

The Oregonian

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bosses and has not thus far found any good ones to replace them. Hence we are following the leadership of men of rather small caliber at present, but at the same time the leadership is temporary. After a little time new bosses will arise with as much capacity for leadership as the old ones had, and without their vices. Then events in this state will settle down into their normal course again.

REPUBLICAN PROBLEMS.

The problems which the Republican platform-makers have to solve at the National convention are exceptionally delicate and perplexing. When the voters are in a docile mood and willing to be led by the nose the ideal platform is one which says nothing and puts it in pompous phrases. But it unluckily happens just now that the voters are not in a docile mood. They are certain about things in the way of legislation which they are determined to have by hook or crook. A platform that takes both sides of every question will not satisfy them. Pompous phrases will not lull them to sleep. They are wide awake and they are likely to keep awake until after election day. Hence the unhappy platform-makers feel obliged to take a definite stand on several bitterly debated issues, with the certainty that whatever their decision may be it will lose votes. The only consolation is that if they choose their positions astutely they may win back some of the votes they lose. The platform will not be reactionary for two or three excellent reasons.

The best of them is that Mr. Roosevelt will not permit it. Whatever incipient signs of rebellion the convention may display now and then, it is known that Roosevelt will control and cannot avoid obeying his wishes. More completely than any of its recent predecessors the Republican convention now in session represents the people of the country. The people have staked their faith on Roosevelt and therefore the delegates would not repudiate either his personality or his opinions. Since he is a progressive and not a reactionary, it follows that the convention will look forward and not backward and the platform will declare unequivocally for the Roosevelt ideas. Another reason why it will do so is that the Roosevelt people are in a frame of mind which demands progressive legislation. They are tired of hearing our defective laws relating to corporations, to common carriers, to labor, lauded as if they were the perfection of human wisdom, when in reality many of them are decades behind the rest of the world and essentially barbarous.

Of course there are reactionaries in the convention and roundabout it. Mr. Cannon is there and he is not alone by any means; but he and his set will not dictate the platform. If they were permitted to do so, they would make sure of the millionaire vote. Wall street would be with them. But the rest of the country would quietly pass over to Mr. Bryan. There will be a struggle over some of the more enlightened planks, like the one relating to injunctions and the exemption of labor organizations from the Sherman law, but the outcome of the struggle is not doubtful. They will go in as Mr. Roosevelt wishes. Certain the junction plank ought not to frighten anybody, no matter how conservative he may be. It asks merely that the courts shall cease to issue injunctions "without consideration." Is it not better for the courts to do all their acts with "consideration" rather than to issue injunctions without it? Of course there are reactionaries in the convention and roundabout it. Mr. Cannon is there and he is not alone by any means; but he and his set will not dictate the platform. If they were permitted to do so, they would make sure of the millionaire vote. Wall street would be with them. But the rest of the country would quietly pass over to Mr. Bryan. There will be a struggle over some of the more enlightened planks, like the one relating to injunctions and the exemption of labor organizations from the Sherman law, but the outcome of the struggle is not doubtful. They will go in as Mr. Roosevelt wishes. Certain the junction plank ought not to frighten anybody, no matter how conservative he may be. It asks merely that the courts shall cease to issue injunctions "without consideration." Is it not better for the courts to do all their acts with "consideration" rather than to issue injunctions without it?

THE POLAR SEARCH.

The experience of Walter Wellman, in his alleged attempt to reach the North Pole by balloon, has had a tendency to lessen the interest in the long sought polar expedition. The Wellman fiasco was so clearly intended for advertising purposes that the exposure of the fake had a most unfavorable effect on the efforts of Lieutenant Peary, who is again getting ready for another sortie in the far north. But Peary will not make any kind of a balloon voyage, or any other spectacular machine. In a general way his method is not unlike that of Sir John Franklin and all of the other searchers for the pole. After funds needed for the expeditions are available, Lieutenant Peary will sail from New York early in July, and if his plans are successful will be home again within fifteen months. The route chosen will be the same as that traversed on the previous voyage of the Roosevelt, and the departure from the vessel by sledge will be made at a point not far from where the "dash for the pole" was made on the former voyage of the Roosevelt.

Peary's crew and officers include nearly all of the men who were with him on his last previous voyage, and their experience and knowledge of the conditions encountered are expected to enable them to select an easier route than that which was followed after leaving the Roosevelt last year. The benefits resultant from a discovery of the North Pole are questionable. Science may profit by the discovery, and there will be, of course, sentimental pride over the achievement. For this reason Peary will start on his long voyage with the best wishes of the American people for success in the undertaking, for it would be in keeping with American progress in other lines if the Stars and Stripes should be the first banner planted at the goal which for centuries has been sought by the explorers of all nations.

