

The Oregonian

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either North or South, as the promoter of education; but in Virginia its record is making excellent campaign material for the new white state Republican party, which is displaying singular vigor in that venerable and decrepit commonwealth. The educational efforts of the Democrats in Virginia have made the common schools a nest of extravagance and corruption. For example, a certain book which sells elsewhere for 25 cents costs the Virginia schools 75. With a population 400,000 less than Virginia, Kansas enrolls 14,000 more children in her common schools, and employs 2600 more teachers. Virginia employs one teacher for every 40 pupils; Kansas, one for every 31. In the year 1900 Virginia had 100,000 illiterate whites born of native parents; in the same year Kansas had almost exactly one-tenth as many.

Its educational record in Virginia is not the worst the Southern Democratic party has to show. North Carolina, for example, has 18 per cent of its white males born of native parents illiterate, and 30 per cent of its white females; but the Virginia statistics are bad enough. No wonder intelligent whites are revolting from the rule of such a party. The present Republican nominee for Lieutenant-Governor is Captain William A. Kent, whose father, a Democrat, held the same office in 1889. And not merely intelligent whites are leaving the Democrats, but, what is more surely to be much more flattering to the Republicans, members of the first families, real F. F. V.s, are joining them. George A. Revercomb, Republican candidate for Attorney-General, is such a person. Surely, with men like him coming over, the Republican party in Virginia can face the future with complacent confidence.

A LINE TO PUGET SOUND?

The Tacoma Ledger takes the view that the "almost absolutely certain result" of construction of the North-Bank Railroad will be extension of the Harriman line from Portland to Puget Sound. Perhaps we hope so. If Mr. Hill has violated the "gentlemen's agreement" between himself and Mr. Harriman by crossing the Columbia to Portland, the latter is certainly justified in causing the old Union Pacific dream of moving on to Puget Sound to be realized. A Union Pacific line from here to Seattle would doubtless pay, but, under the Harriman scheme of things, that is not real incentive for building a new road anywhere. If so, we should long ago have had the wheat and other products of Central Oregon rolling into Portland over a Harriman railroad; we should have had a railroad to Coos Bay; another into the Willamette region; and yet another, perhaps, to Tillamook.

The Harriman idea is that the way to build up a country, and make its population contented and prosperous, though not numerous, is merely to prevent the other fellow from building into it. The Harriman influence will be busy for a while trying to prevent the Hill road from coming down the Columbia. Of course it will be availing itself; but Mr. Hill will know that Mr. Harriman is still alive and kicking. Meanwhile it will not occur to Mr. Harriman that the true strategy of the situation is for him to make a bold flanking movement to Puget Sound.

A RAILROAD AND ITS PROMISE.

Completion of the short line of railway from The Dalles to Dufur, discussed upon the 15th of the nature of a monomaniac, their feeling hysterical. To them negro rule is a "beckoning shadow dire," a chimera, a nightmare. To Southerners thus strangely possessed, an educated negro is necessarily a negro politician. A darky in good clothes is a darky seeking office, possibly. My opinion is that the white marriage. Hebre the idea of any sort of progress for the colored race is intolerable to them. So long as there was serious danger of negro rule, nobody could blame the Southerners for resorting to extremes to prevent it; but that danger scarcely exists today. The disfranchising clauses in the state constitutions, for one thing, are a sufficient safeguard; for the negro race for other and more substantial prosperity than comes through office-holding. During the first years following the war, to get an office was the only way a negro could connect of to rise in the world. Now he knows of many ways, the chief one being to become a heavy taxpayer according to Booker Washington's benevolent advice; but he may become a novelist, a poet, a college professor, a mathematician. Politics is no longer the solitary hope of aspiring negroes. There is no longer any good reason why anti-negro politics should form the solitary public activity of the Southern white man.

While the negro figured weightily in Southern politics, the Democratic party could pose as the champion of white rule and Anglo-Saxon civilization, and with some show of justice, could accuse any white man who went over to the Republicans of being the enemy of his own race. As a matter of fact, during that lamentable period which has now closed, few Southern whites, comparatively, did join the Republicans, and certainly not the best of their class. The Republican party in the reconstruction area has existed to hold the Federal offices, and for nothing else. Its numbers have been many times its intelligence mediocre, and its character, upon the whole, discreditable. Still there is no good reason, the negro chimera being exercised, why intelligent and upright men below Mason and Dixon's line should not differ on public parties; while, on the other hand, the long and almost undisputed domination of the Democrats has resulted in many and great evils. It is not a good thing for any party to rule too long without vigorous opposition.

