

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, May 10, 1913.

THE VOTER'S DEMAND FOR LIGHT.

The Committee of One Hundred is justified in taking cautious action at the outset of its important work; but if it shall fail, or decline, to approach the task for which it was created with a clear conception of its responsibilities and an aggressive purpose to speak with a clear and unobscured voice, it will disappoint the general expectation.

There is a fearful alarm in certain quarters that the Committee of One Hundred may approve some candidates and disapprove others. There are certain terrifying hints of "assembly" and ominous suggestions of interference with the rights of the people to do as they please.

The apprehension that the Committee of One Hundred may indicate some candidates for approval, and for whom a successful appeal might be made, comes largely, or wholly, from sources which have some programme or other that may thus be interfered with, or which have a candidate, or candidates, who are not likely to be approved by the committee.

The Oregonian is not anxious for the endorsement by the Committee of One Hundred of any certain ticket or defined group. But it is impatient with the imputation that any body of reputable men and women have not the right to meet, deliberate, consult, and act. There is no doubt of uncertainty about the credentials of the Committee of One Hundred. They are men and women who have no ulterior purposes, no political matters, no subterranean connections.

There will be one hundred candidates for Commissioner, probably. What help to the public will be, as a practical solution of the problems before the voter, to indicate fifty of them who are worthy and fifty who are unworthy or unsuitable? The voter has still to reduce his choices to four, and to select the better off.

While the danger of election of candidates from the undesirable fifty is practically as great as ever, because of the division among the supporters of the desirable fifty.

The Committee of One Hundred will accomplish nothing, or next to nothing, by continuing to be an ally. It is dealing with a practical problem and with practical men among the candidates. That it would be injudicious and even impossible to agree on four candidates for Commissioner is clear enough; but under the preferential system a much wider latitude of selection is possible.

The first choice and the second choice of a voter are certain to prove as important as his first choice. It seems to the Oregonian that the way is thus made easier for the committee to frame its recommendations in a manner to make the most possible at the same time make them exclusive enough to designate the best among the great array of persons presenting themselves for Commissioner.

Portland a World Port. The arrival of the Hamburg-American steamer Sithonia on the day that the Royal Mail steamer Harpagus sailed establishes the place of Portland in the world's commerce. This port is now on direct, regular steamship lines to the principal ports of Asia and Europe.

The highest motives of self-interest should prompt all Portland merchants to give the steamers of these two lines all the business they can supply.

There need be no fear of exceeding the capacity of the vessel. The vessel of larger capacity will be sent here as increase of business justifies. Portland will now be able to import from, or export to, any port in the world, for on their round-the-world voyages these vessels touch at the principal ports and by connection with other lines they can do business with minor ports.

The Hamburg-American by its network of lines is a great agency for building up commerce. Its steamers reach both coasts of North and South America, both east and west coasts of Africa, the south and east coasts of Asia, and all ports of Australia. It has more steamers and more tonnage than any other steamship line in the world, and it is growing from year to year in the number and size of its vessels.

The coming of these steamers should be a spur to Portland to push the work of deepening the channel and harbor and improving the docks and railroad terminals. We should also hasten opening of our inland waterways to navigation. The business of the Hamburg-American has been built up by use of all the most economical means of carrying and handling freight, by rail, river, and sea, and the experience of its officers will be of great value to us in applying the same methods on our own unrivaled system of waterways.

RELAYING ON OTHER'S HONESTY. Having decided that the preferential voting system is a plan to put incompetent men in office, a group of women Thursday afternoon decided not to express second or third choices and thus help along the system to an uncertain result.

It is a foregone conclusion that no candidate in the coming election will receive a majority of first-choice votes. The second choice, and perhaps the third choice, votes, in any case, will be counted as a vote in the event of an election. Those voters who declare they will vote only first choice hope that their candidate will receive the second or third-choice votes of the more conscientious voters. It follows that they are relying upon superior devotion to duty by the voters who would at the same time abandon the plan if they thought every other voter intended to follow it.