Peary is undoubtedly the best qualified man for the work now being done, for he has the advantage of years' experience in the field and has already approached nearer to the pole than any living man. Explorers were more than 300 years searching for the Northwest passage before Captain Amundsen at last had it through the mystery of the waterway. With his success still fresh in our minds, it might not be unreasonable to expect that Peary will at last force his way through the hitherto impenetrable barriers and solve the mystery. The Northwest passage was a disappointment so far as being a route for the Northwest passage was concerned, and the North Pole, when discovered, undoubtedly will fall to come up to expectations. For all that, Peary will fare forth with the best wishes of

to this management and transportation to be placed at the head of the great economic problems of today.

NEW RAILROADS PROBABLE.

From Southeastern Oregon come numerous reports of renewed activity on the part of Mr. Harriman's engineers and right-of-way men in that isolated region. From beyond the Coast Range there are also reports coming of the presence of Hill employees, who are running lines and checking up former surveys. In Central Oregon both the Hill and the Harriman systems have engineering forces. Oregonians have noted all of these "signs" quite frequently in the past, so often, in fact, that they do not easily subscribe to the theory that smoke always indicates the presence of fire. But, despite the repeated disappointments of the past, there is a strong probability that Oregon is about to enter on a new era of railroad development. Paradoxical as it may seem, the "hard times" which were blamed for the cessation of work on some Oregon projects may be indirectly the means of bringing about this expected era of railroad building.

For many months prior to the financial upheaval last Fall nearly every railroad in the country was overrunning with business. In Oregon, officials who were supposed to be drawing salaries for soliciting traffic for their roads were actually working overtime in the effort to prevent traffic coming to them in a volume that fairly swamped their facilities for handling it. There was car shortage and engine shortage, and even track shortage, for so many trains were moving that the available passing track was not sufficient in number and length to admit of the economical and expeditious handling of trains. Under such conditions prevalent the entire length of the Hill and Harriman systems, it was quite clear that any additions to the traffic by the opening of new lines would only add further complications to a situation which, temporarily at least, was beyond the control of the railroad men.

But with the turn of the tide, the necessity for the development of new fields for traffic has become most pronounced. The fixed charges on the existing lines, in main lines and equipment remain practically the same as when tracks and equipment were working up to the maximum capacity. There is an immense salary list from head officials down to track walkers, in which there can be no change of consequence, whether the road is working to capacity or has inefficient traffic in main lines and equipment. The local traffic which can be developed along the proposed railroad lines in Southern and Central Oregon and in the Coast region will be heavy as the country develops, but the great source of profit to the big transcontinental systems, which are supposed to be behind the projects, will be the haul on the products that these feeders will bring out to the main lines.

An increased business for the transcontinental roads is needed more at the present time than ever before and is the strongest incentive for the building of the new lines. Mr. Harriman's bond sale has equipped him with money enough to carry out his long-promised plans in Central Oregon and as Mr. Hill has never had difficulty in building his roads in either good times or bad times, he will probably build into the Tillamook country in the near future. No other state in the Union has so much to offer in the way of new traffic as will be found in Oregon. Its wonderful resources cannot much longer be neglected.

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the American people and they will not care how great his earnings from the lecture platform may be after he returns successful.

MODERN HERO OF THE CHURCH.

Bishop Brent Declines Rich Home Offer to Remain in the Philippines. Providence (R. I.) Journal.

The question of turning Lone Fir Cemetery into a public park has been agitated at various times in the past ten or fifteen years, only to receive its quietus through the strenuous objection of many citizens who have family lots and graves in the tract. The matter once again has been brought up, this time with a definite purpose looking to its speedy settlement. It is doubtful, however, whether the consent of a majority of the lot-owners can be secured. The plan, if carried out, would put a stop to the traffic in the tract, a strong barrier in the way of many who own lots upon which improvements have been made and which are held sacred to family burials. However, the matter is to be taken up and canvassed systematically with a view to its permanent settlement, since it will be vexed question as long as the plot remains, and now practically uncared for and open to further interments. A cemetery surrounded by homes is open to serious objections upon the score of community health. Upon this basis probably the strongest argument for turning the place into a park and stopping its further use as a cemetery will be made.

Mr. E. T. Bethel, a British subject, who has been running a newspaper in Corea, has been arrested on a charge of sedition preferred by Y. Mimura, the Japanese resident Governor of Seoul. If Japan is desirous of securing an accurate line on the limitations of its jurisdiction in Corea, it might extend to Mr. Bethel the same treatment that has been given Coreans who were charged with sedition. This treatment in nearly all cases was sudden death, the victims, if the case was not very clear, being allowed to commit harakiri. An attempt to inflict this kind of punishment on a British subject would be the signal for the assembling in the Far East of a war fleet that would put an end to Japanese control of Corea as well as a great many other outlying precincts.

