The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, FEB. 7, 1908.

THE SANITY OF ROOSEVELT.

The New York Sun, organ of "the interests," thinks President Roosevelt's actions prove him to be insane. It puts the suggestion and conclusion delicately and pityingly, thus:

> We may only remark that in respect of tone, of substance and of intention, the message delivered to Congress yesterday by the Chief Magistrate of the United States is absolutely without precedent or parallel in our documentary history. Comment on its contents is unnecessary; it is the method, the manner, the aura that are most disturbing.
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> Can any person skilled in the psychologic indications read this portentous diatribe without perceiving that its legitimate place is rather in the inwards of a carefully-framed hypothetical question addressed to experts than in any respectable collection of state papers?
>
> It is an even more disturbing reflection that the hand which penned this message is the same hand which directs the American Navy, now on its mission toward unknown possibilities. God send our ships and all of us good luck!

And yet the American people believe in the sanity of Theodore Roosevelt and approve the actions, the course, the policy, that "the interests" regard as proofs of insanity.

The Sun rather stretches the truth when it asserts that the President's special message is "without precedent or parallel in our documentary history." Most of our statesmen have spoken out plainly when there was occasion for it. Especially was this true of those who stood at the head of affairs before the Civil War. The Republican party originated in plain speaking. Though its beginnings were deeply rooted in the fundamental ideas of our history, it came into being as a party of protest against intolerable wrong, of constructive hostility to special privilege. In continuing this protest and this hostility Mr. Roosevelt merely obeys the enduring impulse which is the soul and life of the Republican party. If he puts his protest in unusual form, the circumstances are unusual which confront him. If his hostility is energetic, we must not forget that the foes of the country whom he attacks are energetic, powerful and incredibly astute. He might have spoken of the trusts and the robber magnates in terms of polite endearment; he might have obscured their crimes in a cloud of fine language. But if he had done so he would not have accomplished the purpose he had in mind.

That purpose was to arouse the country to the danger which menaces, a danger serious and imminent. The plutocratic oligarchy, like the oligarchy of slaveholders half a century ago, has its hand on the throat of the courts. Any judge who dares to defy its mandates in his decisions is assailed with systematic slander; any court which it cannot control it seeks to disgrace by falsehood and calumny. The plutocracy aspires to rule the country by controlling the judiciary. It aspires also to corrupt legislation at the source by filling the Senate with its creatures and driving the House with an ox goad in the hands of its most serviceable retainer. It seeks to destroy the influence of the Executive by mendacious sneers, such as we read in the above quotation from the Sun. The President wrote his special message to bring these facts clearly before the eyes of the country, and he succeeded.

Newspapers like the Sun and men like those who dictate its policy are always at a loss to comprehend simple honesty and direct, unequivocal speech. Accustomed to astute indirection, habituated to veil their purposes until it is no longer possible for their intended victims to escape, they are astonished that anybody should deal openly, frankly and sincerely with great public questions, as Mr. Roosevelt does. Indurated to deceit, the plain truth appals them. They have relied so long on words to conceal their purposes that they think the President insane when he expresses a straightforward intent in unmistakable language. In brief, just as some of the hangers-on mistake theft for business enterprise, so the magnates themselves mistake blunt candor for insanity. "The man is telling the truth," they cry in astonishment, "he must be crazy." They know very well that they themselves would never tell the truth unless they were crazy, and they judge the President accordingly.

THE INITIATIVE "PERFESH."

Initiative measures do not start spontaneously. Some are hobbies, and the hobby-makers start them. These are simple fads, that their authors or devotees have cherished all their lives, without ever having had a chance before to get a hearing for them. The great body of the sensible and practical folk wouldn't listen. Other some of these measures are schemes in which their promoters have a special interest—one grab game or another. The initiative supplies a method, or starts a hope, of getting these whimsies, or graft schemes, enacted into laws. The hope is to smuggle them through, by stealthy method—knowing that the electors are likely to be careless or inattentive, or unwilling to be troubled with such matters, and will either vote yea, or not at all.

