

Portland New Age

A. D. GRIFFIN, Manager
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EDITORIAL
A CORPORATION WITH A SOUL.

There would be no necessity, or even a desire, on the part of working men to strike if all corporations were managed by men such as are in control of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co.

There is no room in Portland for the professional labor agitator, for there are no dissatisfied workmen, and there will be none if all large employers of labor seek to gain and retain the friendship and confidence of their employes.

In the prompt and effective settlement of this trouble the public is highly gratified, as a tie-up of the various lines and possibly the closing down of the other enterprises operated by the company would have done serious injury to the business of the city, as well as brought much inconvenience to the public generally.

The Portland Railway, Light & Power Co. should adopt the motto "It pays to treat people right," for it has given the most conspicuous demonstration of its virtue and value.

This was shown particularly during the recent attempt or threatened strike; most of the men, though they had organized a union, refused to tie up the car lines. Why? Because they were in the long run treated right by President Goode and Vice-President and Manager Fuller.

We, in Portland, ought to be proud of a man who, like Mr. Goode, has risen to such a position. No man in New York, Boston, or any great city, has risen more rapidly or with, or for better reason. As president of the Lewis and Clark Exposition, Mr. Goode not only proved himself quite equal to the task, but he laid aside other business of great importance and did the city and state, freely and with the utmost public spirit, a million dollars' worth of good.

Look what this company is doing for Portland and the surrounding country? Wonderful, marvelous! Electric lines everywhere around! Ten miles or more, safely, surely, for 5 cent. We think that the people who have obtained these franchises, even if they did thereby make some money, did an immense invaluable good to and for Portland and its suburbs.

There has never been a greater piece of development of Portland and the Pacific Northwest than the building and development of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co. Why, the very name is suggestive, and true—Water, Light & Power. Power made and used through electricity and light, by the intelligent use of water! Wonderful thing!

But there is another element in the evolution of this tremendous strange power and force—that is, brains—business heads.

JONATHAN BOURNE.

The next legislature, now elected, and most of whose members are Republicans, should consider carefully the election of a United States senator. The senatorship is an important office. Oregon ought to send its biggest and best men there.

But Bourne—Jonathan Bourne—wouldn't it be a disgrace and a dishonor to the state to send that man

to the senate? What is he? A lawyer? No. He never could earn six bits a month in legitimate law practice. An orator? No. He has been a populist, a free silverite, a Republican—any old thing. The legislature ought, as it has a right to do, to choose and elect some good, clean, capable, able, honorable man—one the opposite, as nearly as possible, of Jonathan Bourne.

SENATOR FULTON.

Senator Fulton is a very capable, worthy man. He represents Oregon well. There is no need of making a change. Senator Fulton has "made good." He is the right man in the right place and he is gaining, deservedly, a national reputation as a statesman.

Oregon needs such men in that position. It should keep Fulton there term after term, for 30 years yet, if he lives and has his health that long. This is good policy. Fulton is all right—he is a capable senator. He will continue to be. Keep him right there, elect a good "partner" for him to the senate, and Oregon will be all right.

GOOD COUNCILMEN.

Dan Kelliher, councilman from the Seventh ward, is one of the best men ever elected to that position. He is a very fit man for the place, and is even worthy to be mayor—as he may be.

IS REPUBLICAN PARTY FACING EXTINCTION?

Roosevelt's Promised Retirement Causes Forebodings.

There are unmistakable signs that the process of party disintegration and realignment, of which we have had memorable examples in the United States, is once more far advanced and irresistible. Once more, as in 1822 and 1854, a party's culminating triumph has been followed by symptoms of swift decay and dissolution. Events will soon determine whether the Republican party in 1824, or the Democratic party in 1860, or the Federalist party and the Whig party, to become utterly extinct. Experience has shown that party government is necessary to the working of representative institutions; but, of course, it does not follow that a given party may not outlive its usefulness. When that time comes, and the fig tree is seen to be irreparably barren, the inexorable fiat is uttered from the ballot box: "Cut it down! Why cumbereth it the ground?"