Edward Hugh Martin, charged with the murder of Nathan Wolff, will spend the Summer in the Multnomah County Jail. His trial, which was to have taken place July 2, has been postponed until October 7. The murder of which this man is accused was a most diabolical one. So far as disclosed by any evidence upon which the jury in the Duma is proceeding. The case is one that demanded speedy trial and by this time should have been disposed of. The evidence in the case is purely circumstantial and is not likely to be increased or diminished by delay. However, in simple accord with the dilatory methods that have become a part of our judicial system, it has been allowed to drag along.

June, the closing month in Portland's shipping season, is usually quiet, but the waterfront this year fails to show anything resembling dullness. In addition to a big fleet of coasters coming and going, there is in the harbor a big fleet of foreign vessels loading wheat, flour, lumber and other products for Europe, Australia, South America, China and Japan. This fleet is daily increasing in size, and before there is much of a slackening the advance guard of another big grain fleet will be in the harbor. The shipping industry is Portland's wonderful growth more in evidence than in the harbor.

Patience in Curry County.

There is no chance to give election returns at this time, for the reason that none of the election clerks made copies of results before sealing the ballots and tally sheets. Nothing authentic will be obtainable until the official count. Rumor says Mr. Tyler will be the next Sheriff. Judge Peary is a passenger on the steamer, as this paper predicted he would. Mr. Tooleman will be the Assessor, and it is hoped he will inject a little justice into the very corrupt system of the Curry County assessments. There will come a time, though possibly in the far distant future, when the people will demand the necessity of making the foreign property-holders pay at least a portion of the county tax, and maybe they will open their eyes to the fact that it would be perfectly honest and not far from justice to make them pay an equal proportion. Mr. Tooleman should give careful attention to the property values of the Curry County assessments. There will come a time, though possibly in the far distant future, when the people will demand the necessity of making the foreign property-holders pay at least a portion of the county tax, and maybe they will open their eyes to the fact that it would be perfectly honest and not far from justice to make them pay an equal proportion. Mr. Tooleman should give careful attention to the property values of the Curry County assessments.

Mrs. Blesker, of the Drum Corps.

Washington (D. C.) Herald.

Mrs. Elsie Blesker, who died at Mount Vernon, N. Y., a few days ago, at the age of 84, was a rather remarkable woman. She was a member of the Drum Corps of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and was the only woman in the corps. She was a member of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and was the only woman in the corps. She was a member of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and was the only woman in the corps.

Editor Geer's Version.

Mr. Chamberlain's phenomenal success is attributable to but one thing—his ability to speak. He has accomplished and ubiquitous hand-shaker, and above all things else, the great American public must have its handshakes. This Chamberlain long since found out and has worked the discovery, as well as the Republican party of Oregon, to an artistic finish.

Have We Heard This Before?

Sumpter American.

Now perhaps the warring Republican factions, or more properly speaking, the men who claim to be Republicans and believe in the principles of the Republican party, will bury their personal grievances and help to re-organize the Republican party so that it can have a united front.

Attacked by Rats, Terrier Saves Him.

Hoboken (N. J.) Dispatch.

Had it not been for the timely aid rendered by an Irish terrier, Alfred Junge, of Hoboken, would probably have been killed by rats. Young Junge has a stable that is infested by rats and it has been his habit to go to the stable and in that manner has caught many rats. As soon as he entered the building yesterday he heard a rushing sound and immediately fled to the scene of the rats. They were scampering in all directions. Presently he felt them at his feet, and as he kicked them others took to the air. He ran up his legs, through his clothing, and some of the rats, notwithstanding his efforts to drive them away. He had become so exhausted he could scarcely stand, when an Irish terrier belonging to a neighbor dashed in the open doorway and attacked the animals. In two minutes the terrier drove every one of them from the stable and Junge hobbled home and attended to his injuries.

Gives \$2,000,000 for Poor Mexicans.

Washington (D. C.) Herald.

The announcement that the Senator Pedro Alvarado, of Mexico, has given \$2,000,000 for the purpose of aiding poor Mexicans recalls the fact that he started life as a day laborer on a ranch. Born of humble parents, Senator Alvarado in his younger days worked as a peon, or common day laborer, on a ranch, but his honesty and industry earned steady advancement, and he soon became his own master and one of the wealthiest men in the country. But he never forgot the poor, and he has endeavored to alleviate the none too happy lot of the peon.

Nepotism Law Hits Governor.

Guthrie (Okla.) Dispatch.

The law absolutely prohibiting the employment in any public office of relatives within the third degree by affinity or consanguinity is now in effect in Oklahoma. Governor Haskell, who signed the law, was the officeholder caught under the law's provision. He immediately switched to a more energetic and energetic position, and his private stenographer, who had been appointed to the position of Clerk of the office, was elected a member of the faculty of the State Normal School at Muskogee. It is claimed that the anti-nepotism law does not cover her case.

Gallery Seats Are Better.

Eugene Guard.

The Family Has Moved.

Seattle Times.

WANTED—The address of the Republican party in Oregon.

CHANGE STATE REPRESENTATION.