According to a correspondent of the New York Evening Post, the Southerners themselves are beginning to see this. The young men, especially, are growing restive under the political control of the old-style Democratic bosses, who, so long as the negroes are kept from voting, care nothing for education and very little for honest elections. The tricks and wiles which were so efficacious against the negroes before the war, are now being used against the whites. The Southern style, though, the victims being white men, seven of the election manipulators were indicted by a grand jury.

The Democratic party does not shine,

visitors, while their deep-set eyes positively wink at one.

Last night the animals were in diabolical being, being curried and rubbed, and stroked and petted, by the various attendants. Cross the lake, and one was in a new, old, world. Hay was pervading, carrots being sliced for supper, nightclothes and blankets being put on, lest a breath of cold air might bring on cough and fever, and poor coat, and loss of condition. What did these people care for peace in Manchuria, or Secretary Taft's journey, or Philadelphia's revival, or grafts in municipal life, or any of the other topics on which we think we know the world revolves? The great questions were when the judging was to begin, whether such a cow or bull that beat us at St. Louis was here, whether the long journey was not too much for one's pet sheep—in short, the world, this world, revolved on an animal axis. So, by this eager absorption in one thing, the best that there is in it is got out and the world gains. These aristocrats of the stable, barn and pen, should they not be welcomed, for they surely are worth it? The sight of them is good for Oregon eyes, and will fill many with a quite wholesome ambition, even if all cannot aspire to own one of these creams of the cream. But if fortune has favored us with good prices for our wool and grain, and with just enough for our cattle, give a show for more than bread and butter for the next year, why, then, let us throw prudence to the winds and venture high enough to take one home. Good luck to the stock show!

RIVER MUST BE IMPROVED.

At Celilo and the Cascades the Columbia River, bearing seaward the accumulated waters of a thousand streams, pours through gorges so narrow that the depth of the channel is practically unfathomable. The streams which pay the tribute to this mighty river are fed by everlasting springs, or by the eternal snows on many a mountain peak of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. With its upper reaches and tributaries draining an empire of such vast extent, the immensity of the stream as it nears the coast is more easily understood and accounted for. The river is a wonderful stream, when unconfined by natural barriers or by barriers erected by the hand of man, will wander at will over wide stretches of sand or marsh land. Where distributed over such great areas, they naturally show but little depth.

At Celilo and the Cascades are numerous places where soundings fall to show the great depths reached. At Coffin Rock, below Kalama, the channel is over 100 feet deep, and below Walker's Island for many miles there is a channel from 40 feet to 75 feet in depth. These are natural channels, where artificial methods for deepening the river have never been employed, except by the eternal snows on many a mountain peak. At St. Helena the jetty built many years ago penned up the waters of the river until it scoured through from fourteen feet at low water to more than thirty feet. At the mouth of the Columbia River the nineteen-foot channel of 1885 was deepened by the jetty to thirty feet, but it did not in the least cool the ardor of their desire to possess them. Neither did the fact that all of the land lies at least 40 miles from a railroad discourage them. They had only to look at what has been accomplished, first in production and next in railroad building in other semi-arid sections of the great plateau, to see what the result will be on the Uintah reservation a few years hence. The land is there and some 1600 heads of families have entered into formal possession of it. Industry and irrigation will do the rest.

Secretary Taft thinks the recent riots in Japan had no anti-American motive. A few churches were destroyed, but they were not anti-American. He said that a little trouble, but it simply happened unfortunately to be caught in a storm center. The Secretary traveled over a good part of Japan, but he had no trouble whatever. This is doubtless the true situation. The mob was angry and wreaked its vengeance where it could. Whenever an American got in the way he had to get out as best he could.

Renewal of Dr. Gladden's fight against "tainted" money gives point to a remark by Phillips Brooks, the famous Bishop of Massachusetts. This distinguished preacher was offered a sum of money by a layman with the pretensions of a statesman. "If you don't mind money won at cards, doctor," said the man. To which Brooks replied: "My dear sir, when this money has done the work I mean to put it to, it will have redeemed itself," which remark seems to be based on sound sense and excellent morality.

NEW MALHEUR IRRIGATION IDEA.

