

The Oregonian

Portland, Oregon.

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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1910.

ANOTHER FREAK MEASURE.

Latest of "uplift" schemes for the Oregon City law factory is proposed to make taxpayers defray expenses of electing delegates to National conventions and of sending them to those gatherings; also of nominating Presidential Electors. A bill for such purposes has been introduced in the Oregon Legislature by Representative J. W. Pugh, of Astoria. The measure would cause primaries in Presidential election years to be held in April, instead of September, and would therefore drag out political turmoil by that additional length. Under the present law assemblies or conventions choose delegates to National conventions and nominate Presidential Electors, inasmuch as the primary law covers neither case.

The proposed law provides that candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States may advertise themselves freely in the official pamphlet to be sent out by the Oregon Secretary of State.

All of which will be very fine for habitual convention delegates and for long-winded candidates like Mr. Bryan, but how about taxpayers who will foot the bills?

Further, what guarantee is there that the delegates who will attend National conventions at taxpayers' expense, or that the candidates who will recognize the U-Reen method of selecting the delegates? Conduct of National conventions cannot be controlled by any law in the State of Oregon. Even if taxpayers of Oregon defray the expenses of such candidates, they will direct primary plan, and of sending them to National conventions, the delegates may become only useless ornaments when they get there.

The U-Reen-Bourne faction, which is fattening the proposed law, has several grievances against the existing method of naming National delegates. It will be remembered that none of that faction could gain admission into the last Republican National convention. The measure does not aim to correct this, but to perpetuate abuses because there have been none in selection of delegates to National conventions or of candidates for Presidential electors, therefore, familiarly known as "U-Reen" candidates, the primary law do not have bearing on these affairs.

This measure is intended to make complete an anti-convention lobby in this state. The worst of it is that it would upset the whole machinery of the state election laws in Presidential years, because the system now requires primaries in September, instead of in April. It would confuse state and county officials as to dates for nominations, petitions, etc., and every fourth year would hold the state in an agitation of politics from early Spring until November.

The people want retrenchment, as they demonstrated two years ago when they hired a change of primary from June to November, and primary from April to September. The people, therefore, have spoken on this question in emphatic manner. Why, then, revive a question on which they have already spoken?

LINE OF LEAST RESISTANCE.

Lostine, Or., one of the oldest and most prosperous towns in the rich Grand Ronde Valley, will be moved away from the present location where it has flourished since civilization first planted its banner in the Willamette country. The move is another case of Mahomet going to the mountain, because the mountains would not go to Mahomet, the O. R. & N. Company in this particular case representing the mountain. The original line of least resistance was a line of least resistance, but, after studying the situation for a year, the Lostine people apparently believe the change to be of vital necessity. The incident calls attention to the remarkable changes that have taken place in railroad-building methods in the past few years. Immense sums of money were wasted in the early days of railroad building in the West by building lines with a reckless disregard for grades and curves.

In a great many cases what appeared to the original builders as the "line of least resistance" to their immediate efforts became a lasting obstacle to economical operation. The extent to which this policy of haste and alleged economy in construction was carried is shown in the statement that in the recent rebuilding of the O. R. & N. out of Portland one short, steep grade in the original line could be accounted for in no other way than a desire on the part of the builders to avoid a mammoth stump. Had the O. R. & N. line up the Grand Ronde Valley been constructed during the era when it was customary to go around stumps instead of removing them, and to make wide detours to avoid grades, the road would have climbed the hill at Lostine instead of continuing along the original line where it is now. But the day of the hill-climbing, curve-crippled railroad was over before the Harriman engineers set their grade stakes in the Lostine country, and the nearest approach could make to Lostine on anything like an economical grade was more than a mile from the town limits.

The economic principle involved in taking the town to the railroad instead of the railroad to the town is now quite generally applied by railroads throughout the country. It was this principle that caused the Harriman lines to supplant the crooked

mountain-climbing Columbia Southern, with a water level grade up the Deschutes Canyon. It has caused the Hill lines practically to abandon the heavy grades of their Potlatch Canyon line in Idaho and it is also responsible for construction of the North Bank road down the Columbia. Except in the mountain portions of the country, where there may be a few towns in a similar predicament to that of Lostine, no more town-moving will be necessary, for all railroad-building of the present day and age is carried on with a view to economical operation and maintenance, the original cost being much less of a factor than formerly.

