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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1910.

DIRECTION OF LEGISLATION.

Whether or not it is intended that the new House committee on rules shall be a sort of "cabinet," with a function like that of the cabinet which directs the course of legislation and government in England, such very nearly would be its practical effect.

The act of the King in appointment of the Premier is merely formal. The Prime Minister practically elects himself, by making himself the leader of his party and winning success at the polls for it.

Behind the action of the representatives, in either country, party life and party organization are assumed. It is said, however, that the "insurgents" in the House at Washington, or some of them, are proposing a rule that the Speaker shall not be chosen because he is a party man, and that even he is not necessarily to be a member of the House.

Political life in both countries rests on the assumption that the voters and their representatives will continue to act mainly in two organic political parties. This seems to be necessary consequence in countries where the representative system is in full control.

In Germany parties split into small bodies, chiefly on the basis of religion, no one party would carry with it control of the executive head. In Great Britain twenty-five years ago there was a situation in close parallel with that of the present time.

In 1885 an election occurred which gave the House of Commons 33 Liberals, 256 Conservatives and 86 Home Rule members, of whom Parnell then was leader. Thus there were three parties, neither of which commanded a majority of the votes.

The Conservatives, who at the time held the executive offices, resigned them to the Liberals. Then, as now, the Irish demanded as a condition of alliance with either party that a law should be enacted giving to Ireland a separate legislature having jurisdiction over local affairs.

Mr. Gladstone and a portion of the Liberal party, having decided to accede to the demands of the Irish members, brought in a bill for Home Rule in Ireland. All the Irish members voted with Gladstone, but nearly an equal number of the Liberal members deserted him, and he went to defeat.

Will our politics soon probably fall into a state similar to this, where no single party can accomplish its will, or put its policy into effect, unless the Democratic party, restored to power, may come nearer to agreement than the Republican party now appears likely to do?

air. No sooner had success crowned their efforts than from all parts of the world appeared an army of imitators who appropriated the plan of the Wrights which the Wrights had spent a lifetime of hard work and self-sacrifice in building aeroplanes.

But we have an official class who think differently. They draw salaries for doing people to Canada. Great is the inward mystery of conservation, and great is humbug!

DEFECTIVE APPLE PACKING. President W. K. Newell, of the State Board of Horticulture, and his staff, are making a strenuous effort to help defeat the Lafane bill, had an embarrassing experience which they might have escaped if all our apple growers were as honest as some of them are.

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nature. Eventually Spokane will recognize the impregnable position of this city, and the necessity of working with Portland for lower freight rates, instead of Coast terminals. The Oregonian is in full accord with Mr. Doland in his statement that "the greater the growth of Spokane and Eastern and Central Washington the larger city you will have in Portland."

WE CONSERVE. During the eleven months ended March 1, 1910, no less than \$6,488 citizens of the United States settled in Canada, where the lands are not shut up, on pretense of "conservation."

IT IS "THE GAME." In Indiana there is continuous fight on the form of prohibition known as local option. Just before the general election of 1908 the Governor of the state, J. Frank Hanly, called a special session of the Legislature for the purpose of forcing enactment of a local option law.

The "American visible" supply of wheat yesterday for the first time since the corresponding week in 1902 showed an increase. The amount was \$2,900 bushels, and it brings the total up to 27,620,000 bushels, a total which is still 9,000,000 bushels less than on the corresponding date a year ago.

The Sluslaw, Yaquina and Alsea Rivers are promised direct communication with Portland by means of the gasoline schooner Wilhelmina, which will be placed on the run this week. With the exception of Yaquina, the coast ports to be reached by this new carrier have practically no communication with the outside world except by rough trail and an occasional sloop or small schooner from adjacent ports.

The increased cost of living has apparently not yet reached the limits to which it may soar later. Advice from New York report formation of a new syndicate which is to take over the newly-discovered diamond mines in German Southwest Africa. Formation of this new syndicate enables three companies to control all of the world's production of diamonds, and an effort will undoubtedly be made to regulate the supply of diamonds.