The history of the United States under the Constitution is strewn with the wrecks of political organizations once full of vitality and promise. It would have seemed incredible to Alexander Hamilton on his deathbed had he been told that the Federalist party, which had launched the national government, which had lost the last presidential contest by only eight electoral votes, and would but for Hamilton himself have defeated Jefferson in the house of representatives, would in that year (1804) be able to muster only about a twelfth of the electoral votes for its candidate, and 16 years later would be impotent to carry a single state. How could Jefferson, seeing the party created by himself, exalted to the pinnacle of victory when in 1820 the last member of the Virginia dynasty got every electoral vote but one, conceive or believe that within four years that party would be rent into factions pursuing irreconcilable aims and rancorously hostile to each other? How could it have been possible for Henry Clay, who was to be so long the inspiration and the strength of the Whig party, when he beheld it sweep the country in 1840 by a majority of 174 electoral votes, to but little more than a decade, and that within a quarter of a century it would have become a memory? How was it possible for Democrats in 1852, when Hunkers and Barnburners combined to bear Franklin Pierce to the white House by the astounding majority of 212 electoral votes, to imagine that within two years their party would be so shattered by the Nebraska bill that its implacable sections would in 1860 hold two national conventions and put forward two rival candidates? Yet, what Hamilton, or Jefferson, or Henry Clay, or Franklin Pierce could not have foretold at the date named would have been patent to every onlooker a few years later.

As history never repeats itself precisely we cannot expect to find an exact analogue to the existing situation in any of the conditions to which we have referred. There is, however, almost as sharp a difference today between those Republicans who accept for their leaders Senator LaFollette, of Wisconsin, and Governor Cummins, of Iowa, and those whose accredited spokesmen are Senator Spooner and Senator Aldrich as there was between "Conscience Whigs" and "Cotton Whigs," or between those Democrats who advocated and those who opposed with vehemence the repeal of the Missouri compromise. On the other hand, the Republicans are still held together by the force of a magnetic individuality, as the Whigs were up to 1852. It is unquestionably true that Theodore Roosevelt has come to personify, as Henry Clay personified, the energies and the hopes of his political organization. Such a process of incar-

nation has its dangers. When Henry Clay died the country recognized that the Whig party had been eviscerated. Its vitals were gone. Men said to one another at Clay's funeral: "Time was that when the brains were out the man would die." The Republican party will be lucky if the prospects of Mr. Roosevelt's early retirement from public life do not excite similar forebodings.

It is certain that if we look at states which used to be accounted strongholds of one party or another, we encounter portents of party disintegration such as were witnessed in 1854. Missouri was wrenched from the Democratic column in 1840. On the other side, Ohio chose last year a Democratic governor, and even Pennsylvania elected a Democratic state treasurer. In the last named state this year Democrats and Republican reformers have united upon a ticket which promises to be successful. Even in New Jersey, the populous counties of Hudson and Essex are honeycombed with revolt against the regular Republican organization. In the Empire commonwealth, nobody knows who will get the Republican nomination for the governorship, and no wise man wants it. The only kind of peace attainable between the followers of Higgins, Odell and Platt is the kind preached by Joab to Abner when he drove his knife under the fifth rib. Besides, so long as Theodore Roosevelt stands aloof from the contest, who knows how much substance there is left to the Republican party? There are close observers in the city and up-state who allege that the Hearst propaganda has eaten deep into its bowels. If we try, on the other hand, to forecast the course of the Democratic party in this state we find ourselves equally at sea. The old parties are smitten with a wasting malady. All can see the disease; but where is the physician?

There is no doubt that from the welter of discord and mutiny a new political order will ultimately be evolved. But shall we have long to wait for it, as we waited when parties broke up in 1854? Or will it come quickly and decisively, as it might if Democrats should put forward a leader possessed of Roosevelt's vitalizing personality?

John Manning may be the next mayor. He is a strong, capable man—even if he is a Democrat.

WILL OPEN DOOR.