The business of procuring signatures for initiative measures is becoming an "industry" of the state. It is rapidly creating a professional class, who find in it profit and thrift. The "perfesh" will undertake to get names for any initiative petition, so as to fulfill the requirements of the law. The rate the solicitors are paid depends on the earnestness of the authors of the scheme, the extent of their hopes of profit through it, and their ability to pay, compared with the prospect of the profit or gratification to themselves. Payment of three to five cents a name is the most usual fee to canvassers or solicitors; but if there is good promise of graft or profit from the law that is proposed, ten cents has been charged and paid—and even more, when the time was short and the petition had to be filed soon.

At three to five cents a name, canvassers have been known to boast that it was easy to make eight to ten dollars a day; because the person to whom such petition is presented almost invariably signs in order to get rid of the solicitor and avoid his entreaty and explanatory harangue. To almost every initiative petition for a general law—perhaps every one—the signatures necessary for its filing are obtained in this way. It is not so much so with referendum bills, yet to some extent it is the same, as to them.

Completion of the work of the "initiative perfesh" takes the petitions up to the Secretary of State, who is charged with the duty of preparing the methods and arguments for their exploitation. The State Printer's bill, and the bills for stationery, postage and clerical service, become very heavy. All these are charged against the state.

The utmost vigilance will always be necessary, on the part of the electorate at the polls, to prevent jobs in these bills, or foolish measures that are mere fads, from being sneaked through. But the great majority will not be vigilant, they will pay no attention; and herein is the real danger.

GREEK.

The report comes by way of the Boston Transcript that Dr. Joseph Wood, head master of the famous English school at Harrow, has declared that "Greek must go." In his school, which educates great numbers of leading Englishmen, "the place of Greek will be taken henceforth by art, music and the modern languages." One almost necessarily infers that science, too, will play a more conspicuous part at Harrow than heretofore.

All this is in concord with the changing conditions of the modern world. The time when Greek was essential to an "education" has passed away. But the time when the world can spare Greek culture has not come and never will. Most of us are willing enough to admit that our modern, scientific, evolutionary civilization began for all practical purposes with the renaissance some time before Columbus discovered America. The renaissance owed its potential energy to the rediscovery of the Greek language and literature. Perhaps if they had never been opened up to Western Europe we might have had chemistry, electricity, steam and free thought, but they would not have come to us so soon by hundreds of years, and it is conceivable that they might never have come at all.

The debt of the Aryan world to the Greek language and the books written in that golden tongue is beyond all computation, and we have not been stingy in owning it. For two or three centuries the speech of Plato has formed the foundation of college curriculums and what began as a grateful acknowledgment of benefit conferred has finally begun to degenerate into intellectual formalism. The Western world has begun to feel its burden of Greek as a sort of intellectual slavery. It feels somewhat as if the greatest of the literatures was little more than a squeezed orange. Why should the succeeding generations of English and American youth continue to suck it?

The tendency now is to discard Greek and revert to that condition which Erasmus found at Oxford, where not one of the professors could read Homer. We can easily carry this tendency too far. For every boy and girl to go through the pretense of learning Greek in college is absurd, but to banish it from the curriculum would be lamentable. All that we have and are comes directly or indirectly from the land of Hellas. Greece taught us how to think, how to write, how to act in civilized society, how to pray, how to govern, how to question the universe, and how to die. Christianity is half Greek. Philosophy is all Greek. Science travels the long way which the far-sighted Stagirite pioneered two thousand years ago. Religion still follows afar off in the footsteps of Plato. To cease the study of Greek would be like denying our intellectual parentage. We should begin to wander in a world which we could not account for.

Still Greek is becoming more and more a study for the elect few who have special aptitudes and tastes. It is a difficult language, requiring years of application. The time the ordinary student spends upon it may not be entirely wasted, but he seldom goes far enough to receive much return except in a general knowledge of the laws of language. Sound intellectual economy would turn his efforts in other directions. While our colleges will always continue to teach Greek, the classes will be likely to diminish progressively in numbers. Perhaps ultimately it will become a purely university or "post-graduate" study, like Sanscrit and Hebrew, and the ordinary person will depend upon translations for his knowledge of the noblest literature of the world. But was there ever a time when he did not?

WHAT A SPECTATOR SEES.

This kind of thing is going on in Multnomah County and all over the state. That is to say:

Democrats are registering everywhere as Republicans, and in the primary they will vote for the Republican candidates for the nominations whom they deem weakest and most easily beaten. Then in the general election they will vote for the Democratic candidates.

