Hampshire, has during the last five years derived his full income from poultry--keeps from 600 to 700 White Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds. He feeds them the laying rations the stations prescribe, namely, grains in the litter and dry mash of ground grains, beef scrap, alfalfa, gluten and linseed meal. He houses the flock with the curtain front style of house adopted by the stations. The records are kept by trap nests. The place is run for profits throughout. These are nearly \$3 per hen per year.

The Value of Optimism

In the siege of Ladysmith during the Boer war a civilian was tried by court martial and sent to prison because he discouraged the soldiers who were defending the city. He was dealt with rightfully. He was a pessimist and a discourager. Therefore he could serve no good purpose. In every walk of life; in every community, the same incident is repeated. The pessimist is a blight. Instead of trying to lift some of the burdens from the shoulders of his comrades, he puts on new burdens; instead of clearing the pathway for progress, he puts obstacles in the

way. He eases no pain for the sufferer, but helps to widen the wounds.

The pessimist goes along the picket line with his disheartening prophecy of failure. He makes heavy the heart and palsies the arm of the warrior. He is a traitor to his race, for humanity is brave and needs only the words of cheer and hope.

On the other hand, the man who suggests success and who is confident that it will come is the man who succeeds and, moreover, he it is who deserves success. He is an inspiration for his fellows. He is a benefactor of the community in which he lives. He is strong and gives strength to his weaker fellows. He is the leaven that leaveneth the whole loaf.

The "Blue Sky" Bill

The News has received from Secretary of State Olcott a copy of the Blue Sky bill which will be initiated at the November election. The bill, designed to protect purchasers of stocks and bonds and to provide for the thorough regulation and supervision of corporations, is modeled after the famous Blue Sky law of Kansas. The Oregon bill has been in the course of preparation for months and has been revised and approved by some of the best lawyers and business men in the state. The administration of the corporation laws now costs about \$7000 per year. Under the new law the expense will be about \$12,000, but this is more than offset by the new sources of revenue provided by the bill, which, it is estimated by the Secretary of State, will add about \$20,000 to the present annual receipts from corporations, in addition to saving the people of the state at least a million dollars a year now thrown away on worthless stocks and bonds.

HOOD RIVER WAY GETS COMMENDATION

In bringing auto speeders to book the local constabulary at least meets with the approval of the Portland Telegram, which says in a recent editorial:

"Hood River people are possessed of that old-fashioned idea that when law is enacted it is a species of tomfoolishness not to enforce it. For example, it is against the law in that staid and respectable burg to speed automobiles through the streets at a greater velocity than ten miles an hour. Evidently a number of good citizens who delight in strenuously striving to be in two places at one time, regard this law as a joke. At any rate it appears that they went their meteoric way, burning the wind through the city streets, until the city constabulary, or police force, however it may be known there, proceeded to gather in the harvest of delinquents, whereupon the City Justice demanded skeletons, that the speeding practice might be checked and the dignity of the law vindicated.

"The complaint of those caught in the net of the law is that they had no warning that the law was about to be enforced; or, in other words, they were not told that the authorities were not joking. The speeding, according to the claim of many reputable citizens, endangered the lives of children; and that the city should insist on legal regulations which would protect the youngsters, struck the speeders as a practical joke. If they had only received the serious and official assurance that it was not a joke, they would have governed themselves accordingly and all would have been well, or words to that effect.

"It is refreshing to note that Hood River as a community lacks that sense of humor which winks at the inutility of a law enacted for the safety and well being of its citizens. In a general way there is altogether too much of that sort of communal feivoly. The law books are too commonly regarded as joke books, and especially in matters of a similar character to this which has ruffled the usually calm surface of existence in the queen city of the greatest apple valley in the world.

"The attitude of Hood River officialdom in the premises is of that wholesome old-fashioned sort that is good to contemplate."

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The News for good printing.

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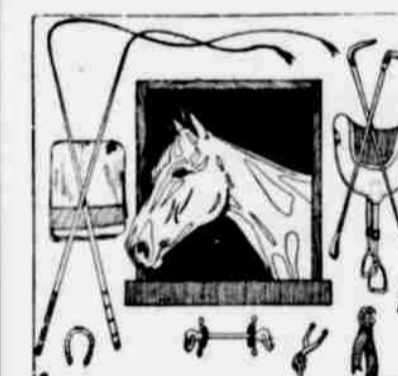
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