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Portland, Wednesday, Nov. 10, 1909.

WHEN PROPHECY IS EASY.

One of Senator Bourne's followers gives out the information that the opposition of 'The Oregonian' to 'statement one' will surely re-elect Bourne to the Senate. This is the same Bourne who is expected to be re-elected. But the 'statement' may elect another Democrat, and surely will, if Bourne should carry off another nomination; which, however, he could only do with the aid of the Democratic party in the primary.

It is said, now, that the objection to the assembly or convention is not an objection to the right of citizens to meet and discuss political or public affairs, but to the claim of any body of citizens to represent a political party, or to suggest candidates in its name. It is, then, a protest against the existence of a political party, or the organization of some kind. If no group or association is to act for party or in its name, then men can't associate, unite or combine, and party cannot exist—an absurd conclusion.

If men, meeting together, suggest candidates for executive or legislative offices, in the name of the Republican party, the degree of their acceptance by the Republican electors will depend on the acknowledged fitness of the recommendations. Men who profess to represent a party yet do not represent it, will secure no votes.

There can be nothing to prevent the three tailors of Tooley street from assembling in convention and beginning their declaration with "We, the people of Oregon." There can be no proper objection in Oregon to any Republican, Democratic, Prohibition, Labor or other assembly, claiming to represent the people of Oregon.

When the direct primary law was passed by the Washington Legislature in 1907 it was found that the members of the party were not participating in a primary to the extent that the Legislature intended. It was held to be ineffectual until a proper amendment was made to the registration law making compliance with the later law possible.

The Washington Legislature will then, of course, make a suitable amendment to the registration law, and so far as it can, will place all possible barriers in the way of any wholesale Democratic invasion of a Republican primary.

King Edward VII of England celebrated yesterday the sixty-eighth anniversary of his birth. It was on the 9th of November, 1841, that the news went out from Buckingham Palace that Victoria, England's then young Queen, had been born the previous year, to the great disappointment of the Queen, the Prince Consort and the nation.

Establishment of the Reed Institute in Portland will mark the most substantial effort yet put forth to satisfy the state-wide need for facilities for higher education in this most central city of Oregon.

Along paths guarded by diplomacy, had he come to the throne in his youth or early manhood, he might have assumed the mantle of a war lord. But the fires of youth had burned low before the weight of responsibility fell upon him, and in common with most men who have passed the age of three-score years, King Edward enjoys the blessings of peace.

WHO IS TO JUDGE?

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The Governor of a state, besieged for pardons or for commutations, is in an extremely trying position. It is especially so in capital cases, and the more so, since the law puts the responsibility on the Governor alone.

Spokane, or any city, has a right to prohibit street meetings, of any sort. Too much talk and gabble and babble in the world anyhow, and not enough attention to work.

Portland "long ago." The effort has been made often to this end, but the future is now opening bright for the first time. Portland will find growing interest and pride in the Reed Institute, and so will the whole state.

BRIDGES AND SHIPPING INTERESTS.

Portland needs the proposed Broadway bridge across the Willamette River. It needs, also, the projected O. R. & N. Company, in its own station, a wide horizon as well as with books—see in this center, where current events meet. Parents who have been sending their children to other places to get these advantages along with the learning of books, will be more content to keep them in Oregon if there shall be a fine institution in Portland. The Reed Institute will be one of the most gratifying additions to the progress of Portland and of the state.

On its surplus cash, reported by the O. R. & N. Company, in its own station, a wide horizon as well as with books—see in this center, where current events meet. Parents who have been sending their children to other places to get these advantages along with the learning of books, will be more content to keep them in Oregon if there shall be a fine institution in Portland.

The proposal of John D. Rockefeller to spend \$1,000,000 in eradicating the hookworm from the South is not being received with enthusiasm by most Southern papers. The New Orleans Picayune with a breezy independence asserts that "we have solved the mystery and gained the mastery of yellow fever, the only disease that ever operated as a blight upon our extreme Southern States, and the hookworm and other of the sort which are being conjured up for our destruction, we may laugh them to scorn."

Advance sheets of Collier's Weekly for November 12, contain an elaborate story of the Glavis-Ballinger controversy as viewed by Mr. Glavis. This gentleman, it will be remembered, was removed from a position in the field division of the General Land Office because of his inability to work as a subordinate in the service of these acts.