LET THE PEOPLE CHOOSE.

Nesty critics of Republican assembly in Oregon declare the assembly will nullify and supplant the primaries and break the primary law. Such talk is an affront to the intelligence of the electorate.

All nominees of the assembly must pass a majority vote in the primaries and be approved by them, else they will not go on the ticket for the election. It is quite likely that all nominees will not be accepted by electors, and the assembly will name candidates of their own choice for some of the offices, just as electors of Portland, at the city primaries last year, rejected several of the nominees of the city assembly. Many of the nominees of the city assembly were accepted, however, because their merit was plainly visible to the voters. Subsequent events in city administration have justified the assembly's selection and acceptance of them by the people in primaries and election.

Primaries, following assembly, afford best possible protection to the public service against boss-named candidates and machine-controlled politics. Loud talk and "pregnant" warnings of foes of assembly come down from a time when conventions were not subject to this corrective influence—that is, before the primary law was enacted, and, moreover, before severe public sentiment, like that of the present day, put assembly on its good behavior.

Politicians who declare the people will not have sense enough in the primary to elect the best man, and who want in office from among the candidates suggested by assembly and by other bodies of citizens and by petition of individuals are endeavoring to hoodwink the electorate. Voters will elect the best man in the primary, and the election whether they want Jones or Smith in office from the personal and political qualifications of Jones and Smith, and they will not be so stupid as blindly to swallow any "dose" that their enemies might wish to force down their throats. The people will have their primaries in which to exercise their fullest prerogative.

THE CENSUS.

Useful and important as the National census undoubtedly is, the numerical aggregation of nations connected with it is the department of government more or less of the character of a magic incantation which is intended rather to amuse than to be taken seriously. If a whole town not far from the thriving and zealous city of Portland, in the Willamette valley, is to be enumerated, naturally the same thing may happen elsewhere. It may happen over and over again. And if the census taker is to be overheard, what of individuals? The fact that the same person is occasionally used to swell the population of two or more cities it is discreet to suppress, of course, but who believes that the census taker is to be overheard, and the whole number of inhabitants in Portland or any other considerable town?

It is likely enough that the enumerators are zealous and careful. At the same time, in the area, and it is humanly impossible for them to catch and question everybody. Persons who undertake to answer the questions for others are forgetful. It slips the mind of the informant that this happens again and over again. The enumerators are to be overheard, and the whole number of inhabitants in Portland or any other considerable town?

THE ALBANY APPLE MEETING.

The prospect of an extraordinary apple crop this Fall emphasizes the importance of cooperative effort among the orchardists to secure proper packing and marketing. With a bad pack the fruit will bring only a fraction of what it is really worth. Unless marketed with skill and discretion, the surplus of apples will not obtain the prices it ought. Very often the fruit grower who has taken great pains to cultivate and spray his trees loses the reward to which he is entitled because on the one hand he is not an expert packer and on the other because he does not fully understand the business of marketing. To remedy these unfortunate circumstances thorough co-operation among the fruitmen is essential. In this way also can the individual growers master the difficult arts of packing and marketing. Acting by himself, the orchardist cannot properly judge the grade of his output, and he is at the mercy of unscrupulous buyers. More- over, apple growers produce enough to enable them to take advantage of market conditions. All must combine or there is a regrettable loss to each.

For reasons like these the meeting which will be held at Albany on May 6 by the executive committee of the Willamette Valley Apple Growers' Association is of the first importance. Its purpose is to formulate plans for complete co-operative effort among the fruitmen of the Willamette region, and to perfect those plans in time for the marketing of the crop now on the trees. If the purpose is carried out successfully, it will mean thousands of dollars in good harvest for the farmers of Oregon. If it fails, it will mean that those same dollars will slip smoothly into the pockets of middlemen and others who have not earned them. The partial failure of the East- ern market in good harvest years will occupy a conspicuous place in every market next Fall and Winter. They will be talked about, purchased and used to an extent hitherto unparalleled in the marketing of high grade apples, and the supply sent forward with skill and good judgment, the future of our fruit industry is safe for many years to come. But this re-

quires intelligent co-operation. Opportunity is knocking at the doors of the Oregon apple raisers this season as it has never knocked before. It lies with the orchardists to accept her favors or reject them. The first step toward making the most of the opportunity is to attend the Albany meeting and help on the plans for organized effort.