Baron Komura Says Japan Will Keep Treaty Pledges.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 1.—Baron Komura, recently appointed Japanese ambassador to Great Britain, arrived today by the Canadian Pacific railroad steamer Empress of Japan on his way to London, via Quebec, from where he sailed by the Empress of Ireland on August 9. Baron Komura said with regard to Japanese action in Manchuria that the Japanese government would undoubtedly carry out all the pledges made before and since the war to maintain "the open door" in Manchuria. Regarding the criticism of foreign merchants, he said these were due to impatience. The terms of occupation demanded that Japan adopt the measures now in vogue, but as soon as the military occupation was ended and this would be soon, arrangements would be made to carry out the pledges regarding an "open door" policy. True, the bulk of the army had been repatriated, but there was still a large force in Manchuria. There was also Russian troops in occupation. While it was not known definitely what Russia was doing regarding the withdrawal, it was known that troops were steadily being withdrawn and it was necessary that the Japanese military administration continue to occupy the country until the withdrawal was complete. "Has Dalny been made a free port and are other nations than Japanese restricted from trading via that port with Manchuria?" "That I cannot tell you," replied Baron Komura. "This much I can say, though, the pledges made by Japan regarding Manchuria will be carried out in every particular as soon as the term of occupation by the military forces has expired."

Battleships in Collision. Newport, R. I., Aug. 1.—Rear Admiral R. D. Evans, commanding the Atlantic fleet, received reports in detail today of a collision which occurred during a fog last night between the battleships Alabama and Illinois about eight miles southeast of Brenton's reef lightship. The side of the Illinois was scraped by the bow of the Alabama and several plates of the forward part of the Alabama were injured. It is also thought that one or more of the six-inch guns on the two battleships were damaged. Admiral Evans states that neither ship was damaged below the water line.

Not Sound Up in Red Tape. Washington, Aug. 1.—The facility with which the Civil Service commission furnished inspectors to the department of Agriculture in the execution of the meat inspection law is shown in a statement issued today by the commissioner. Although the law was not enacted till June 30, the commission in exactly three weeks from that date conducted examinations throughout the country. Arrangements were made to examine 8,386 applicants. During the week ending July 28 2,540 sets of papers were received by the commission.

Rain Makes Canal Zone Unhealthy. Colon, Aug. 1.—The month of July has witnessed a series of heavy rains on the isthmus, which have hampered the work of sanitation in Colon. The conditions today are worse than ever before. Preparations are being made to pave the principal streets of Colon with brick.



The pearls found on the gulf coast of Lower California are said to exhibit a greater variety of colors than those of any other part of the world, and the business of pearl-fishing there is growing. The chief colors are black, gray, red, bluish-green and yellowish. The red pearls rank among the most valuable. They possess a fine luster, and many of them are large and of the most perfect shape. They are, however, found only occasionally.

Spiders are not always solitary creatures. A scientist has lately found in southern India a species of spider that builds spongy nests with outlying webs, each nest being occupied by forty to 100 spiders, with a large excess of females; sometimes five or six nests are clustered together. The spiders not only live and work together, but they share with one another any prey that may be captured, and some even show maternal affection approaching self-sacrifice.

A problem for the horticulturists is the production of a profitable rubber-bearing fruit, which would make possible an unlimited supply of valuable material without injury to the plants. The fruits of the ordinary plants contain little rubber, but Prof. Warburg, German, points out that certain parasitic plants—the caoutchouc mistletoes discovered three years ago in Venezuela—hold out the hope that the ideal fruit may be realized. The caoutchouc in some of these species amounts to one-fifth of the weight of the dried fruit. The fruit is not large, but varies in size in the three groups of species of these mistletoes. The caoutchouc, instead of being a milky juice, is in the form of a solid envelope surrounding the seeds.

The common cold is now classed by some authorities among the diseases due to bacteria. It has not been settled that any particular organism is the cause, but it seems that more than one species may play an active part, and a recent British investigator reports that in one severe local epidemic he found Micrococcus catarrhalis present in all cases, while in two other epidemics, both of a severely infectious character, the bacillus of Friedlander was recognized in every case examined at its onset. The organism, however, often disappears within twenty-four or forty-eight hours. In the second and third epidemics re-infection sometimes occurred, producing either a second acute cold or else a chronic cold lasting for months, and the bacillus was so virulent that it killed inoculated mice, guinea pigs and even rabbits.

