

# The Oregonian

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## THE ELECTION IN OREGON.

The defeat of Mr. Bowerman for Governor was a mere incident in the confused and uncertain condition of political affairs in Oregon and in the Nation. At base it is an expression of the spirit of discontent and dissatisfaction that has everywhere seized the Republican party, divided it into warring factions, achieved its demoralization, and wrought for its general disaster. Democratic governors have been chosen to succeed Republican Governors in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Wyoming and possibly in Iowa and Idaho. A Democrat has also been re-elected Governor in Ohio. Republican candidates were elected in Pennsylvania, Kansas, Minnesota and every other Northern State where there was an election for Governor except California. Congress is Democratic for the first time in fourteen years. Republican Senators are to be turned out in New York, Indiana, West Virginia and several other states. The cyclone has swept the country. The tail thereof has hit Oregon.

Yet, of course, Oregon has gone nominally Republican by a large vote except for Governor. It has re-elected two Republican Congressmen. The Democratic gubernatorial candidate to be Republican except as Governor. The great bogus campaign of "non-partisanship" for the election of two Democratic judges has failed and Republican candidates have been elected. The Legislature will be Republican. County officers are Republican. But the most important candidate of the Republican party, who was the sole target of attack by the allied Chamberlain and Bourne forces, has succumbed. The result will be hailed undoubtedly in many places as a Democratic triumph. Doubtless a large number of citizens are disappointed. But they will realize that they are Democrats, or that they desired or intended to contribute to the growing prestige and widespread successes of that party. But that is the result that has been brought about. The man who voted for West will get no credit for partnership with the Chamberlain.

The Oregonian utters these words without bitterness and without reproach. It states the obvious situation. Many explanations of particular reasons for the result in Oregon will be offered. We shall hear a lot about the assembly, the "interests," the "machine," prohibition, the normal schools, and so on. Yet these are only the avenues through which many no-account politicians have expressed their purpose to defeat the Republican candidate. One excuse or reason was as good as another. The party everywhere had been in power too long. It was time for a change. It was a good thing for the Republican party to be checked in a certain number of places. It would help things all around. It was the function and duty of every Republican to manifest a spirit of independence and of freedom from restraint. There was too much Roosevelt or there was too much Aldrich and Cannon and Taft. The tariff ought to have been reduced and wasn't. The cost of living was too high. The saloons had the Republican party under their thumb. The bosses must be kicked out. And so on. Bowerman bore the brunt and burden of it all. It was too much.

At the time of Mr. Bowerman's nomination The Oregonian said it could not be the best and wisest that could have been made. It has no purpose in recalling now that statement to chide Mr. Bowerman's friends or to explain and defend its own course. The criticism and imputations leveled against Mr. Bowerman got the primary nomination, though with a small plurality. The aggregate opposition vote was very largely against him. If the election had been held at that time, it was obvious to the Oregonian that Mr. Bowerman would have been elected. It went into the campaign believing that the chances were very much against his election. Though it had criticized the methods of Mr. Bowerman's nomination and was dubious about results, it regarded him as a man well qualified to be elected Governor. It urged energetically if not with entire cheerfulness. It saw in the election of Mr. West the continued dominance of political and personal influences in his administration that it deemed detrimental to the best interests of the state. The Oregonian has no reason to change its opinion. Nor will it suspend its warfare on the Bourne and Chamberlain coalition. Yet it wishes Mr. West as Governor well. It will offer no captious criticism of any of his administrative acts; nor will it fall to commend him for his faithful and energetic service. It will commend him for any meritorious service he shall have rendered. Yet it would like to see him as Governor without personal or political obligations to Senator Chamberlain and Senator Bourne. Possibly the course of events will solve that problem for him.

The most momentous issues of the campaign were centered in the initiative and referendum measures. They contained matters fraught with great consequence to the public. It is too early at this writing to say what has happened in all the other States. The Oregonian is gratified to observe that for the most part his advice as to these measures appears to have been followed. Prohibition would have been a sad mistake in Oregon. We have escaped its menace for the present. Yet we shall have it again and again unless the problem of the saloon is solved, at least measurably, in Portland and throughout Oregon. If the saloon element fancies that it has won a victory, it is grossly mistaken.