ARE WE ANGLO-SAXONS?

Persons who still cling to the romantic fiction that the United States is inhabited by they who choose to call the "Anglo-Saxon Race" may find some instructive reading in an article in McClure's Magazine for May. It purports to discuss the skulls of our European immigrants, but incidentally it tells something about their noses and mentions other facts of curious interest. For example, it informs us that one person in four of the population of Greater New York is a Jew. Taking into account the numbers of the Italians, Irishmen, Germans and other nationalities who also share the confined quarters of Manhattan Island it becomes fairly evident that the title Anglo-Saxon does not strictly apply to the population of that region at any rate. It applies almost everywhere else in the United States except in the solid South and in part of the tier of states along the west bank of the Mississippi. Even in the South the race forms only a fraction of the population, and, as we reach Missouri, passing northward along the Mississippi, he begins to meet the swarming Germans and Scandinavians.

CHAMPOEG DAY.

"Champoeq Day" does not arouse the enthusiasm even among the old settlers of the Willamette Valley to which, by reason of its important place in the state's beginnings, it is entitled. Ten years ago this day was rescued from the dim aisles of our past, and through the revival of memory was given deserved prominence in local history. The day was first observed by a few men, sustained and encouraged by a number of women, resulted in procuring a movement to mark suitably the spot where the first form of civil government by Americans in the great Oregon country was instituted. This monument was duly engraved with the names of the half-hundred men of the wilderness, men who had reached the place of the meeting on horseback, on foot and by canoe on the appointed day. The trail which led to the plain as were the lives of the men whose names it holds, was placed as nearly as could be determined and as the crumpling bank of the river at that place, which was the site of the town where a chorus of voices went up on that May day in 1843 in answer to the question, "Shall a provisional government be established in Oregon by Americans?"

Under the agreement the railroads have agreed to clear a strip 100 feet wide along the work of the law and of inflammables. They also agree to equip their engines with spark arresters. The first of the railroads is to bear the expense of extinguishing, if caused from the engine. It is also arranged that the fire department, working in cooperation with the Forestry Service shall co-operate in fighting all fires in the reserves along these lines.

LIQUOR IS SOLD; 7 ARRESTED.

Law and Order League Acts on Alleged Illegal Sales. Nampa, Idaho, May 2.—(Special.)—As a result of the work of the Law and Order League, which has organizations in nearly every town in the state, three residents of this city and four of Caldwell, Idaho, were today placed under arrest on a charge of illegal sale of intoxicants. Antonio Hinkley, a former saloonkeeper of this city; Roy Wallace, a druggist; and Walter Steier, a resident of Nampa were arrested. They were arraigned today and their hearing set for tomorrow morning.

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WILLAMETTE "U" CELEBRATES

May Day Exercises Carried Out Without Hitch. WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY, Salem, Or., May 2.—(Special.)—May Day exercises at Willamette attracted a large attendance and were thoroughly enjoyed. First on the programme was the May Day breakfast from 6:30 to 9 o'clock served by the Y. W. C. A. at the University. From 9 to 12 o'clock the students, assisted by President Homan, Dr. Patterson and other members of the faculty, thoroughly cleaned up the campus.

At noon a fellowship lunch was served on the lawn and at 2 P. M. the young women of the institution performed a flower drill, the letters "W. U." being formed by the flowers strewn by the girls.

Next came the crowning of the King, Clark Belknap, and the Queen, Pearl Bradley. This was a beautiful and impressive ceremony.