It cannot be impressed too emphatically upon the mind of the public that the commission charter will not receive the quality of the men appointed. In inefficiency it will fall below the present system if the commission is composed of incapable men. It will rise above it if the members of the commission are fully competent. We shall elect the proper men for Mayor and Commissioners only by superiorly accepting the commission in a manner that justifies the expectations with which it was offered. Its incorporation in the charter and its adoption indicate that the supporters of the charter had faith in the willingness of the people at large to persevere in the course of the tariff course to political trickery. If their faith was misplaced, we are in a sorry plight.

PROGRESS WITH THE PROGRAMME. The searchlight is now to be turned on the Senate, but only for a time. While the House has been wrestling with the tariff, the Senate has been marking time. The House will now mark the Senate the Senate will make ready for the tariff fight on the floor. During the same period the House committee will be preparing a currency bill and expects to have it ready for action by the House about the time when the Senate begins its debate on the tariff. The Congress will be considering simultaneously two measures of the first importance, each of which will intimately affect the business and prosperity of the country.

This programme is a decided variation from that which was announced upon the accession of the Wilson Administration to office. It was then the purpose to allow the House to take up no other legislation until the tariff bill was safely through the Senate. The hope was to focus public attention on the tariff, but in order that no opportunity might be given the interests to work upon the disgruntled Democrats. The latest news from Washington is that the Democratic Senators have been so well lined up that they will present a united front in support of the bill.

Experience has proved the impossibility of removing the House from a nominating convention. The fact which has corralled the Southern vote always fights the reform and always wins. Colonel Roosevelt did so in 1908, when he lined up the Southern delegates for Mr. Taft, and Mr. Taft did the same when they were assured to him and when Mr. Hadley proposed a change in the system. Thus neither of the factions into which the party split has a clean record. The only hope of doing away with the evil rests in a special convention, which will be held by delegates to nominate and no duty to perform except to lay down rules for the future government of the party and to announce the principles for which it stands.

If the South had representation in proportion to its Republican vote, besides four delegates-at-large, to each state, it would be fairly represented and the states which have a genuine Republican party would have a voice in nominations equal to the vote they cast. In the convention of 1912 there were 1978 delegates, and 192 were delegates-at-large. The remaining 876 were district delegates. The vote cast for Taft was 3,481,110 and that for Roosevelt 4,196,247, a total of 7,677,357. Dividing the total by the 886 delegates to a total delegate, The following table will show the change

which would be made in the number of Southern delegates were this basis adopted:

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The country editor is resourceful as well as enterprising, and at all times brainy. Ability to handle the situation is the first requisite and the editor must be bigger than the captain of a ship. For example, There is the newspaper man at Klamath who tore a hole in the wall and backed up his automobile and connected the power with his press when the public utility failed him. There is but a discordant note in the affair. Where did the "poor editor" get the automobile?

Talk of the impossibility of war between the United States and Great Britain makes Germany fidgety, but why should it? War between the United States and Germany can only come if Germany makes it possible. The Kaiser knows where our corns are. If he does not step on them we shall be as good friends with Germany as with England.

Adams, the Seattle assay office thief, later a would-be counterfeiter, goes back to the Island today. Sometimes a mistake is made in granting clemency, but it works out its own solution. This man will be very good or very bad after his next appearance in public.

Having selected the New York Collector of Customs without stirring up a factional row, President Wilson is now sleep soundly. Ever since the days of Garfield that office has been the storm center of the patronage market.

The Earl of Yarmouth is always careful to marry money, its owner being a mere incident. He made a mistake in the case of Alice Thaw because she insisted on being something more than an incident.

partly takes up one task after another. This is a tribute to the efficiency of the caucus, that instrument of party government for which no inventive House machine such as aroused the wrath of the Democracy when Speaker Cannon and the lever. We have a triple machine composed of the President, the leaders of the House and the leaders of the Senate. It works without a jar and calls forth our admiration, but we cannot but wonder what would have been said had the Republicans built it.

THE FOURTH PEACE CONGRESS. The Fourth American Peace Congress, held at St. Louis, has been a success. The preparations for celebrating one hundred years of peace between the United States and Great Britain were being prosperously forward. It was even expected that the committee sent from London to co-operate in this great project might arrive soon enough to take part in the programme at St. Louis, but circumstances detained them until it was too late for that. Still they reach this country in the atmosphere of international kindness which the peace conference has created.

