

Oregonian

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Portland, Wednesday, June 19, 1912.

THE CONTESTED DELEGATES.

The remedy proposed by Colonel Roosevelt for participation in proceedings of conventions by men not rightly entitled to seats as delegates might easily prove a more effective means of defeating the plan of the present than the plan of the higher court.

We thus have 174 contested delegates against whom the majority admits that there is no valid ground of contest. Had the National committee no voice in deciding contests and were this task left to the uncontested delegates, these 174 men would have had no part in making the temporary roll, though events so close together as these contests.

In fact, it would be possible to reduce the Colonel's plan to absurdity. With the present plan, the only remedy is to elect a majority of delegates to sit as delegates in the temporary organization. The only authority which exists in the party between National conventions is the National committee.

When one divests one's mind of the passion which now inflames the Colonel, it becomes apparent that some amendment to the constitution is needed to sit as delegates in the temporary organization. The only authority which exists in the party between National conventions is the National committee.

Ultimate success of the scheme to shelve Wood, with the effect of closing the door of promotion to Funston and Goethals and opening it to Pershing, will depend mainly on the next President. If the President is either Roosevelt or Wood, the scheme will meet with unflinching opposition.

There are vast numbers of people who no doubt were willing to excuse as ebullitions of enthusiasm the Colonel's former grossly wrong interpretation of President Taft's reference to government by a "representative part" of the people.

It is seldom that a more touching picture has been presented to the public here or elsewhere, than that printed yesterday of Abigail Scott Duniway, the veteran leader of the woman suffrage cause in the Pacific Northwest.

This may be good politics, but when one considers the fact that there was much to be gained in the acts of the National committee and consequently a reason and hope for winning over some of the people who have been standing by Taft, it is difficult to endorse the political acumen of one who

repeats that which has been cause for so great condemnation. What weight will the wavering citizen give to the Colonel's declaration that he has personally examined the contest records and knows he has been robbed, when in the next breath he repeats that which the waverer knows to have been a widely exposed misconstruction of the President's opinions?

Why such tactics? What is there about single tax that causes its supporters to conceal their ideas or work from ambush? Some little time ago the alias band of Feis-pald patriots were writing letters over names that do not appear in the Portland directory.

Then single tax came forth in initiative form as an explanation in the wretchedly printed and unattractive leaflet of the lovely stanzas of timber in the forest, and no mention of the colored gentleman, appeared thereafter in the timid evening newspaper which openly supports no measure until it is sure it will win.

Colonel Roosevelt declared in his Monday night speech that 50 to 80 of the delegates placed on the temporary roll by the National committee should not be permitted to participate in the preliminary organization or take part in the final decision as to the qualifications of members of the convention.

In the vote for temporary chairman Root had a majority of 58, but in the vote for permanent chairman McGovern, were the votes of 22 Wisconsin delegates and ten Cummins delegates, or 32 in all. They would doubtless have stood with Roosevelt in the selection of the temporary chairman.

The La Follette and Cummins delegates would thus have been given the balance of power. Are these men so pure-minded and so clean of politics as to remain as the balance of power until they have seen the election of their own candidates? What could give La Follette or Cummins the hope of success other than a deadlock? The steam roller would simply have been turned over to other engineers.

President Taft's veto of the Army appropriation bill has the practical effect of transferring the fight against General Wood to the next President and the next Congress. It is improbable that the House will pass the bill.

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It is seldom that a more touching picture has been presented to the public here or elsewhere, than that printed yesterday of Abigail Scott Duniway, the veteran leader of the woman suffrage cause in the Pacific Northwest.

Of course we must understand "treason" to signify in this passage all the glittering lures of life. It is not precisely a fair criticism upon the Rubyalat to say that it denies the existence of the soul after death. All we can truly assert is that it is a materialistic and selfish philosophy.

Along this line the voice of Mrs. Duniway proclaiming liberty and opportunity for woman has sounded and is always heard very clear and true. Those who have succeeded to her activities in the cause of equal rights regard her tenderly and honor her loyalty as the tireless champion who made smooth the way for the coming of their feet.