Moreover, if they can commit Republican candidates for the Legislature to Statement No. 1, they will expect a Republican Legislature to elect the Democratic candidate to the Senate; for whom, by their sharp practice, they have secured a plurality of the popular vote. Again, by such practice, they might get one or both members of the House of Representatives in Congress.

Now all this, even if it should succeed, wouldn't concern The Oregonian, or make a particle of difference; only it wishes it understood that it isn't a mere gull, that doesn't know what's going on about it, or foresee futurities.

Every kind of fraud and deception is in this business. It is a juggle and a cheat, through and through. This journal doesn't concern itself about the result. To that it is indifferent. But it would be sorry if it were so stupid that it could be duped or fooled, and not know the intent and tendency of things going on round about it.

EASY EXPLANATION.

Rev. George R. Varney wants The Oregonian to explain what it meant when it said that "he (Varney) has too much to say that isn't true." The Oregonian meant just that. In a published letter Mr. Varney warmly defends the famous Baker City "pink circular" and says that "no man in Baker City has denied the truth of a single statement made in the circular." We summon Varney as a witness in denial of its truth. The Baker Ministers' Association, including Varney, has subscribed to a complete apology to the public and to Judge Smith for lying about the judge in that circular.

Without investigation, these ministers made against the judge the shocking and inexcusable charge that he was drunk on the bench. It was not true. Varney and his fellow-preachers gloss over their gross fault by boasting of their humility in "confessing their deep regret at making such a blunder." They would not have made such a blunder if they had had any proper appreciation of their sacred duty to use every reasonable effort to learn the truth before they attempted to proclaim it. These Baker City preachers rushed out this sensational fly-by-night circular in such haste as to justify the suspicion that they feared they might by some chance ascertain the facts before they had opportunity to attack the Baker City authorities and malign the good name of an upright judge. Varney no doubt wrote the circular, and the other preachers no doubt "supposed" his statements were true. There are some things even a preacher should not take on faith.

RECOUPING BY ECONOMY.

The effects of the recent upheaval, which began as a "rich man's panic" and ended by throwing several hundred thousand poor men out of employment, are still coming to light. The "rich men" are all taking substantial nourishment at regular meal times, but they seem to be practicing retrenchment in their expenditures for luxuries. An Associated Press dispatch notes a decline in the January imports of precious stones at New York of over $3,000,000 compared with the imports for January, 1907. There was also a heavy decline in the number and value of automobiles imported in January, as compared with January, 1907. The total amount of imports of all classes was more than $27,000,000 less than for January, 1907.

The people who import precious stones and automobiles, of course, form but a small portion of our population, but their forced retrenchment is fully as significant as that of other members of society who will never have intimate association with diamonds or automobiles. This policy of retrenchment will affect our customs revenues, but it is a hopeful sign for the future. Mr. John W. Gates, who escaped from Wall street shortly before the temple of speculation collapsed, told a New York reporter a few days ago that he knew that good times were surely coming, for he noticed that the people were wearing their old clothes. It must necessarily follow that, if the people stop buying automobiles and diamonds and continue to wear their old clothes, it is only a question of a short time until they will again be prosperous.

Lord Welby, an English financier of considerable note, has been making a study of the recent crisis in this country, and has imparted his views to the world through the Contemporary Review, of London. The importance of wearing old clothes and retrenching on expenditures wherever possible is suggested in his statement that "the capital required to extend business and to open new fields of trade can only be supplied from the savings of the world. From these accumulations, and from nowhere else, must be derived the capital ruthlessly destroyed in war and the sums usefully employed in the works of art and peace. The moment that the passions, the extravagances and the legitimate needs of the world trench too closely upon these accumulations, then financial stringency is inescapable."

Not all of the blame for the recent crisis is charged up against the extravagance of the people, for Lord Welby is vigorous in his condemnation of our frenzied finance speculation; but he makes it quite clear that rigid economy and industry will be necessary on the part of every one to bring about speedy recovery. It was not an unmitigated hardship that the extravagance of the people was checked at the same time a halt was called on that wild fever of speculation in Wall street. With booming prosperity on every hand, much less attention was paid to saving money than there was to making it. Petty economies were scorned and countless millions were wasted on automobiles and other luxuries which were not needed.