A man was killed at Astoria Sunday while "cranking" the engine on a gasoline schooner, and in Portland Monday an automobile machinist had his wrist broken in two places in a similar accident with an automobile engine.

The doom of the horse show is approaching. According to New York advice, on the opening night of the twenty-fifth National Horse Show "there was more interest in the horses than in the new gowns in the boxes."

Milk and butter are scarce and many more cows are needed, but dairymen are not encouraged by the tale that 12 or 25 per cent of all cows in Oregon's dairy herds are liable to be condemned and destroyed as tubercular.

The Oregonian tries to hold a balance of judgment between Cook and Peary. It has friends on each side of the controversy, whom it mustn't offend. Besides, it is unwilling to discriminate between the North pole and the South Pole, and it wouldn't even speak disrespectfully of the equator.

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THE DEFEAT OF TOM JOHNSON.

Attributed to the "Middle Class" Voters.

From Cleveland Letter to New York Evening Post.

The result of the election indicates that, for the time at least, the people of Cleveland are tired of Tom Johnson. There was no noise about the retirement from public office of this unique character. The voters said nothing. The fight of the Republican politicians seemed almost perfunctory.

Both parties were out with circus tents which were packed night after night with politely interested auditors. The "Burr" added a little spice to the situation by rushing to the aid of the Republican candidate and immediately getting peppered with a myriad of questions.

Party electors came down to election day completed. Each side claimed victory, the Johnson forces with a little more confidence because of former victories, but each was like a boy insisting in the presence of his courage support, could not fathom the silent vote.

Mayor Johnson saw the answer in the first bunch of precincts that was reported on election night. He was at his office in the City Hall with some of his cabinet. They made a hasty calculation. "We're beaten," whispered one of the members of the cabinet, who applied the Mayor cheerfully.

The evidence of a change in feeling toward Mayor Johnson came with the traction settlement a year ago last Spring, by which the administration secured control of the Cleveland streetcar system.

The electorate had supported Mayor Johnson on a three-cent fare platform. They understood that this also meant a five-cent fare for the traction settlement three-cent fare was granted but for 90 days an extra cent was charged for a transfer.

Mayor Johnson got his first decisive defeat shortly after this. A petition inspired by the defeated strikers was circulated calling for a referendum election on the security franchise.

Not long after this the traction properties went into the hands of receivers, and have been operated since then under the direction of the Federal Court.

War of the Revolution (estimated) \$7,600,000
 War of 1812 " " " " 1,500,000
 Indian wars (service pension) 4,995,000
 War with Mexico (service pension) 4,252,544
 Civil war " " " " 2,856,461,840
 Spanish-American war (service pension) 2,323,395
 Insurrection " " " " 1,684,049
 Unliquidated " " " " 1,684,049
 Total \$12,912,982,591

THE FIASCO IN MARYLAND.

The Failure of the Effort to Disfranchise the Negro.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

The effort to disfranchise the negro in Maryland was a failure. The constitutional amendment was defeated by some 12,000 votes. A strenuous effort was made to carry it.

There is cause for believing that the rejection of the proposition was due to a doubt on the part of white voters as to whether it would work as well as the politicians promised. It was emphatically asserted by the politicians that no white man would be disfranchised.

The educational qualifications required for the franchise were such that during the campaign a leading independent lawyer of Baltimore offered to pay \$500 to any white man or his children who complied with all the conditions of the test.

Such a requirement would take the ability of the average white man to say nothing of the average Maryland negro. The fear that such a constitutional amendment might cut both ways evidently influenced a great number of voters to oppose its adoption.

Who will be the successor of Justice Peckham on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States? is a question which has been agitating the legal circles. It is being pointed out that in certain Taft names Horace H. Lurton, of Tennessee, to be Supreme Court Justice in succession to Justice Peckham.

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FUTURE OF THE NORTHWEST.

Better Fruit Has Fine Forecast in Irrigation Number.

Better Fruit, a trade journal for November, published by the Irrigation Number, contains a number of articles of interest to the fruit grower of the Northwest, which is given herewith.

In this edition we have endeavored to indicate the immensity of the Northwest territory with the opportunities, possibilities and opportunities. In the seven states, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, the Dakotas and Minnesota, there are about 400,000,000 acres, which is double the area of New England and the Middle States.

No one can realize the importance of irrigation on these vast areas without being familiar with the results. We have endeavored to give the reader some idea of the immensity of the territory to be settled, the methods of doing it and the profits that can be made.

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