The people who voted down prohibition for the most part have no traffic in liquor. They regard it as an unmitigated evil and would abolish it, utterly, if it could be done without the substitution of some greater nuisance or greater evil. It is up to the Greater Home Rule Association to show its good faith by carrying forward the movement for the improvement of the conditions under which liquor is sold, for the elimination of the dive, and the ostracism of the rowdy and lawless saloonkeeper. These are things that must be done.

## PORTLAND'S GROWING DEBT.

City voters have declared that city taxpayers shall go into the business of public wharves and shall support the business out of taxes. This project is a heavy burden to place upon the shoulders of the city. The drydock is such a public business, but has been necessary for the city to have for its shipping. But in the case of wharves, facilities have been ample and rates reasonable, without municipal undertaking.

However, the public is now launched upon this business and all citizens must now make the best of it. The constant endeavor hereafter must be to keep down extravagance, check the growth of the city, and to restrict the deficit, which taxpayers shall be called upon to make good, to as low figures as possible. This big docks project also means that the city will need to reject other schemes of Democratic politicians. The public debt in Portland is now authorized is about \$16,000,000, not including some \$8,000,000 improvement bonds for streets, sidewalks and sewers. This means that Portland is loading itself heavily with interest-bearing debt. More debt will have to be authorized later for public wharves, because the \$2,500,000 sanctioned yesterday will not begin the business. This city is a thriving and prosperous and rapidly-growing one. Taxes, however, do not promote its growth. It has succeeded in taxing themselves rich. Vigorous as Portland is, it would be more so with lighter burdens of taxation.

## WHY STOCKS DECLINED.

Twenty-four hours is hardly sufficient time for even Wall street to grasp the full meaning of the election returns. For that reason the wholesale slump in prices in that historic thoroughfare is liable to be credited to the election of Stimson, rather than to which it is actually entitled. Colonel Roosevelt and his very recent ally, Willie Hearst, throughout the campaign insisted that Wall street was fighting Stimson. But Wall street since the beginning of the present era of "big business" has always felt the uncertainty of the Democratic administration. It thus follows that Wall street preferred to take any punishment which a Democratic administration might bring with it, to being forever threatened with the erratic big stick. It is highly probable that the election of Stimson with the Democratic administration will bring the Colonel would have caused a greater slump than that which took place yesterday.

By reviewing the course of the New York stock market for the few weeks preceding the election, yesterday's slump losses certainly do not seem unduly great. It would be better to look at the market for a month, the defeat of Stimson and its probable partial extinguishment of Roosevelt was so near to a foregone conclusion, that stocks began rising. For nearly six weeks the market was very buoyant. It was about fortnight ago the New York Journal of Commerce printed a list of thirty-three prominent industrial stocks and thirty-eight railroad stocks in which the aggregate value, based on the market quotations of the day, was \$10,000,000. More than that it was on the quotations eighteen days earlier. There have been some fluctuations since the list was printed, but when the market closed at the bottom yesterday it was still hanging around the figures which showed a gain of \$500,000 in the first eighteen days of October.

In the industrials, for instance, steel, which was credited with a gain of more than \$50,000,000 in the first eighteen days of October, was quoted October 19 at 75, while the close yesterday was 73.5. The Pacific closed October 19 at 175, a gain of ten points in eighteen days; yesterday it closed at 174. These figures show that even after the slump, a list of the leading securities affected were worth about \$50,000,000 more than they were October 1. Even appearances of the professionals who had fully discounted the election of Dix by working stocks up to high figures were quick to take their profits, when the political situation was clarified.

The returns show the names of some pretty good Democrats swept into Congress by the tidal wave and from most of these men capital has no more to fear than it would have from honest, fair-minded Republicans. For that reason, it is not improbable that the drastic liquidation in stocks which set in yesterday will be checked before it goes very far. The elements which are the cause of prosperity in this country are too numerous and potential to be entirely overcome by politics.