Five automobile drivers were arrested last Sunday for exceeding the speed limit on the city streets. Let the good work go on and let no guilty man escape under the cover of the name of "a prominent citizen." The streets are for the use of all—not for the possession of the few.

The death of 250 people by fire at a ball in a Hungarian village Sunday night is simply a twentieth-century calamity to point a moral. That many people are never killed at a religious gathering.

The trolley trouble in Philadelphia is about ended, now that all sympathy strikers have returned to work. It is always thus. To be of effect, there must be results in less than forty-eight hours.

Exceptions may justly be taken to some of the strictures which the Carnegie Foundation authorities seem to have made on the curriculum of the Oregon Agricultural College. Their regret that the "Agricultural College and the State University duplicate each other's courses in several instances is shared by every intelligent farmer. Probably a large number of the reflecting taxpayers of the state would be glad to see these two indispensable institutions united, but at the same time it is not supposed by anybody that the union is practicable.

The aurora borealis was mistaken for the comet in Chicago. New Year's resolutions evidently didn't hold in the Windy City.

A great many persons, mostly Democrats, have discovered how well they like Roosevelt—since he ceased to be President.

Jack Cudahy has taken refuge on his father's farm. A good many livestock farmers need a hand like Jack Cudahy.

Hot air pays in New York. Consolidated Gas netted over \$7,000,000 last year at 80 cents.

WHY REPUBLICANS WERE BEATEN. That Massachusetts Congressional Election Clearly Explained. Chicago Tribune, Ind. Rep.

Mr. Buchanan, the Republican candidate, was not popular with the Republican voters. He had managed to steal the nomination away from the man the majority wanted as a candidate. He had been campaign manager for Governor Douglas when the latter had defeated the Republican nominee, a popular citizen of the district, there was a fear that if he were elected to fill the vacancy he would demand and get, in accordance with precedent, the nomination for the next full term.

Many things contributed to the remarkable success of Mr. Foss on Tuesday. Not the least of them was the unpopularity on several counts of William R. Buchanan among Republican voters. He gave a liberal sum to William L. Douglas's campaign for Governor, took an active part in it, and after the election he named his secretary, the editor of a Republican paper, Mr. Buchanan had been weak-kneed in the faith, and to cap the climax the manner of his nomination to Congress had left a bad taste in the mouth.

When he accepted the Democratic nomination for Lieutenant-Governor, he had called himself a Republican. He was regarded as more of a Democrat than a Republican. On the other hand, Eugene N. Foss was a strong magnet to disaffected Republicans, for until last fall, when he accepted the Democratic nomination for Lieutenant-Governor, he had called himself a Republican.

According to a verdict brought in by six men sitting as a jury before Justice of the Peace James H. Beetham, in Morristown, N. J., "d-n" is not an oath, a "swear word," such as is prohibited by the vice and immorality act of New Jersey.

Surrogate David Young, who was on trial for saying that Mrs. Nellie Fitzherbert, of Dover, "talked like a d-n fool," acknowledged he had used the expression, but his counsel insisted that such an expression was not swearing. The jury agreed with him and acquitted Young.

Mrs. Fitzherbert testified that she was in Mr. Young's office in Morristown recently to get a copy of a will in which she was interested. She read the copy, and told the surrogate that it was not a true copy. He offered to bet her a dollar that it was a true copy. She took the bet and the surrogate said she would win.

The copy was compared with the original, and it was shown that in the copy the word "not" was left out, completely changing the meaning of the will. She won her bet.

Later Mrs. Fitzherbert visited Mr. Young's office again and taunted him upon the fact that she had won her bet. He became angry and said: "You talk like a d-n fool."

Mr. Young said that he had great respect for her, but he would not add emphasis to an assertion. The expression was merely an adjective intended to convey the fact that she was talking like a fool, but like a very big fool—like very much of a fool. He did not mean that she was a condemned fool.

New Indiana Star in Literature. New York World. John Stevenson Parkington is about to publish "The Hermit of Capri." He is the author of the Indiana group of novels, but he is 70.