The winding of the May pole completed the exercises on the campus, after which the students and faculty crowd of town people, on hand to see the fun, adjourned to the millrace back of the building to see the tug of war between the sophomores and freshmen. After a desperate struggle the freshmen won the contest, pulling the sophomores into the water. The sophomores were Oakes, Anderson, Hatz, Barton, Booth, Gardner, Fligel and Schramm.

HILL TO PROTECT FORESTS.

Great Northern and Northern Pacific Agreement With U. S. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash., D. C., May 2.—An agreement has been reached between the Forestry Service and officials of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern for better protection of forest reserves crossed by these railroads.

Under the agreement the railroads have agreed to clear a strip 100 feet wide along the work of the law and of inflammables. They also agree to equip their engines with spark arresters. The first of the railroads is to bear the expense of extinguishing, if caused from the engine. It is also arranged that the fire department, working in cooperation with the Forestry Service shall co-operate in fighting all fires in the reserves along these lines.

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UNDERGROUND ROAD, THEORY

Chinese Thought to Make One Birth Certificate Serve Many. That Chinese registration certificates are being illegally used in the operation of the underground system of transportation by which Orientals are brought from the North to Portland was pointed out yesterday by Judge Charles E. Wolverton, of the United States District Court.

In ordering the release of Wong Ock Hong, the court directed special attention to the evidence in the case showing that a certificate of birth possessed by Wong at the time of his arrest at Vancouver ferry had served to pass other Chinese through the hands of immigration officers at Blaine and Point Roberts, Wash., and appeared of record at those headquarters.

It is probable that another criminal charge will be made against Wong based on the loan of his certificate, and a crusade against repeatedly that offense will be started by officers of the Immigration Department stationed along the Sound and West Coast.

Officers are working on the theory that a regularly established system for passing the Chinese through various cities has been organized. It is being contained a membership among the well-known merchants of the Chinese quarters of various cities. A feature of this system has been the development of recent investigations whereby the arrested Chinaman is immediately furnished with a certificate of birth, which is usually elapses between the arrest and hearing before the Commissioner the quick-witted Chinaman has recognized the names of streets in the American city where he is told to claim birth.

When arrested in March, Wong Ock Hong could speak no English and knew nothing of the Chinese quarter of San Francisco where he was born. Two days later Wong recited the English alphabet on the witness stand, counted 40 and could relate the history of the San Francisco fire. Wong's witnesses that he must have been in San Francisco at the time his certificate of birth was being procured from his countrymen through the ports at Blaine and Point Roberts. One of the men measured 5 feet 7 inches high, the other 5 feet 10 inches tall. The photograph attached to the certificate is of a 12-year-old child with protruding front teeth, a grown man's face close to his head, but no officer of the Government could positively advise the court that Wong was not the original of the photograph.

COMPROMISE MAY BE REACHED.

In Trouble Between Land and Railroad Companies in Deschutes. Indicating that the trouble between the Eastern Oregon Land Company and the Deschutes Railroad Company as to the occupancy of a portion of the Deschutes canyon may be compromised, after a hearing held in the United States Court yesterday and asked that the hearing set for that date be deferred to Thursday next.

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LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

Patrick Grogan, an old man, has lived in the vicinity of Roxbury Crossing for years, and during the last year of his life he has made daily visits to a nearby saloon, never taking more than two drinks, always going home to his wife a sober man.

He was making one of the regular trips one day last week and was about to open the door to the barroom when an elderly man, who proved to be a minister, stopped him and said: "My dear man, don't you know that every time you go into these hell holes the devil goes with you?"

Mr. Grogan looked up at the sweet face of the good man and said: "Well, if he goes in with me, he pays for his own drinks."—Boston Traveler.

"I was called in by a close-fisted old merchant the other day," a Boston lawyer remarked, smiling. "He wanted me to draw his will, and this I proceeded to do, following his verbal instructions." "For each and every clerk who has been in my employ for ten years I give \$100." "This seemed like a considerable sum to me and I ventured a slight protest, as he had a number of daughters and I thought that I was being a little hard, and I wanted them to think well of me when I'm gone."

"Little touched and said something, but he waved it aside and we continued with the draft. When it was finished and as I was about to leave, the old man called me back again his little crooked smile.