## ALASKAN DEVELOPMENT.

More than \$3,350,000 worth of gold has been received from Alaska at the Seattle assay office in the first ten months of the year. It is believed that the receipts for the full twelve months will reach the million mark. The world's supply of gold is falling to the point where the Seattle assay office will bring the total for the year up to more than \$15,000,000. This is a large sum to be realized from a single industry. It is nearly as much as the proceeds of the average Oregon county. The world's supply of gold is falling to the point where the Seattle assay office will bring the total for the year up to more than \$15,000,000. This is a large sum to be realized from a single industry. It is nearly as much as the proceeds of the average Oregon county. The world's supply of gold is falling to the point where the Seattle assay office will bring the total for the year up to more than \$15,000,000. This is a large sum to be realized from a single industry. It is nearly as much as the proceeds of the average Oregon county.

Iron and oil are all in evidence on a magnificent scale. In a land so exceptionally well favored by natural resources there are opportunities for a large population. As this population increases and Alaska gets down to business principles, the entire Pacific Coast will profit by the change. It is a mistaken idea that any one portion of the Pacific Coast does not feel the prosperity or adversity of some other locality. When California has a poor grain crop, Oregon and Washington are called on to supply the shortage, and while the business is profitable, it would be much better for both Oregon and California if the latter produced enough grain for their own requirements, and Oregon could then ship her surplus abroad and bring new money into the country.

So with Alaska. The disbursements of the gold miners are fully appreciated all over the Pacific Coast. Every community that gets its gold from them. It will not be possible, however, to get the best results from Alaska until a permanent population working there the year round gets busy with the coal, oil, timber and other agricultural resources of the country. What a development! The time begins on a large scale the Alaska trade will reach proportions never dreamed possible a few years ago. Incidentally it might be stated that one-half of the annual cost of public docks in Portland would bring to Portland the finest fleet of coastwise Alaskan steamers that could be found on the Pacific Coast, and there would be no trouble in finding dockage facilities for them.

## HOW CITIES ARE BUILT.

The building of additional 200 miles of electric lines in this state as announced by President Stevens, of the Hill system, is of more importance than all of the public docks that could be built in a century. These proposed new lines with their feeders will open up territory that is rich in trade possibilities, and it is all tributary to Portland and to no other port. To understand what the expenditure of this \$10,000,000 for additional facilities which the Willamette Valley people can reach Portland means for this city, it is necessary only to take note of what has happened along the line of the Oregon Electric, which is not yet four years old. These new electric lines are opening up territory that is producing fruit, dairy products, wool, hops, lumber and other great staples, for which there is a never satisfied demand.

In nearly all of these staples the output is far in excess of home requirements, and there is an immense and steadily increasing surplus that finds a market east of the Rocky mountains. The boys and girls are increasing their orders for freight by water and will meet the emergencies as they arise either at tidewater or in the interior.

It is not always bank clearings and statistics that call attention to the growth of a community. We note, for example, that Seaside, Or., has increased in the past few days reported a bank failure with the attendant suicide, and two hold-ups. These may not be very acceptable methods for calling attention to the town's growth, but any one who has not visited the popular little beach town for several years will hardly believe that it has grown into such proportions that it has become possible for such things to happen there. It is only a very few years ago that Seaside in winter had a population so small that there would hardly be any one with whom to prove an alibi when two men went out to hold up people and the need of a bank was never thought of.

## THE FRUITS OF VICTORY.

The hilarity of the Democrats over the great National victory they have won will naturally be sobered in a few days. The practical considerations of the best use to make of it. Which of the fundamental Democratic policies will it be wisest to begin upon when the new Congress meets? Shall it be the tariff, or the revision of the House rules, or state rights, or the reform of the courts? Much depends upon a judicious selection, because, in spite of their brilliant success at the polls, the Democrats are likely to encounter certain difficulties when they begin the actual business of legislation. No doubt the most serious of these difficulties will consist in turning their untied hands to this new task.

It is much easier to be a critic of what others are doing than to do things oneself. For many years now the Democrats have been in the habit of very skilful ones at that. They have had no opportunity to enact any of their cherished projects into laws. All they could do was to pick flaws in the measures offered by the Republicans. As we said, they have shown no particular ability in this comparatively humble role. Without effective leadership and with not much apparent loyalty to their professed principles they have usually scattered their fire badly and very often a number of them have fought in the enemy's ranks. It will not be easy for the Democrats to lay down their habits of aimless party anarchy all at once and undertake disciplined and united action. Last year in their part of critics they were greatly aided by the insurgents, who possessed brilliant capacity in that field. Often it looked as if the Democrats were merely following the lead of these young men as Murdock and Norris, like disciples in the steps of a master. Now the insurgents' keen ability to find fault will be turned against their former allies, or followers, and we fear the results may be disastrous.