Some persons should be informed that it is a great deal easier for them to earn money than to get it out of John D. Rockefeller.

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AS A SPOKANE MAN SEES IT. Transcontinental Rate Question From the Interior Viewpoint. SPOKANE, Wash., March 24.—(To the Editor)—In reading a late issue of The Oregonian I found myself greatly interested by being the subject of an editorial in your columns. I certainly consider it an honor for a humble individual like myself to be in this way recognized by the foremost newspaper of the North Pacific coast.

I admit I am a pioneer in the freight agitation to get justice for Spokane and at this date am chairman of the Interstate Commerce committee for the Chamber of Commerce in handling the Spokane rate case. May I trespass a little on your space by stating my position, which I hardly believe you understand?

Spokane is not asking for terminal freight rates from the Atlantic seaboard to Spokane. We recognize that from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific Coast there is water competition and we have so stipulated in our rate case, but we are asking for the same rates to Spokane as Portland and Seattle receive. The fact is that there are no points where there is no water competition whatever. We are 400 miles nearer the base of supplies. In our freight rates we are perfectly equal to Spokane and her citizens, we are willing to pay the same freight rate from Chicago to Spokane that Portland pays, 400 miles longer. We are perfectly willing on our part, to give you fair rate an equal charge with us for the trade in freight rates as the divisions we agree in our rate case to pay the divisions so called, from Eastern cities to Chicago—that is, imposing on us a higher freight rate than that of the other divisions—that is, to Portland on all articles that come by rail. You must admit, in fair play, that we are certainly entitled to equal freight rates as the other divisions at all points where there is no water competition.

As a frequent visitor to your prosperous city and a great admirer of Portland, where I have a great many personal friends, if I should change my mind and move to Spokane, I should have had my option in the matter, I should, of course, take Heaven as first choice, being the only place I know of more than Spokane. I am sure that you will be glad to have my criticism and receive my suggestion in the good will it is given when I say that for 18 years in our agitation for equal freight rates we have encountered opposition from your city. Spokane is trying to build up not only itself but the whole inland country, and it is not fair to try to retard the growth of this country and throw all the barriers in the way, I never could understand. The growth of the growth of the Pacific and Eastern and Central Washington, the larger city you will have in Portland. I believe in the growth of Spokane and would work with us instead of against us. It would be of great benefit to your city, I believe. And if this suggestion of a freight rate case now before the Interstate Commerce Commission and we expect a decision within 90 days. We are also anxious to secure the passage of the Mann amendment to the interstate commerce bill and do not feel that these rates can be secured through an amendment proposed by our own city council. That is the one difference of opinion here, and we are as united as ever in the one purpose of securing equal freight rates for the inland Empire country as regards freight rates.

A. W. DOLAND. WHERE THE INSURGENTS FAILED. They Should Have Joined the Democrats, Says This Writer. SPOKANE, Wash., March 24.—(To the Editor)—I am a Republican of some years standing. I sympathize somewhat with the insurgent view of party in Congress, but I do not believe the insurgents have made a mistake in the late movement regarding Cannon. Half-way measures generally satisfy nobody, and the delay in the passage of the bill, by delaying the natural consequences of party action in a responsible manner. I believe the insurgents have played the game of the enemy, and they will take advantage of them and throw both the insurgents and regulars when they get the first chance.

It is a pity that the insurgents, according to the way they used to do in the old country, was for the insurgents to have gone to the Democrats and made the deal like St. Peter said: "Who are you?" I mentioned my name, and St. Peter summoned the Recording Angel with the book. The book was searched one time, but it was in vain. "What did you say your name was?" the Recording Angel asked. "I repeated it as you have in the book as you said," St. Peter said. "Why, you've got no business here. You're not due here for another 15 years." "Oh," interrupted the Recording Angel, "you're a pupil of Farman's, are you?" "Then he turned to St. Peter and grumbled: "Better let him be. That Farman is always upsetting our arrangements, though."—Philadelphia Record.