Prompted by desire to reduce the lien on their lands below the 143-acre Government estimate, residents in the Malheur country have evolved the scheme described in the Washington report of September 11. These landowners petition the Government to construct the enormous dam which is to form the artificial lake 12 miles long at the head of the canyon, and to charge the cost on all the lands capable of being irrigated from it by a pro rata lien; then to leave such landowners as may desire to irrigate their lands by water there stored to unite in such groups as should be agreed on by them, and at their joint expense, to construct canals and lateral ditches to lead the water to their lands. The petition is reported to have 21 signers, but the acreage they individually and collectively own is not stated. The plan of the Government Engineers, as shown on the published maps, involved construction of two canals, one on either side of the Malheur River, a costly, but seemingly necessary scheme. Whether these landowners propose to build these canals, or what plan is suggested in substitution for them, is not reported. The whole plan, dealing with half measures, as far as the original project is concerned, seems open to such objections as usually arise in efforts to divide up what is essentially one connected whole. Whether the cost of piece-meal work, in hands of those to whom the saving of every dollar in construction is admitted to be of the first importance, will be either substantial or cheap in the long run, may admit of serious doubt. The whole suggestion seems to have arisen from the fact that a large part of the lands to be included in the Government

plan would not stand the \$42 per acre extra cost. If so, then it seems to follow that the acreage of suitable lands to be benefited by irrigation under the new proposition would be largely reduced that even a lessened total expenditure could hardly be borne by them. It is hard to distinguish elements of success in this novel project.

The New York World is mournful over the fact that a suitable fusion candidate to run against McClintock cannot be found. It suggests half-heartedly the hope that Jerome may yet be induced to change his mind, because Roosevelt had to change his mind in 1900 and accept the Vice-Presidency; but the World knows that Jerome wants another place and the people want him to have it—the District Attorneyship. That is the difference between the Jerome situation now and Roosevelt's in 1900. Continues the World:

"Scarcely half a dozen names have so much as been mentioned in connection with an effort to more power and importance to the Government of the State. Of these names not more than half belong to men who could be considered even available in the present political situation. Yet the City of New York has a population greater than that of the entire country at the time the Constitution of the United States was framed. In the contest that strategy the Constitution was George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, Roger Sherman, Rufus W. Johnson, Gouverneur Morris, James Jay and Edmund Randolph.

Yet none of these men was ever Mayor of New York; nor was Theodore Roosevelt, though he was Mayor of New York. The World would not have a Roosevelt defeat a McClintock.

Chicago is lawless and reckless. According to the city statistician's report for the first six months of this year, 81 persons were killed and 995 injured by personal violence. During the same period last year 45 were killed and 380 injured. The increase in the running of railroads, street-cars and automobiles and criminal disregard of life and limb by drivers of vehicles. The gory record is in large part a natural consequence of the anarchic and intolerable traffic conditions which have so long been permitted to exist. For personal safety, Chicago is perhaps the worst-managed city in the world.

The Uintah reservation lands, recently thrown open to settlement and eagerly sought by some thousands of land-hungry Americans, must for the most part be irrigated before they become productive in a profitable degree. This condition was well understood by the landowners, but it did not in the least cool the ardor of their desire to possess them. Neither did the fact that all of the land lies at least 40 miles from a railroad discourage them. They had only to look at what has been accomplished, first in production and next in railroad building in other semi-arid sections of the great plateau, to see what the result will be on the Uintah reservation a few years hence. The land is there and some 1600 heads of families have entered into formal possession of it. Industry and irrigation will do the rest.

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President Palma, of Cuba, stands for re-election on his record, which is excellent. Present prospects favor him, but the election is four months away and his opponent is a hustler. Palma has had enough of office, so he says, but yielded to the wishes of his friends, at the same time challenging his enemies to carry out the duties of the head of Cuban affairs, his official influence may be depended on toward maintaining the amicable relations between the island and the United States.

Sir Thomas Lipton has been heard from again. He fell from his horse yesterday while parading in front of King Edward. We are not suspicious, because a well-known fact is that Sir Thomas is a very old man, and he is something stronger than tea. He is something of a shock, all the same, to learn that Sir Thomas rides a horse just about as well as he sails a yacht.

The Navy Department is to invest \$15,000 for literature to equip several new warships soon to go into commission. It is intended for the officers. Jackies as a rule are fond of reading, especially fiction. Such volumes are so constantly thumbed that they soon get beyond repair; yet reports agree that this predilection does not lessen the men's efficiency on deck.