The uncertainties of a Presidential year do not trouble the farmers and horticulturists and dairymen of the Rogue section. Nature is in their side and cheerful industry is in their handmaidens. Already the ranchers of the Rogue River Valley are struggling waist deep with the heaviest crop of alfalfa ever harvested in that section.

The willingness of the beef trust to dissolve in face of the mere threat of a civil suit, taken in conjunction with the failure to convict its members in a criminal prosecution, is a complete answer to men who, like Bryan, say: "Put the magnates in jail."

The Rev. J. B. Parsons, of Hood River, believes that preachers are not properly paid. Some say the average preacher's salary is about \$1,000. The profession is supposed to be overpaid. The law of supply and demand applies to the ministry as it does to all other vocations.

The death of Charles McGinn, of Los Angeles, for many years a resident of Portland and one of the pioneer business men of the city, will recall to many the career of an able and energetic man who lived in ease and retirement. He leaves numerous descendants and a name respected in this community in which forty-four of his eighty years of life were spent.

Baroness von Suttner, noted apostle of peace from Austria, reached New York yesterday, and if she hustles may get a few pointers and considerable local color at Chicago.

The Sheriff has prevented a wedding by arresting the bridegroom for alleged frauds. Probably prevented a brief happiness and an extensive suffering.

By choosing one day for the various convention committees, the Oregon delegation may fill the bill ere adjournment.

Having won the \$10,000 high-flying prize, a French aviator will now be able to fly high without use of his aeroplane.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the great cyclone of 1882 in the Middle West. History repeats itself.

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SEES NO NEED OF ROOSEVELT

Writer Probes Political Situation and Favors Taft. PORTLAND, June 18.—(To the Editor.)—Under the caption "Popular Logic and Roosevelt," Mr. Jones, of Mr. Jones' Magazine, writes me a letter in which he says that he is a logician.

Mr. Jones wishes to be enlightened as to what I mean by referring to the letter written by Mr. Roosevelt to E. H. Harriman. He says it is more in the nature of a bluff than a bluff. That letter, written to Mr. Roosevelt, was a candidate for the Presidency of this Republic, could mean but one thing.

Does Mr. Jones think the Harriman letter meant that Teddy was at dinner with Booker Washington? It happens to be so. I use indefinite terms as to Aldrich and Cannon. Now, I was under the impression that every person knows that Aldrich means capital.

Mr. Jones says my argument relative to the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company is illegitimate. Just so. Let me say that Roosevelt's explanation of that little deal does not explain—except by Roosevelt logic—and as to his right to authorize a cashier who was short of funds to hold up a bank.

Roosevelt wants to regulate the trusts, does he? Yes, by the Roosevelt method, which, if we may judge the future by the past, means a Federal Government shall control. It means death to state rights; it means centralized government, centralized wealth, one man's rule.

Mr. Jones says: "My point is that the bare fact of my assailing Mr. Roosevelt's popularity is due to incorrect methods of reasoning." May I ask who assails his popularity? I don't know.

What is the matter with President Taft? Who started this row, anyhow? Never in the history of the world were people so happy, so rich, so free as they are now.

These things I have acquired since Taft was elected as President. I'm only one of thousands of men who have built homes under the same order of things and the future so far from inspiring a feeling of gloom is bright with the portents of glorious possibilities.

Why this stirring up of strife, this promotion of unrest? Why this crying need for a change? Why bend the knee to the popular idol, made so by pretension rather than performance?

Elephants and Co-Laborers. Baltimore American. The whole elephant tribe is looked upon with great veneration by the Siamese. The elephant is the symbolic animal of the country, and through his ponderous strength is daily used in his master's service.

AT THE CAFETERIA

The noon rush was over at the cafeteria, but the crowds still thronged the gangway and the tables, for the Rose Festival had filled up the city as never before. The chef and his assistants in the kitchen were worked to a frazzle, the dishwashers were faint with fatigue, and the servers wished the event was over for they were all dog tired.

But the best-pleased person in the entire place was the little blonde cashier. For the first time she had a long line of customers who had left their change lying on the counter as they paid their bills and walked out. In one case she had a customer with a balance of \$5 gold piece, after taking out the amount of the ticket, 40 cents.