It will be many years before some of our people will again get reckless with their savings, and indiscriminately purchase luxuries which cannot contribute to their happiness or well-being, in anything like proportionate ratio to their cost. The lesson has been a severe one, and will hardly need repetition for those of the present generation.

The records of political economy throughout the world are replete with evidence tending to show that the pioneers in almost any branch of endeavor receive remuneration scant indeed in comparison with their successors in the same calling. The enterprising brigand who captured Mary Ellen Stone was obliged to dispose of his capture for the beggarly pittance that could be scraped together by the religious societies which were responsible for Mary Ellen being at large. Then came Raisuli and gathered in Perdicaris, the American. "Perd" was of very little more use to the American people than Miss Stone, but the price had advanced and it cost approximately $50,000 to get him out of the clutches of the bandit. The incident, however, awakened in Raisuli the thought that he was not getting all that the traffic would bear, and as a result we are now informed that Great Britain must pay $100,000 and grant immunity from punishment to Raisuli for restoration of Caid MacLain. With such a steady rise in the market price it will soon require a King's ransom to bring in the stray Caucasians who fall into the hands of the outlaws.

If a lunacy commission does not interfere with the decree of the court, and Harry Thaw is permitted to remain quietly in the Matteawan State Hospital for the Insane—sans tobacco, liquor and rich food; kept strictly within hospital regulations as to regular hours for sleep, meals and exercise, and restrained from all vicious indulgences, he may in the course of ten years become a reasonably clean, decent man, who can be discharged from the asylum with safety to the community. His mother, good woman, makes the mistake common to mothers of vicious, irresponsible sons, in resisting the decree that forces this degenerate into retirement. Therein, as wide experience proves, lies her only hope of release from anxiety lest he further disgrace his family through crimes against society. The good woman who seeks, in tears and entreaties, the release of a degenerate son from durance for crime is an object of sincerest pity. The Governor or commission that denies this plea performs not only a distressing but a heroic duty, and is entitled to the commendation of the public that is thus signally served.

A philosopher of the green cloth remarked that the keen delights of playing faro bank were not infrequently marred by the ever-recurring thought that, while a man one day might have $100, there would be 100 days in which he had no dollar. Some such thought must be forced on Mr. C. W. Morse, who for a few fleeting months was credited with wealth approximating $20,000,000 and is now a fugitive from justice, worth several hundred thousand dollars less than nothing. It is perhaps wrong, however, to mention the game conducted by Messrs. Morse and Heinze in connection with a faro bank, for by comparison the latter is immediately elevated to the ranks of strictly legitimate undertakings. The more we read of the high finance games of New York the easier it is to understand the difficulty encountered by Eugene Canfield in conducting a faro bank in that city with nothing but the "splits" as a legitimate percentage in his favor.

Ex-Premier Franco, for a short time dictator of Portugal, has left his country for his country's good and is now in Spain. He is followed to his retreat by the hatred of the people and the reproaches of the royal family of Portugal, who lay the death of the King and Crown Prince at his door. His brief career and its bloody termination prove that it is not safe to attempt to return to practices in government that the world has outgrown. The Czar of Russia may, if he will, learn a lesson from the recent experience of Portugal and apply it with profit to himself in his dealings with his Finnish subjects.

San Francisco is experiencing a coal blockade, there being about 100,000 tons more of the fuel than can be handled in present storage facilities. The liberal stocks piled up for the coming fleet have contributed to the trouble, but the ever-increasing consumption of oil has also been a factor in lessening the demand for coal, thus aiding in the blockade. Despite the mild Winter and the liberal importations, there is nothing resembling a coal blockade in Portland, or, if there is, it has not been reflected in lower prices.

It seems that Senator Bourne has discovered that he is not "the whole thing" at Washington. But nobody is—save one. Truth is, the individual Senator or Representative—whoever he may be—is all mixed up in the basket of small potatoes, and has to be content with such recognition as he can get.

William J. Bryan hopes for a Democratic victory this Fall, with himself in the title role. He has indulged this hope so often that it has become second nature to him.

Schuebel is exploiting the virtue of silence. This is chiefly remarkable from the fact that he was trained (so far as he has been trained) in the U'Ren school of politics.

The tobacco trust has sliced the usual large quarterly pie and served it to stockholders. It takes more than a Wall-street panic to injure America's staple industry.