There are other ways in which the conference at St. Louis has been distinguished from the three previous ones. Its proceedings have been marked by an aggressiveness which has not been nearly so manifest heretofore. The Congress, as we gather from the account of the Christian Science Monitor, was pervaded by a sense of approaching triumph as if the theories of international peace which have so long been held by all men of light and leading were about to become the practical guide of mankind. The country in general never before regarded the Peace Congress as so important. Even the military and naval men have felt its victorious influence. The Navy League requested a hearing at the conference, and was not invited, though Mr. Call, executive director of the American Peace Society, said he wished they might come with plans for diminishing armaments rather than increasing them.

It is pleasant to read of the conference, now in discussion at the conference. They looked for the most part to the strengthening of the Hague Tribunal with some suggestions of that international federation which has been the dream of pacifists for centuries. Mr. Mead, of Boston, spoke most eloquently on this topic. In his plea for a peace compact to include Germany, England and the United States he recalled a prophecy made by Immanuel Kant. As long ago as 1795 the great philosopher, writing against war, predicted that the United States would form the nucleus of a peace alliance which should compel other countries to forego all military aggressions. Fully three-fifths of our population being of German and English descent, why should we not unite with those powers to impose peace with justice upon the rest of the world? The dream is beautiful and it may come true.

War loses something of its splendor every year. When men fight at long range there is little room for heroism. Science strips more and more of its glorious decoration from the machine of war. Mr. Carnegie said, half in jest, that the American Army was the safest resort a man in love with ease and safety could choose. In sober earnest one may reflect that the perils of the soldier in our time do not compare with those of the railroad brakeman or the electric lineman.

CHANGE SOUTHERN REPRESENTATION. The approaching conference of Progressive Republicans plans for a special National convention is the first definite step towards reorganization of the party of such lines will give satisfaction to such lines. That it will go far to reconcile those who followed Colonel Roosevelt in his bolt may safely be inferred from the fact that several of Mr. Roosevelt's former backers will take part. These include Senators Bristow and Clapp, who bolted with the Colonel; Senator Work, who voted for Mr. Wilson, and ex-Governor Hadley, who supported the Colonel up to the moment of the bolt, but stayed with the party and has since been most active in working for reorganization.

The first essential to reorganization is a change in the basis of representation and provision for direct vote in election of delegates. The most radical defect in the present system is the allotment of delegates according to Congressional districts, regardless of the Republican vote cast. This gives those Southern states which never give the Republican candidate for President a single electoral vote and in which the Republican party is a mere phantom an utterly disproportionate influence in selecting the nominee. The Southern voter in convention is always a "dead weight," occupying the White House, either for himself or for the candidate he favors, and it is notoriously venal. If not purchased for cash, as has often been charged, it is traded for patronage.

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Government doctors report that they do not think much of the Friedlander case. The credit Germany appears to have his next pretty well feathered by this time.

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Bryan was late at a meeting for the presentation of Japan's protest against the California alien land law. Evidently the Japanese peril does not appear half so perilous to Bryan since his California trip.

If the powers expect to find anything left of Scutari but ruins, they would better hurry and occupy the town. Since the Montenegrins can't have it, they will try to leave nothing worth having.

The case of I. Sam Inoo, the Enterprising Japanese, may bring to a final test the moot question whether Japanese are Mongolians in the view of American law, and therefore ineligible to citizenship.

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We must never have war with England, says Colonel Roosevelt. Not even if the English continue sending suffragettes over here on missions?

The Californian who died without near kindred and left a fine residence to his stenographer showed substantial appreciation of faithful work.

This is a great clam year, say reports from Clatsop Beach. We had suspected as much from a perusal of the political reports.

With Governor Suter and Colonel Roosevelt both campaigning for the direct primary, New York will have a lively Summer.

One candidate for Mayor promises to put ginger into the campaign. The others will supply the gall and wormwood.

Public Meeting of Investigation Suggested by Voter. PORTLAND, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—The public meeting called to witness a more dignified spectacle than the indignant haste of 100 hungry would-be office holders, anxious to secure through the votes of the people, a plan requiring the best type of citizen, coupled with a large degree of executive ability.