"About those ten thousand-dollar legacies that I have bequeathed to my place who has been with me over two years—but it will look well in the papers!"—The Green Bag.

"Tell me all about it," said the woman who was ill and couldn't attend the wedding. "There was no best man and the bridegroom forgot the ring and had to go back home for it." "Lucky girl," she exclaimed, with a gleam in her eye. "She is marrying a plumber."—Buffalo Express.

"A West Philadelphia teacher was talking about wild animals and birds to a class of little girls," said Herman S. Decker, of Philadelphia, relating the following amusing incident. "She had told them about the carnivorous animals and beasts of the jungle, and began asking questions about birds of prey."

"Can any one in the class tell me," she asked, "what bird it is that is so fierce that it can fly down out of the sky and carry off a small child with ease?" "There was a moment's pause, and then a little girl in the rear of the classroom frantically raised her hand. "I know," fairly shouted the bright pupil, "it's a stork, 'cause one of 'em brought a baby to our house last night."—Washington Herald.

"Hello, is this the gas company?" "Yes, sir." "Well, say! Did you read in the paper that the fall of Halley's comet is composed of gas?" "Yes, but what has that got to do with us?" "And did you notice that it was measured as being 96,000 miles long?" "Yes, sir, but what—"

"Nothing. I just wanted to say that if the astronomers measured it with their instruments, they would find it 40,000,000 miles long."—Chicago Evening Post.

Turning defeat into victory is the achievement of genius. This example, gleaned from the London Daily Mail, makes the truth of the saying with which it is sometimes done.

An eminent lawyer was once cross-examining a very clever woman, mother of a brilliant pianist, on the subject of action, and was completely worsted in the encounter of wits. At the close, however, he turned to the jury and exclaimed: "You saw, gentlemen, that even I was but a child in her hands! What must my client have been?"—Youth's Companion.

Has Committed Bible to Memory.

Fairmont (Minn.) News. William F. Preston, a traveling salesman for a large flour plant at Duluth, Minn., has been in this city for several days. Mr. Preston is a man of distinction, so far as he is aware, of being the only person who ever committed the Bible to memory.

It is reported that Alexander M. Rush, of this city, who is well acquainted with the Frederick family. The one who committed the Bible to memory, while not a member of the church, has made such a study of the Bible that he can repeat any passage in it from Genesis to Revelation and state where it is found.

Southern Forgiveness.

Houston (Tex.) Post. It may be remembered that an England contemporary to know that the band played strains from "Yankee Doodle" under our window yesterday, and we didn't throw anything.

Cowboy to Fight Indictment

Roy Beck, the Klamath Falls cowboy who is in the County Jail charged by the State with the killing of a cow, is head of cattle, the property of a squaw named Grace Allen, from the territory of the Klamath Reservation, yesterday announced his intention of fighting the indictment. Beck informed Judge Bean that he was without means to employ an attorney, and the court requested Isaac D. Hunt to undertake the defense.

The cowboy prisoner asserts that he was employed by the Allen woman to drive her cow to Klamath Falls, where they were sold by her and later butchered. He declines to admit that he profited by the deal more than in earning wages for his work. The cattle were a part of the herd purchased for Indian sustenance, and while allotted to Mrs. Allen, the regulations prohibited their sale.

Students Observe May Day.

ALBANY, Or., May 2.—(Special.)—With quaint and beautiful exercises the students of Albany College observed May Day this afternoon in the gymnasium. The band on the college campus. Miss Grace Swank presided as Queen of the May and Gill Ogden was master of ceremonies. The program of the day consisted of: Maida, Nita Schultz, Kate Stewart, Rhoda Stalaker and Buena McKinnell; Rhonda Victor; Charles Anderson; Gordon Arthur Hodges; Grover Bitcher; Kenneth McLennan and Charles Konard; pages, Josephine and Mary Ann; Elliott Crooks and Kermit Brandberger.

Echo Defeats Stanfield.

ECHO, Or., May 2.—(Special.)—In a well-attended baseball game in the Irrigation League at Grants Pass, Echo yesterday defeated Stanfield, 2 to 1. It was almost an errorless game.