On February 25 New York City will annex New Jersey by submarine tunnels, President Roosevelt acting as master of ceremonies.

Shall we have the referendum on court decisions? It would be greatest of all possible reforms.

Who furnished the tip that Oregon's delegation will split even on Taft and Hughes?

MRS. EDDY'S TRANSFERRED SHRINE

Precedents for the Change of Base of Christian Science.

New York Times.

Famous historical precedents for the sudden transfer, in the night, of the shrine of Christian Science, from Concord, N. H., to Brookline, Mass., are the flight of Mohammed from Mecca to Medina, and the removal of the Mormon Church from Nauvoo to Salt Lake. Mrs. Eddy's removal of her lares and penates, if we may be pardoned for associating the doings of this high priestess with pagan names, is not quite so explainable as the flight of the prophets of Islam and Mormon.

We have not heard that the New Hampshire climate is unfavorable to the development of the cult, and in view of the prosperous growth of Christian Science since 1889, when its "discoverer and founder" first made her residence in Concord, we should infer that the conditions there were all favorable to her denomination.

The circumstances of the flight, however, indicate that the need of secrecy was felt. The new shrine had been carefully prepared beforehand, and although there must be a small army of newspaper reporters near the place, not one of them had learned what was going on.

The secress informs the world that her decision to move was not made suddenly, and her desire to be near the earliest established church of her cult is the only reason she gives for the change of base. But Mohammed was never "interviewed," and it is doubtful if he would have made any newspaper his confidant. The authentic announcement of the presence of a physician, with "credentials," in Mrs. Eddy's suite is surprising, in view of the general condemnation of the practice of medicine by her followers. But it was doubtless wise to have one in attendance on a very old lady making a tedious journey at night. And it only proves once more that the ways of seers and prophets are past finding out.

NO WAY TO HEAD OFF MR. BRYAN

Skillful Manner in Which He "Pulled Off" His Washington Visit.

Washington Correspondence of New York Times.

Mr. Bryan has handled his campaign on this visit to Washington with consummate skill. He has taken a leaf out of the Roosevelt book and has become master, with a big stick. He has greeted every one of the men who secretly cherished the intention of telling him that he ought to be the Warwick and not the candidate of the Democracy, with very much the same sort of cheerful glare that John L. Sullivan used to employ on his antagonist in the ring. As a result that secretly cherished intention has remained secret.

Mr. Bryan carried off the Newlands dinner last night on just that plan. When the cigars were reached and the guests moved out to the smoking-room, Mr. Bryan took charge of the conversation, and thereafter the Senators listened dutifully to what he had to say.

He began by telling them that he had heard of but one candidate for the Presidency who had been defeated three times; that there might have been a man defeated four times, but he was absolutely certain no man had ever been defeated on his fifth campaign. Then, apropos, perhaps, of something he felt in the atmosphere, he told the story of a cow puncher in Texas who went unbidden to a ranch dance. The floor manager took him by the arm and somewhat abruptly conducted him outside. In a short time the cow puncher tried again. Then the manager tackled him with violence and threw him out. As he picked himself up the cow puncher turned to some loungers and said: "Those fellows can't fool me. I know what they mean. They don't want me."

When Cannon Was Approached.

Washington Letter to Troy Times.

"In all your experience," said your correspondent to Speaker Cannon the other day, "did anybody ever make a cold-blooded proposition to bribe you for a cash consideration of its equivalent?"

"To be honest, I will say that in my nearly 20 years on the committee on appropriations I never had but one experience of the sort you suggest," was the reply. And then the veteran remarked: "I will not say that I do not like money, or that I would not make money by any legitimate means, but it is my pride and glory that no man lives who can truthfully say that he owns Joe Cannon. The representative of a very powerful institution once came to me with an offer that was equivalent to possibly $250,000. He wanted to buy me for that sum. I showed him out of my committee-room, and I will say that the concern he represented did well in withdrawing him from the Washington field. Not that I do not want $250,000, or $100,000, or $50,000, but I figured that if I took a bribe I would have to live ever afterward with a thief and a scoundrel. Now I only have one life to live, and I do not want to spend the remainder of my days in the society of a thief. Neither will I permit myself the punishment of association with a man who is the slave of another man, and the official who sells himself to another is owned body and soul by that man. Selfish motives alone would keep me honest."

