

The Oregonian

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Portland, Monday, January 18, 1909.

game they kill. The wealthy hunters are, of course, willing that these men should be deprived of this pleasure which they cannot otherwise afford; but, believing it to be an unfair law...

It is quite natural and easy for the hunter to present the stay-at-home with a few ducks and a few days later receive a cash present from the recipient of his favor. By this manner it has been possible throughout the season to secure duck dinners at almost any first-class restaurant in Portland, with arrest and conviction practical as possible.

Neither of these absurdities, therefore, is law, and neither of them is binding on anybody. Half the Legislature will certainly disregard the law; all taxpayers and all citizens ought to disregard both.

A MISTAKE AND ITS MEANING. It was a mistake, as observant people now know, to abolish the Constitution of Oregon. For Oregon now has no constitution. The remaining shreds of the thing called the constitution may be abolished by any initiative statute.

But, it is inquired, haven't the people a right to do what they will? No; because the people are not the majority dealing with the special questions of today. The people in the long run will rule, but the majority of today, excited by some temporary interest or notion, will not rule.

There is, however, an economic feature in the situation that later may be of considerable interest to both Portland and the railroad company. There is a growing tendency throughout the country to limit the carrying capacity of railroads to a fair return on the original investment, making allowances of course for operating expenses and depreciation.

quadruple land values in the territory which it traverses, but the road, limited to earnings based on its actual cost, could not participate in the actual value which would be due solely to its own work.

The Deschutes route is the natural route from Central Oregon to the Columbia River route was the natural highway between Portland and the Inland Empire. Once constructed along the easy grades of the Deschutes River, no other line that might enter the field could successfully compete with it in point of expense.

Following the Constitution. In his message to the Legislature Governor Chamberlain urges enactment of laws establishing a uniform system of assessment and taxation, as the constitution directs shall be done.

Is this an apology for Tillman, or a rebuke of him? It is taken from a Journal of New York, and is a rebuke of him. It admits that the action brought by the Senator in pressing for the release of those lands to the public was in the common interest.

Our George doesn't want anything more than to be Governor and Senator, too. Why not? Isn't the whole scheme of Statement No. 1 to deliver state and Nation to the Democrats? That means Oregon's one Democrat, of course.

Spite of the heavy rain and the fact that it was Sunday, more people were sitting in Portland yesterday than any time during the past twelve days. No state where a little snow, with barely freezing weather, knocks people out as in Oregon.

Congress is disposed to be hilarious because it is learned that the President's personal barber has been loaned to the Navy Department and is paid \$1500 per year. Well, nobody from Congress is able to hold him long enough to shave him.

Just a single item of \$30,000 in the emergency bill is for automobiles for President-elect Taft. That's what comes of having a 325-pound administration.

ple a policy of law violation or one of law observance. The Oregonian believes and will always urge that the young people of this state should be taught to respect the law, of which the constitution is the foundation.

The engineer and conductor of the Denver & Rio Grande train wrecked Friday night had been in the employ of the company for more than twenty years. This long-continued service was naturally a guarantee that they were competent and careful men.

Prince Ching assures the American and British ministers that the dismissal of Yuan Shi Kai will have no effect on the Chinese policy as regards the two countries mentioned. This assurance may be given in perfectly good faith, and still there are doubting Thomases who will wonder if the Foreign Ministers expected Prince Ching to tell them anything different.

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The performance of "Ben Hur" tonight will have at least 300 auditors who know the wonderful story by heart. That ought to help some.

DISREGARD STATEMENT NO. ONE

Interest That Only Males Refuse to Yield to Argument. ASTORIA, Or., Jan. 17.—(To the Editor.)—Statement No. 1 is merely a statement of what the candidate expects to do if elected.

No reasonable man can or does expect another to always abide by a statement which would be all right under certain conditions, but entirely wrong under other conditions. No man expects a man to abide by a statement that violates his own principles, makes him betray his party and makes a personal enemy of his mind.

Under our form of government a man must be either a party man or an independent. A party man is to act with his party. To act with the opposition party makes him a traitor, and one to be shunned by all men.

In the coming Senatorial election the Republican members of the Legislature will vote for the Republican party alone. If any member of that Legislature was elected by running on the Republican ticket he is either a Republican or a perjurer.

Some knowing ones who sought to avoid the issue of letting the water run were rewarded with long icicles hanging from faucets in the morning and the water pipes frozen solidly.

A frozen waterback stove at Dr. Williams' residence exploded Tuesday morning, after having a fire built in it, and some of the heavy stove doors struck Mrs. Williams, but with the flat side to, and fortunately not very great force.

Attorney J. D. Slater has a couple of badly "blasted" fingers which was the result of a fall in which his hand came in contact with a heated wrench a couple of mornings ago.