That times have changed since authors stand in garrets is proved by the case of the woman who wrote "The Wages of the Cabbage Patch." She has started a National bank.

Rain has fallen in Kansas City and vicinity every day but one in September. Hence the raging Kaw. Here in Oregon we had almost forgotten that it ever rains anywhere.

Three Japanese commissary agents have been discovered to have swindled the government out of \$150,000. Now we know it was a real war.

Dufur, Wasco County, may now consider itself on the map of Oregon, and part and parcel of the activities of the state.

OREGON OZONE.

Crops of Two Kinds.

The hen—How is the corn crop going to be this year?
The hen—Well, I should cackle! Don't you know that I am interested in corn because I have a "crop" of my own to look after?

The Joke Was on Him.

"Mother, who is that gay gentleman across the car who looks so happy?" asked the inquisitive kid.
"Reginald, dear, that is Mr. De Wagg, the famous joke writer."
"But, mother, I have always read that joke writers are very sad and solemn-looking persons."
"So they are, as a rule, my dear," replied the parent, "but Mr. De Wagg has just received word that his wife has presented him with a twin babies, and he is trying to play a joke on himself by looking happy."

Cruelty to Tramps.

Those who believe in the enforcement of the law should get after the Chief of Police of Brooklyn, Mass., with a big stick. The chief steadfastly refuses to obey a state law which provides that no person shall be permitted to sleep at the police station in his day clothes; that each visitor, in short, shall have a bath before retiring and shall be provided with a clean nightshirt. Many tramps apply for shelter at the police station, and the chief has determined that he will cease providing dainty "nighties" for them. "They must sleep in their clothes or sit up," says the chief. This is getting to be a harder and harder world for the poor tramp. But perhaps the Brooklyn bosses may be able to effect a compromise with the Chief of Police. No doubt they will be willing to let the chief keep the legal bath if he will provide them with the legal nightie. How can a hobo be expected to preserve his dignity in the vicinity of Boston without a nightshirt?

Added—An Ad.

A little old man in a little old town (His name it was Johnson, or Smithkins, or Brown, or something-or-other) conducted a store
Where weeds grew up tall in an inch of the door.
A dapper young man came along there one day
And said: "If you'll let me I'll make this store pay."

"Go ahead," said the little old man (Mr. Brown)
Or something-or-other, "and don't you fall down."

This dapper young man had ideas to spare;
He poked them in here and he put them in there;
He stuck them all over that store and in its stock—
Whereat Mr. Brown had a fit and a shock.

But when he recovered, the weeds did not more
Grew up to within half an inch of the door;
That house was the Rome of that little old town,
For all roads led straight to the store of old Brown.

"Well, how did you do it?" he asked of the man
Who'd eased up the pressure, who'd lifted the ban.
"Twas easy enough; I but added an ad."

Said the enser, "and told this old town what you had."

And now there's a store in this little old town,
Conducted by one who is called MISTER BROWN;
And no one forgets now the name of this man
Who runs his old store on a new-fangled plan.

ROBERTUS LOVE.

SIMPLE LIFE FOR OFFICERS.

Gen. Corbin Again Argues Against Luxury in Army.
WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Only the "simple life" is possible for young army officers, according to Major-General Corbin, commanding the Philippine Division. In his annual report General Corbin says there is too frequently evidence that there are officers in the service not mindful of their obligations. The number of complaints on this point, he says, calls for drastic treatment. The General then lays down these principles:

"The moment an officer begins living beyond his means he should be subjected to discipline. Young officers joining the service should be admonished that for them only the simple life is possible. A moment an officer is possessed with an uncontrollable desire for any other life, he as a duty to himself as well as to his regiment, should separate himself from the service and enter the fields from which the material rewards admit of more luxurious living."

There are now 13,775 troops in the Philippines, including 181 native scouts, and General Corbin recommends very few reduction of this force. He says the conditions as to peace in the island are better than any time since the American occupation, with the exception of Samar. A reduction in expenditure amounting to \$1,000,000 is reported as having been accomplished during the administration of General Corbin.

Fled Twenty Years Ago.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Sept. 18.—(Special.)—The suit of Alexander Melville to recover his share of the estate of his parents has been settled. Melville committed a crime 20 years ago and fled the country, leaving his home and family behind. After the estate was settled, he suddenly put in an appearance and demanded his portion, which had not been allotted to him. The settlement was made, and Melville at law. All the parties reside in Montana