Prof. Joel Stebbins and F. W. Carpenter of the University of Illinois have recently succeeded in applying astronomical methods to the solution of a hitherto unsolved problem of biology. This relates to the height of the flight of birds during their migrations at night. Two telescopes were placed at measured distances apart (from 10 to 21 feet), on an east and west line, and with them two observers simultaneously watched the moon. The tracks of birds flying across the face of the moon were noted by each observer independently on a lunar chart, ready at his side. The tracks, being projected from separate points of observation, of course were not identical in position, and their distance apart furnished the basis for a calculation of the "parallax" of the flying birds. Two sets of observations were made, in May and in October. The deduced heights above the ground varied from 1,400 to 5,400 feet. The last, however, was an extreme case, most of the measures running from 1,500 to 2,500 or 3,000 feet.

An Ant's Sewing Circle. F. Doffeln, a German naturalist, has recently seen in Ceylon a species of ant, the Oecophylla smaragdina, in the act of "sewing" two leaves together for the purpose of forming a nest. This observation confirms the report of the English naturalist, Ridley, made in 1890. Doffeln saw a row of the insects pulling the edges of the leaves together; then others trimmed and fitted the edges, and finally a seam was made by fastening the edges with a silky thread, yielded by larvae of the same species which the workers carried in their mandibles. He made a drawing illustrating the method of working. According to Ridley, the sewing ants pass the thread-giving larvae like shuttles through holes in the edges of the leaves.

Motionless for Months. A most curious and sluggish creature is the tautawa, a small lizard, whose home is in New Zealand. The little animal has the reputation of being the laziest creature ever created. It is usually found clinging to rocks or logs along the shores of rivers and lakes, and has been known to remain in one position perfectly motionless for many months. How the creature manages to exist is a mystery which naturalists have been unable to solve.

Wordy but Vague. "Have you seen Prof. Gableston, the scientist, lately?" "Yes; I listened to him for more than an hour at the club last night." "Indeed! What was he talking about?" "He didn't say."—Puck.

Giving Mother a Hint. Distressed Mother (traveling with a crying baby)—Dear me! I don't know what to do with this child! Bachelor (in the next seat)—Shall I open the window for you, madam?—New York Mail.

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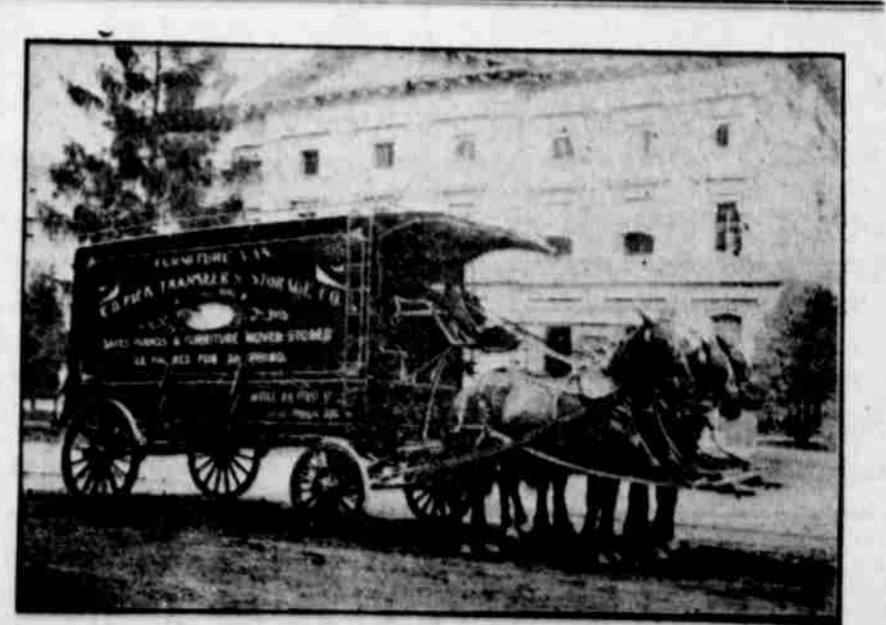
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