A kitchen range in the farm residence of Frank Jackson, six miles beyond Athena, blew up Wednesday morning, through sudden thawing of the hot-water attachment, which had literally torn the range to shreds.

The Leader was issued Tuesday under trying conditions—ink frozen, press stuck in contact with a heated wrench a couple of mornings ago.

The local potato famine has been somewhat relieved by the arrival of two large loads of excellent tubers from Crook County, which were sold here at reasonable figures.

WHAT DOES OREGON REALLY WANT?

Is It Popular Will That Demands Go to the Senate? Why Did Not Democratic Legislators in 1903 Vote for the Republican Nominee for Senator?—Was Not Geer Then the Popular Choice?

Portland, Jan. 18.—(To the Editor.)—It is stoutly claimed in some quarters that the Oregon Legislature, Republican by a three-fourths majority, is about to disembowel the Republican party of the state by choosing a Democratic United States Senator.

That the people of Oregon want a Democratic United States Senator is one of the most preposterous absurdities to which Democratic demagogues have recently put the force of their combined and unceasing cry. That any Republican should lend his vote to the success of such a consummation is unbelievable, since he knows as well as he understands the difference between day and night that in overwhelming numbers the Republicans of the state want a Republican United States Senator.

To say otherwise is simply to scoff at the groundwork of common sense and to proclaim one's self unfit to represent the people. Regarding this proposed step on the part of those who still profess loyalty to Republican principles and whose constituents in every county are Republicans by large majorities, there are several things which may just now very properly be said.

It is inconceivable and therefore indefensible to claim that the public sentiment of this state is in favor of the election of a United States Senator who has declared himself in accord with the principles of William J. Bryan and who supported him for President two months ago.

There are some things even the people cannot do under the Constitution of the United States—many things, in fact—and among these is the choosing of a United States Senator.

It is in a word, that Congress does not believe in President Roosevelt's moral sincerity. It thinks him hypocritical. He has lectured it and the country on truthfulness, yet nine out of ten Congressmen are lying to his face.

Mind, we do not say that Congress is right when it says that it believes to be true. Congressmen may be deceived, but there can be no question that this is true. They honestly think about the President.

High Art and the Box Office. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. A \$750,000 theater has just opened in New York a year ahead of the date fixed for the New Theater to be devoted to high art. But no complaint of rivalry is heard.

Drawing a Distinction. The Commoner. Minority Leader Champ Clark and Speaker Joseph Cannon use the same words, but Mr. Clark uses them with finer discrimination and not quite so much profane emphasis.

every member of the Oregon Legislature has sworn to support it. But, dismissing the legal and binding force of an oath to support the Federal Constitution—if it is to be ignored and violated—it is pertinent to say that no man can with a shadow of reason claim that he is representing the people of Oregon when he casts his vote for an anti-Taft man and loyal supporter of William J. Bryan to sit in the United States Senate for six years.

Indeed, the particular nature of the objection of such Republicans would make interesting reading—the squaring of alleged Republicanism with outspoken Bryanism. In his message Chamberlain lays great stress on the binding force of a popular vote for Senator, yet six years ago, when the Republican candidate for Senator had received 12,000 majority over his Democratic opponent, and Samuel White, chairman of the State Democratic Committee, had personally assured the successful candidate that when the vote of the 17 Democratic members would serve to elect, they were forthcoming, since the Democracy were believers in the principle of direct election of Senators, not one Democratic member of either house deserted the Democratic camp, though on several ballots their support would have elected "his people's candidate."

C. E. S. Wood, the Democratic candidate for the same office, but through the personal objection of Governor Chamberlain on the ground that the defeat of the candidate who had received the popular vote "would be good Democratic politics," the Democratic support was withheld.

Now, it is said, there are Republican members of the Legislature who intend to fall bodily into the traps of the Democratic candidate, which is playing "good Democratic politics," and send an outspoken Bryan man to the Senate in order to comply with the sentiment of the people of Oregon.

Great men, says the London Times, especially those distinguished by ease of belief or intensity of effort, are apt to be possessed by such prejudices and to express them in season and out of season; and smaller men are apt to take a malicious pleasure in the fact, as if it brought the great nearer to themselves.

Those of us who do not try to explain genius away altogether are apt to expect too much from it. No man can be always on his guard against his own more subtle weaknesses; and the effort of achievement is apt to forego the negative effort of avoidance.

It might be taken as an instance of the egotism of the world, but it is not egotism that absorbs a man in his work. The man of genius is absorbed, not in himself, but in something outside himself, and it is in this something that he finds his life.

When the witnesses had testified Judge Crawford held a consultation with the wife. She decided that Prehn should be sentenced to one day's confinement in jail, the minimum penalty.

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