More Stump Speech Than State Paper.

New York World, Dem.

The Roosevelt who makes the judicious grieve is he who once more bandies epithets, who hectors judges, who quotes with approval a letter accusing a railroad president of crime, though he has not even been indicted; who calls for Federal "physical control" of railway operations; who follows the Bryan platform of 1896 in denouncing "government by injunction," and who utters the dangerous doctrine, bad in law, that "when once an inflated capitalization has gone upon the market and has become fixed in value its existence must be recognized," to enforce his desire of "physical valuation" of railroads. This Roosevelt is intemperate, abusive, hasty. His message is more like a stump speech than a state paper. It is less an argument than a shriek.

Woman's Intuition.

Notes and Queries.

The ideal woman does not reason; her processes of thought are instinctive, so far that she can give no account of how she arrives at them. If she attempts to do so, her professed reasons are palpable afterthoughts, proving that logic is at least no obtrusive faculty. And she is wise not to pretend it, and though she cannot reason, she is very apt to be right.

POLITICAL COMMENT.

The solid South may succeed in nominating Mr. Bryan at Denver, but the solid South cannot elect anybody in November. This is a point well worth remembering. If Mr. Bryan shall be nominated he will not carry even a single state outside the South.—Charleston News and Courier.

* * *

Somehow respect for William J. Bryan increases when we find that there is nobody in the Democratic party with nerve enough to tell him to his face that he won't do.—Baltimore News.

* * *

Senator Watterson would serve well, but Editor Watterson will continue to serve better. His stockholagers are all his own, and his party has more than deserved all he has administered to it in the past 12 years.—Washington Star.

* * *

The many readers of the World who have joined in its demand that stock-gambling be stopped by state and federal law will applaud Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion in his special message that the Government forbid the "use of the mails, telegraph and telephone wires" for such purposes, "just as it does in lottery transactions." Such action would be of incalculable benefit to honest industry.—New York World.

VARIED VIEWS ON THE MESSAGE.

Is a Great Moral Awakening.

Philadelphia Press (Rep.).

Mr. Roosevelt's pleas will be heard and heeded by his fellow-countrymen. No man in our history has so won them. If his unceasing zeal sometimes irritates even those who agree with him and admire him, this is because of the very qualities which have made his Presidency a great moral awakening of the deeper convictions and conscience of the American people.

Hints Vaguely of Trouble.

New York Sun, Rep.

The message is absolutely without precedent or parallel in our documentary history. Comment on its contents is unnecessary; it is the method, the manner, the aura that are most disturbing. It is an even more disturbing reflection that the hand which penned this message is the same hand which directs the American Navy, now on its mission toward unknown possibilities. God send our ships and all of us good luck!

Triumph of Well-Studied Expression.

New York Evening Post (Ind. Dem.)

Those who have always believed Mr. Roosevelt to be a man of moderation, will find their opinion confirmed by this message. The very style of it is restrained and chastened. No abusive epithets escape the President. He chooses the just and mild word with scrupulous care. Other productions of his may possibly have been open to the charge of being imprudent, tempestuous and extreme, but at last we have from his pen a perfect triumph of cool deliberation and well-studied expression.

A New Bid for Votes.

Boston Herald, Ind.-Dem.

The message is strangely lacking in the directness and dignity of a Presidential recommendation to Congress. Regardless of the truth or importance of some of the utterances contained, the occasion and the circumstances attending it, together with the tone, suggest the candidate, apparently defiant of foes, yet suppliant of votes. The stoutest admirers of the President will regret that in his mind there exists the necessity for this descent from the high Presidential office to the field of campaigning.

Believes in Roosevelt Policy.

Chicago Tribune, Rep.

The Tribune believes in the President and in the policies with which he is identified. He has voiced the general demand for a better ethical standard in business and in politics, which came into being before he came into office, and he has performed a great public service in arousing the conscience of the country. The Tribune believes in the principle to which he subscribed, but the Tribune also believes that the message which he sent to Congress yesterday was unnecessary and inopportune.

"Vindictive, Personal Abuse."

New York Mail (Rep.).