Just now she is taking a mental account of stock, rather she is summing up the tips and left-over change for the day, and she figures, that without the help of the boys, she could not have done so well. She has a few scarce hopes of retaining, she has in her apron pocket something over \$6 as her day's percentage, with the day but a few hours to go.

With a crush of other people bounded Veg and Bones and Fat, and soon they were seated at a table near the little blonde, their regular table at the Rose Festival. They were lucky to find three vacant seats at any table.

"Well," remarked Veg, as he bolted a morsel of beef, "I guess the Federal Government has few the coop, I guess. He couldn't stand properly. He is something like the fellow we read about in the Bible who swapped his birthmark for a mess of pottage."

"You-all make me tired," chimed in Veg, "for you don't seem to know that what is meant by the Scriptures is a coat-of-arms, everybody in my day having one of 'em given 'em by my parents; but when you swap it off or lose it or in any way get rid of it, then you can't never get it back or get another one."

"Well," remarked Fat, "I don't know whether Obsession had a coat-of-arms or not; I do know that he ought to have a coat of arms. He has a coat of arms not only flew the coop, as Veg so poetically remarked, but he has hit us for a couple of thousand dollars first and last."

"Look who is here, interrupted Fat, "as he pointed to Obsession coming through the doorway swinging a cane, a rough the door buttoning a cane, as a Major-General. And with a smile he reached the table of the poultrymen, reformers and reached out his hand with a hearty 'gled to see you.'"

Vancover Man Supplies Half Block as Vantage. Vantage. VANCOVER, Wash., June 17.—(To the Editor.)—I am sending herewith a statement of what I have on half a block of ground in the city of Vancover, obtained by inspiring others to work on my half block mornings and evenings before and after office hours.

An Irrelevant Query

I met a man bespectacled, And of a mien scientific, Who on a pad of paper made Some figuring prolific. "Why doest thou thus?" I asked, and lo, He said: "I do compute to know, By mathematical computation, The center of earth's population."

"I seek to locate, to a dot, Where, beyond any doubt, The hub of all the universe, May be seen sticking out. The poet exact I seek to solve Round which our world doth now revolve."

"Methinks, good sir," I thus went on, "Thou'rt wobbly in the crown, 'Tis not the hub of the obvious, And set long on the obvious, When it should be quite plain and clear."

Said he: "Ah yes, I had forgot The present crisis of the hour, Thereon I mused, 'There is hope, The man perhaps is sane. He will speak further, and I'll add What is his attitude of mind Toward Taft and Theodore, et al!'"

The government is now building 45 iron-clad submarines, and gunboats at a total cost of over \$20,000,000. Skyes, one of Lane's Indian agents in Oregon, is a Federal prisoner at Columbus, Ohio, with iron on his legs. He was captured in Virginia with a portion of Jackson's army, in which he was an officer.

The Continental telegraph is silent beyond the coast, but the continuation of working of such a line for a single week is one of the wonders of the age, to which many of us do not render sufficient homage.

A tall specimen of the forests of Vancouver Island has been sent to the world's fair in the shape of a tree 242 feet high. Thanks to the young lady who sent us such a beautiful bouquet of roses, we are to have something very nice to the young lady, only we are a married man and our wife might happen to read this paper.

From present indications we conclude that the citizens of Portland deem it inexpedient to get up a Fourth of July celebration in consequence of the flooded and impassable state of the streets. Hence all efforts thus far to procure the necessary means have proved a failure.

Mr. Benjamin Needham, of Wells, Fargo & Co's express office, is getting a directory for the City of Portland. Mr. W. H. Frush has posted notices to the effect that he intends making application to the County Commissioners' Court of Multnomah County for a license to establish and run a ferry boat across the river from the foot of the city to the opposite bank for the term of five years.

Max Irwin, assisted by a company of Etruscan minstrels, is to give an entertainment this evening at the Gymnasium hall. THE TROUBLE. It isn't much of a task to write a column of prose or a bit of verse that may be achieved alright. But pray beware lest the theme is trite if you would hope for a fatter purse.