How many of these candidates measure up to the requirements of the office to which they aspire? It is common knowledge freely spoken on the streets that this man is incompetent, that one is of no force, and another dishonest, none are credited with executive power and initiative, without which the office of official sure to be failure. The commission charter came into effect in order to centralize authority and give the people a chance to elect the man having the best qualifications that authority. The men whom we shall elect cannot evade their responsibilities. The people having placed the power in their hands, they will not expect results. Not promises, nor complaints, but the kind of results expected of a high-salaried executive in the employ of a large private corporation.

Who is there among the host, who would hope to secure a place at the head of a few girls for the alms of a common report is true, there are none of that executive caliber. The people do not know this. They must be given a chance to see the men who stand near the top of the X-ray. Let us secure more votes than those who lower down. Then there will be some practical men of interest, lodges, affiliations, nationality, etc. But on the whole there is sure to be a large vote that will be misdirected, because of lack of real knowledge of the host of candidates. Now for the remedy. To be forwarded is to be forewarned.

Let a public investigation be made at once of every applicant for office. Look up his history, his moral character. Turn the X-ray on his past life and hide nothing. If he were to ask the position of trust with any corporation in the country they would exhaust every effort to learn his habits of life, his past history and everything about him that goes to make or ruin a character.

Have the people of this city any rights in the premises? I think they should be. The public should have every man there will be a better chance to elect men who can stand the searchlight of investigation. Turn on the X-ray. Let us see what we have as active in giving publicity to their records as they are in asking our suffrage.

ELIMINATING PROCESS IS BEST. Election Advisory Committees Should Give Candidates' Records Only. PORTLAND, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—The public meeting called to witness a more dignified spectacle than the indignant haste of 100 hungry would-be office holders, anxious to secure through the votes of the people, a plan requiring the best type of citizen, coupled with a large degree of executive ability.

This city is in imminent danger of facing the worst administration in its history. No sooner had the polls closed and it was known that the commission charter was in the hands of the people than the city fathers would blush to see elected as commissioners and they worked all day Sunday and are still working day and night, and some of their work will even at this early time be hard to undo. They are hunting in pairs and making a systematic ward and household-by-household canvass. This is effective. No bombast, no loud talk, no newspaper publicity. They fool away no time with the vote which can't be counted.

It is the vote which can be reached and influenced which they are after. Any objections are answered by promising to make good on the immediate cure "as soon as we get in."

It is a beautiful lying bunco game from start to finish and Mr. Goodnight, they will get you if you don't watch out.

What are you men, the rank and file membership of the 30 or 40 civic organizations or the many organizations who are thinking of advising our citizens how to vote? Do not advise the people whom to elect, tell them who not to elect and give the reasons, keeping well within the proven facts. Proceed upon a policy of elimination and name those whom it would be inadvisable to support, leaving to the voter the right to choose from Don't tell him who to support, tell him who not to support.

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Woman Would Have Wrongdoers of Her Sex Placed on Man's Level. PORTLAND, May 9.—(To the Editor.)—In a letter May 8 "Justice" asks why women are never punished as men are for white slavery and other crimes. The reason is very plain. Men were intended to protect and cherish women. They are wise to our faults, and every wise man, they only follow instinct and nature. They are wise to our faults, and every wise man, they only follow instinct and nature. They are wise to our faults, and every wise man, they only follow instinct and nature.

The narrow-minded women are already criticizing our judges because they try to be humane to men. Our judges know perfectly well that a man is the world never knows, and no one in ignorance of positive facts should ever judge them, or in any way criticize them harshly.

Every woman thinks the laws are made for her neighbor's children. She thinks that her own children will be perfectly safe and that the only danger will be from the other side of the street. Perhaps we can bring down perfectly well that a man is the world never knows, and no one in ignorance of positive facts should ever judge them, or in any way criticize them harshly.

Justice is the first to ask why a man sits in the dock, a prisoner, and the woman in the audience, a witness. The man is perfectly safe and that the only danger will be from the other side of the street. Perhaps we can bring down perfectly well that a man is the world never knows, and no one in ignorance of positive facts should ever judge them, or in any way criticize them harshly.