The country may applaud Mr. Roosevelt. We do not know. We do know, however, that out of the cataclysm of last November the country recalls with gratitude the attitude of the men who saved the day by deeds as valiant as those immortalized in battle, and in face of utterances from the President more destructive in effect than if a foreign naval fleet had opened fire on our greatest seaport. The people will ask by what title does our President, elected to conserve our interests, plunge us at this critical time into the chaos of class antagonism, of vindictive personal abuse?

This Tirade of Violent Abuse.

New York Times, Dem.

The message will be read with astonishment at least, but also with profound regret, not unmixed with disquietude. It really consists for the most part of a tirade of violent abuse directed, upon the one hand, against those the President is pursuing, and, upon the other, against those he imagines to be pursuing him. In the unseemly and undignified violence of language it surpasses all his previous achievements, and by its tone and temper it engenders a natural apprehension as to the extremes to which this ill-balanced man may permit his perfervid zeal to carry him.

Legacy to Future Administrations.

New York Tribune, Rep.

Most of the recommendations contained in the message are in no sense novel. The President's views show no weakening of his resolve to strike a juster balance between the powers which the managers of corporations have too often misused and the duties to their stockholders and to the public which they have too often neglected. These views may not find expression in legislation this year or next year, or even the year after. They are the legacy of Mr. Roosevelt's Administration to the Administrations which are to follow. But they contain seed which is bound to come to fruitage.

Just and Sound Recommendations.

Chicago Record-Herald, Rep.

Other public men have suffered years of detraction and let events speak for them, but Roosevelt's genius compels him to speak out himself, and if the style of his message displeases some of his own well wishers there are thousands of others who will feel that it is just what is needed to make the war against special privilege and predatory wealth effective. As for the substance of the message, the recommendations that it contains, these already have public opinion behind them. They are just and sound. They are in accordance with modern progress and the enlightened statesmanship of the age. They not only deserve hearty support but they will command the support of Democrats and Republicans and will be written in party platforms if not in the laws of this session of Congress.

Is In the President's Best Vein.

Washington (D. C.) Post, Ind.

As a vigorous presentation of his side of the case, it is in the President's best vein. His intense feeling is manifest throughout the message, and it is not difficult to perceive that he regards the adequate governmental control of corporations the greatest question before the country. His denunciation of dishonest persons and methods in business and finance goes to the limit of severity.

Mr. Roosevelt does not say anything in the message, even by inference, regarding the Presidency. The subject is left open to speculation. It remains to be seen what June will bring forth at Chicago, whether the people will take Mr. Roosevelt at his word regarding a third term, or whether they will force the nomination upon him. Yesterday's message is certain, in any event, to revive the enthusiasm of those who desire the re-election of Mr. Roosevelt.

Doubts Wisdom of Roosevelt Lead.

Baltimore News, Ind.

The greatest danger in the Roosevelt method lies in the unchecked appeal it makes to the emotions. It does not depend on an examination of facts or of consequences, but rests its case almost exclusively on the emotional sympathy it is calculated to arouse. It could be used with equal effect to advocate a law fixing a minimum wage, a law to provide work for the unemployed, a law for old-age pensions, a law for any project of socialistic change. And what is more, it will be. Suppose that all the reforms the President has now in hand were to be accomplished tomorrow; we should still not have the millennium, the President himself would not claim that. There would still be rich and poor, and the poor would still suffer hardships—aye, and hardships that would not seem one whit the less because there had been a change in the law concerning injunctions.

LUMBER COMPANY WILL WAIT

Old Rate Necessary for Resumption of Normal Output.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company, held yesterday in their offices here, resulted as follows: President, Frank H. Buck; vice-president, E. H. Cox; manager and secretary-treasurer, George H. Kelly; directors, F. H. Buck, J. E. Danaher, E. H. Cox, George H. Kelly, A. C. Dixon and Charles H. Briggs.

The record of the past year was reviewed, but few plans were made for the immediate future. Nothing definite can be done until the settlement of the rate question. Of the four Lane County mills, two, located at Saginaw and Springfield, have been closed down entirely, and the mills at Coburg and Wendling are running on about half-time, so that the Booth-Kelly Company is doing just about one-fourth of its normal business.

If the rate question is settled favorably to the lumbermen, the mills will be started as soon as business will permit, but it can hardly be expected that all the mills will start up at once, running full capacity, because of the paralyzed condition of the market.