The expectation that the insurgents will continue to follow the lead of the Democrats, which gives so much comfort to the Democrats, is pretty certain to prove fallacious. Most of the Democratic candidates who have been elected to Congress are anything but progressive in their ideas. The voters chose them more to punish the regular Republicans than for any merit they possessed. They represent nothing which could attract the allegiance of the insurgents and their acknowledged leader, Champ Clark, is as far behind the times as Cannon himself. Hence there is little reason why the Democrats should expect much help from the insurgents in Congress. The latter are quite likely to pursue their own aims in a compact body in the hope of becoming the nucleus of a transformed Republican party. We may possibly see them attracting a bold and noble spirit from the Democratic ranks now and then, but they will not consent to merge their identity with the numerical victors. There is more political kinship between the stalwart Republicans and such Democrats as Kern and Clark than there

## INTERESTING YOUNG CHILDREN

How Cornell University is Making Partners for the Future.

For many years the New York State Agricultural College of Cornell University has made a practice of answering letters from school children, bearing inquiries on subjects relating to horticulture and natural history. These letters were answered thirty thousand a year, they come from youngsters of Upper New York state. Most of the communications were until recently answered by Mr. Spencer, who signed his replies "Uncle John." Consequently "Uncle John's" name is a household word in the rural parts of New York. President W. Brown of the New York Central Railroad knew this and it was his idea to attach to the agricultural special sent out by his company a car equipped for the children's own use, the "Uncle John's." So while the older folks crowd into the dairy car, the poultry car and the farm garden car, wherever the train stops, the children pile into the forward car of the train labeled "Uncle John's boys and girls." There they are greeted by a gray-haired man of the comfortable round-rimmed spectacles, Dr. E. K. Brown himself. It is safe to assert that that particular car holds more Nature enthusiasts than any other coach on the train. Minds are growing, and the next generation of railroad men won't have the same doubts about the propriety of that is the way President Brown explained his reasons for providing instruction for the children.

## MAKING OF NEWSPAPER MEN

Theories May Be Learned in College.

When a newspaper is made, it is made by the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Logical schools do not turn out ready-made preachers, but young men who are trained to become preachers, and who go out to preach to physicians, but young men who will in time become physicians. The skilled surgeon is not the product of a college, but of a long education plus experience. The lawyer learns more out of college than he learns in college. Schools of journalism will not make newspaper men, but they will make men who should not be increasingly useful in training young men who have a natural aptitude for newspaper work. The student in college should be given the subjects which the newspaper man must deal after graduation. These are: State, local, national, railroad wrecks, political conventions, and the many occurrences and events customarily treated as news, are handled differently by different newspapers. The "club" reporter who begins work with opinions of his own as to how the news should be served to the consumer does not make a newspaper man. The newspaper he serves as readily as the graduate of a school of journalism. But there are too many bright young men who can write and are not given a bank failure with the attendant suicide, and two hold-ups. These may not be very acceptable methods for calling attention to the town's growth, but any one who has not visited the popular little beach town for several years will hardly believe that it has grown into such proportions that it has become possible for such things to happen there. It is only a very few years ago that Seaside in winter had a population so small that there would hardly be any one with whom to prove an alibi when two men went out to hold up people and the need of a bank was never thought of.

## Season of Political Tumult.

As the political drama draws to a close and the shouting of the great National "talk fest" is nearly ended, the average American citizen is glad of the prospect of relief from the suffrage amendment which has occupied the last six weeks. It has been a period of unusual excitement and the furious contention of the various factions, and the shouting of the great National "talk fest" is nearly ended, the average American citizen is glad of the prospect of relief from the suffrage amendment which has occupied the last six weeks. It has been a period of unusual excitement and the furious contention of the various factions, and the shouting of the great National "talk fest" is nearly ended, the average American citizen is glad of the prospect of relief from the suffrage amendment which has occupied the last six weeks. 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