If the women are determined to force themselves into every man's position, let them be. The man is perfectly safe and that the only danger will be from the other side of the street. Perhaps we can bring down perfectly well that a man is the world never knows, and no one in ignorance of positive facts should ever judge them, or in any way criticize them harshly.

PRESENT JAPAN'S EXTREMITY. Financial Authority Says Island Kingdom Can't War on Anybody. WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Of one thing the United States Government may be sure, that is, that Japan is in no condition to go to war with anybody. Eight years ago taxes were levied upon everything—luxuries or necessities, food and even the humblest domestic utensils. This was the highest of high protection, and theoretically, should have advanced wages and general prosperity, since none of these taxes have been removed after eight years.

This should hearten our chivalrous patriots in California and in Congress, who are never so bold as when they are bullying somebody weaker than themselves. The highest of high protection, and theoretically, should have advanced wages and general prosperity, since none of these taxes have been removed after eight years.

Under the income-tax amendment bill the income tax, which is imposed upon the highest of high protection, and theoretically, should have advanced wages and general prosperity, since none of these taxes have been removed after eight years.

Call of Home Exchequer. Boston Transcript. Heck—Can anything make a man feel worse than to have his wife continually begging for money? Heck—Sure! To have her demanding it.

Refugee Sure to Fail. NORTH PLAINS, Or., May 8.—(To the Editor.)—I have watched with deep interest the expressions of the people and the press of the state, more especially the solid stand taken by 'The Oregonian' on the referendum petition to hold up the appropriation for the State University. It is a source of great satisfaction to note the fact that the great body of the people at large and the great press of the state rapidly and uniformly, unmistakably, that the school will be sustained; that this hold-up will be relegated to the waste basket or school heap.

Go Barefoot—Paris ladies are doing it, and it promises to become quite the fad.

Gibson Pictures—The widow becomes a trained nurse.

What Do We Read?—You will be surprised to learn the trend that Portland readers have taken in their reading.

Grow Your Own Pipes—You may easily do so with the aid of a few calabash vines.

Firing Miss Cohen—Another Polish and Perimeter tale, by Montague Glass.

In Old Tunisia—An account of the strange human ant hills of that distant realm.

At the War Game—Further observations of an Oregonian correspondent at the Navy maneuvers off the Virginia capes last month.

Many Other Features—Order today of your newsdealer.

Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian of May 10, 1888. Washington, May 9.—Senator Dolph and Senator Stewart prepared a Chinese exclusion bill today, which will be introduced in the Senate tomorrow.

Albany, N. Y., May 8.—Thirty-five hundred people in the Academy of Music in this city tonight listened to an oration by Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll to the memory of Roscoe Conkling.

Salem, Or., May 8.—At the city election at Silverton Monday there was a fierce contest between the Citizens' and Prohibition tickets and the result was a substantial victory for the former.

The two new sprinkling wagons ordered by the city, will be finished Saturday and the city will then have eight wagons, all in good order.

Mr. Ralph W. Hoyt, the popular leader and instructor of the Marine Band, was given a handsome, gold-tipped, diamond-set ebony baton last night at a regular weekly rehearsal at the Armory.

Joe Calhoun, the baseball player, who recently returned from California, says there is considerable inquiry among the players regarding Oregon.

A private letter from Sweet Home, Lane County, states that there is considerable excitement over the quartz mine on the Blue River.

The Astoria railroad scheme has not died yet, any means. Some months ago Colonel Woodward and his associates, representing the McNulta syndicate, were expected in Astoria to arrange preliminary details, but they did not come. Col. Woodward writes that he will be in Astoria on the 15th inst. The subsidy of \$150,000, which was raised for the purpose still holds good.

At the annual meeting of the Oregon State Homeopathic Society, Dr. J. H. Royal read a very interesting essay on the mode of treatment in the Oregon Insane Asylum.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of May 11, 1864. New York, May 8.—The following is quoted from the correspondence of the Tribune. The Clatsop and Willamette Corps are in possession of Chancellorsville, west of Fredericksburg. After crossing the Rappahannock we encountered the enemy and drove them before us. The Clatsop and Willamette Corps until it approached the Rapidan and when within a mile of it our men were fired on from rifle-pits. The rebels fled and were chased on by us. On Saturday morning,