HAINES TO EXPLAIN FAILURE

Sensation Expected in Forest Grove Bank Disclosures.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—A meeting of the depositors and creditors of the E. W. Haines Bank has been called, to be held at Vertz Hall, Saturday, at 1:30 P. M. Mr. Haines will then submit a full statement of the causes which led the bank to close. The deposits are estimated at about $50,000, and the resources considerably above that amount. Mr. Haines further says that the troubles of the bank are not altogether of recent origin, but that they date back in part to something occurring several years ago, which he expects to explain.

The impression prevails in the community that something sensational will be disclosed, as Mr. Haines announces that he will be prepared to show that the financial difficulties of the bank are not due to any wrongdoing on his part.

NO VERDICT IN LIQUOR CASE

Jury Holds Canby Saloon-Keeper for Second Trial.

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Four men voted to the end to convict in the case against H. K. Tackleson, charged with the illegal sale of liquor, which came to an end at noon today. The jurors failed to reach an agreement and were discharged by Judge McBride. The case was the fourth and last of the Canby saloon cases, in which James Jesse, Ben Bermosher, Peter Holberg and Tackleson were charged with selling liquor to minors.

Bermosher and Holberg pleaded guilty last Monday and were fined $175 each, and Jesse stood trial and was convicted, but has not yet been sentenced. Tackleson was held to appear at the regular April term of the Circuit Court and will probably be given a second trial.

CONFIRMS CARRAU DECISION

Rehearing Also Denied to Co-operative Homebuilders.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The State Supreme Court today denied motions for rehearings in the Mario Carrau portion of the John Sullivan estate case and in the case of the Attorney-General against the Co-operative Home Builders of California. It was the petition for a rehearing in the Carrau case which brought about the disbarment of Judge J. W. Robinson, of this city, by the Supreme Court.

In the Homebuilders' case, the Attorney-General sought to oust the California corporation from doing business in Washington because it has not complied with state laws governing building and loan associations. The decision of the Supreme Court against the company stands.

BRAVE WOMAN ROUTS THIEF

Seizes Revolver and Protects Contents of Money Drawer.

SOUTH BEND, Feb. 6.—(Special.)—An attempt to rob the till of the Loveless grocery store in this city was thwarted Tuesday by the bravery of Mrs. Loveless, wife of the proprietor, who routed the robber at the point of a revolver.

Mr. Loveless had just left the store, when stranger, who had evidently waited for the opportunity, entered and went straight to the money drawer. As he broke it open and started to grab the contents, Mrs. Loveless came from a rear room armed with a 38-caliber revolver. At her threat to shoot, the thief hurried from the store and ran up a side street. There was $80 in the till at the time.

SCHUEBEL DECLINES TO TALK

Believed He Will Refuse Secondary Position.

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Christian Schuebel remains strictly noncommittal about the reported developments at Washington in relation to the appointment of a United States District Attorney. Mr. Schuebel intimates that he knows more than he will tell, but declines absolutely to discuss the situation. He says he has not received a telegram from the National capital for six weeks.

Mr. Schuebel declines to say whether or not he will accept the position of assistant to the United States Attorney, but it is believed here that he will not.

Railway Makes Bridge Proposal.

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The Southern Pacific Company has made a proposal to the city, offering to construct a reinforced concrete bridge over its tracks at or near Sixth street, the city to make the approaches and steps leading to the top of the bluff. This matter has been pending for some time, and the proposal of the company is now in the hands of the committee on streets and public property.

Marshal Declines to Resign.

SILVERTON, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Because he is alleged to have exceeded his authority as an officer, Mayor Wolf, at a recent meeting of the Council, requested the resignation of City Marshal A. G. McMillen. McMillen refused to comply with the Mayor's request and there is now a deadlock. McMillen is under indictment by the grand jury on a charge of nonfeasance in office, and his trial will be held in April.

Clackamas Candidates File.

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The first candidates to file petitions under the direct primary nominating law are County Clerk Greenman, County Recorder Ramsby and County Assessor Nelson, all of whom are candidates for renomination and re-election. Upon Mr. Nelson's petition appear the words, "Equal assessment for all."

Adds Course in Italian.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—A course in beginning Italian, has been announced by the department of modern languages. Dr. Timothy Chloran is at the head of this department.