Forests at South Pole. Chicago Journal. Professor David, who occupies the chair of geology in the University of Sydney, and who accompanied Sir Ernest Shackleton to the South Pole, has made some very interesting remarks on his discovery there. The forest woods he has found showed that pine forests had flourished in the region of the South Pole at a remote geological epoch. The coal seams he had discovered suggested the same conclusion. At the time that we were making our way from Australia to the South Pole. The climate all over the world was at that period probably much milder than at present.

It Is the System. Louisville Courier-Journal. If the approaching campaign is to be fought in the manner that will promise real results it is about time to give up harping on our Uncle Joseph and get away from the bedrock of truth if neither Mr. Cannon nor Mr. Aldrich had been born the protective system would have reached its present logical conclusion. It would have been a failure, and would have fought for the perpetuation of graft with other lieutenants. Radical changes in our government at a few years ago would have effected by revolution and not by assassination. The system and not the man must be destroyed.

Specialist in Vocational College Work. Chicago Record-Herald. Miss Julia H. Oliver, of Rockford, Ill., has been elected an officer of the French Academy. Miss Oliver is the president of Rockford College. She was in the class of graduates in 1887. Her father had been a pioneer in introducing vocational courses in women's colleges.

College Professor Turns Laborer. Boston Globe. Hugh W. Ransom, professor of mathematics and civil engineering at the Harvard Summer School, and an assistant instructor of mathematics at the university, has gone to work as a laborer at \$150 a day for the construction company that is building the Cambridge subway.

Fashion Booms St. Bernard Dogs. London Dispatch. Queen Alexandra's fondness for animals is well known, has wavered in her allegiance to toy dogs of rare breeds, and has purchased a large St. Bernard. It is said that St. Bernard will become fashionable pets all over England and their price will rise.

Really a Self-Made Man. Baltimore American. The recent success in the suffrage discussion at Albany, N. Y., of Dr. Mary Walker recalls one of the cleverest remarks that the lamented "Big" Nye ever uttered. He described Dr. Walker as "the only self-made man in America."

New Golden Street for Curuso. New York Press. Curuso's new contract from 1912 to 1914, just signed with the Metropolitan company, assures him of an income of at least \$100,000 for the season.

LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

Just how naturally some inferences may be drawn was illustrated by a story told the other day by a young man, Thomas S. Moore, of Burlington. One evening some time ago, Mr. Moore said, a man drove up to the residence of a preacher in a small town over in Jersey, and after violently ringing the doorbell told the parson that Bill Bowker's father was violently sick and wanted him to come right out. The good domestic knew Bill Bowker, also his wife, Sally, and, thinking that spiritual advice was wanted, he picked up a prayer-book and accompanied the farmer to the wagon.

"I am sorry to hear that Sally is sick," remarked the prosaically sympathetic tone as he was about to step into the vehicle. "Do you think that her condition is dangerous?" "Oh," replied the farmer, "she has been layin' down for their stable all their afternoon."

"Lying down in the stable?" exclaimed the parson with a look of mingled amazement and horror. "What in the world is she doing in a place like that?" "Well, she's a good woman, and she was surprised rejoinder of the farmer, "When in their thunderation else would ye keep a mule?"

"Oh, I see," smilingly responded the parson, as light suddenly dawned upon him. "You have struck the wrong house; what you are looking for is the veterinary surgeon's office. How next door?"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Miss Mary Garden, at a tea in Philadelphia, praised the model corset-maker. "It is really wonderful," said Miss Garden, "what this artist can do. I have seen fat women, who, from certain angles, looked like a pig. It was the corset-maker. And that reminds me of an answer that I heard in Sunday school. A young man asked, 'What is it,' our superintendent asked, 'that binds us together and makes us better than we are by nature?' Our corset-maker replied, 'wise little girl of 8.'—Kansas City Star.

They were gliding round the ballroom to the strains of a soft, dreamy waltz. Suddenly the music stopped and the girl sprang to the floor, carrying a goodly portion of his charming partner's gown.

"What is the matter?" greeted his countenance, and ruefully he extricated himself from the masses of chiffon and lace. Reaching the side of a gentleman whose face had not assumed even the ghost of a smile, he burst out gratefully: "Oh, you are a gentleman! You are the only man who has not yet got into when I had the misfortune to tear that lady's dress!"

"Don't thank me, my dear sir!" replied he of the stony stare. "The lady happens to be my wife, and I paid for that dress!"—Answers.

In speaking of the time when the King and Queen of the Hawaiian Islands came here and then went to Europe, Senator Dewey told this story: "An incident of this trip," said the Senator, "was one of the rare contributions to the sedate movements of history, which probably never will be repeated. It was the gayety of nations. Chicago received the King with impressive ceremonies on his arrival. After a week of day parades and reviews the then Mayor of the metropolis of the West found a King on his hands. Kings were raised in the air, and the familiar words of their attributes, the customs of court or the method of addressing them. To relieve himself of embarrassment he drove his Majesty to the lobby, leaving him in the lobby, said, 'Good afternoon, King; we have had a hard day, and I think you had better get up to your room and wash up.'"

"When Their Majesties arrived in London they were entertained by royalty and were present at the wedding of the young Senator. "There was a current story at the time," he said, "that at the dinner the Hawaiian Queen said to Queen Victoria: 'You are a very good woman. I am a very good woman.' To the astonished inquiry, 'How so?' the Hawaiian Queen answered, 'My grandfather was a certain Cook.'—Washington, D. C. Times.

Mortimer Singer, the millionaire descendant of the sewing-machine inventor, lies with many of his kind in the air, the victim of an airplane accident. Mr. Singer was a pupil of Henri Farman, to whose pupils a number of accidents have already been familiar with the apparatus of this, said at a recent luncheon in New York: "They tell a story about Farman and his flying machine that a pupil in his name one morning as he turned up his engine motor at Issy: 'I had a dream about you last night, sir.' 'Yes?' said Farman. 'Yes,' I dreamed I fell from my airplane and died, and democracy, 'Who are you?' I mentioned my name, and St. Peter summoned the Recording Angel with the book. The book was searched one time, but it was in vain. 'What did you say your name was?' the Recording Angel asked. 'I repeated it as you have in the book as you said,' St. Peter said. 'Why, you've got no business here. You're not due here for another 15 years.' 'Oh,' interrupted the Recording Angel, 'you're a pupil of Farman's, are you?' 'Then he turned to St. Peter and grumbled: 'Better let him be. That Farman is always upsetting our arrangements, though.'—Philadelphia Record.

An Idol "Not to Be Fooled With." Cleveland Plain Dealer. A remarkable idol was brought from Central Africa by a missionary, and inside of this is a bunch of herbs of mystical potency. The god is supposed by the natives to be a very powerful one. To offend it would be extremely dangerous. Consequently it is kept at the missionary's residence in a glass case, where nobody can offer it any indignity. Attached to various parts of its body are spears and darts, by the aid of which the god is supposed to inflict injury upon persons who deserve to get hurt. The missionaries advise that it would be imprudent to handle any of these speckly things too frequently, because, for all anybody knows to the contrary, they may be poisoned.

Fashion Booms St. Bernard Dogs. London Dispatch. Queen Alexandra's fondness for animals is well known, has wavered in her allegiance to toy dogs of rare breeds, and has purchased a large St. Bernard. It is said that St. Bernard will become fashionable pets all over England and their price will rise. An experienced member of the Kennel Club in New York writes that the favor of the St. Bernard will not last long. It is a questionable woman's pet, for its temper is not as calm as that of the St. Bernard makes it impossible to have it indoors. Really a Self-Made Man. Baltimore American. The recent success in the suffrage discussion at Albany, N. Y., of Dr. Mary Walker recalls one of the cleverest remarks that the lamented "Big" Nye ever uttered. He described Dr. Walker as "the only self-made man in America."