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Thursday, April 25, 1912.

**The Oregon Primary**

If the Oregon primary had been held two weeks ago President Taft might, and probably would, have carried the state in a three-cornered contest with Colonel Roosevelt and Senator La Follette. If 20,000 votes or thereabouts normally Democratic had been cast in their own primary and the contest within the Republican ranks left to Republican electors, Taft might and probably would have carried the state. Not a Democrat who appeared at any polling place and asked for a Republican ballot was for President Taft. Many of them were for La Follette; some of them for Roosevelt. It is a condition and not a theory, which faces the Republican party at every primary election. The normal Republican vote must not only be apportioned among the respective candidates, but the Democratic contingent which persistently and unscrupulously invades the Republican primary for its own purposes must be reckoned with. Democrats in a Republican primary account, for example, for the probable triumph of Lafferty.

The Illinois and Pennsylvania elections had a disastrous influence on the Taft campaign in Oregon; and it is likely, too, that the personal efforts of Senator LaFollette, which vastly strengthened his campaign, inflicted more damage upon Taft than upon Roosevelt. But Illinois and Pennsylvania were facts that could not be refuted. Candor compels the statement that the overwhelming success of Mr. Roosevelt in these two great Republican states and the poor showing of the President caused many Republicans to hesitate and to reconsider their determination to vote for Taft. It was clear to many that Colonel Roosevelt was to be a factor before the National Convention, though it was by no means obvious that he had more than a comparatively small majority of the delegates. But the grim and discouraging truth that stood out above everything was that the Republican party was rent and torn by dissension, that the President had yet the unshaken allegiance of only a minority of his party, that the Republican voters in many states were in open revolt against the Administration, and that the Republican party with Mr. Taft as its candidate would be threatened with a disastrous defeat if not an overwhelming rout. The deserts of President Taft, the successful policies of his Administration, the admirable qualities of his great personality, the high ground upon which he pitches his every act, the indignities heaped upon him by Colonel Roosevelt and his vindictive friends, the sound precedent against a third term for any President, were all forgotten or ignored. The insurgents were in the saddle and they were going to ride to victory at any cost or through any hazard.

The Oregonian enlisted under the flag of President Taft for the campaign in Oregon at a time when the contest appeared to be confined to him and Senator La Follette. It understood perfectly his weakness as a candidate, and the restless and dissatisfied temper of a large and irreconcilable element of the party toward him; but it greatly preferred him to La Follette, as it believed

the Oregon Republicans would, upon a complete and proper presentation of all the circumstances surrounding the respective attitudes of the two candidates; and it urged Mr. Taft's nomination upon the voters with what vigor and persuasiveness it possessed. The appearance of Mr. Roosevelt as a candidate was an event not contemplated by the Oregonian nor by any body probably, outside the circle of his intimate counsellors. It took him at his word when he said he would under no circumstances be a candidate. The Oregonian had a high appreciation and full understanding of the great service to the country Colonel Roosevelt had rendered as President and it was drawn into a position of opposition to him much against its will. But it discharged nevertheless its duty to President Taft and its obligation to its own conscience without hesitation and without fear or excuse or repining. It plowed a straight furrow; it leaves the consequences to care for themselves.

The Oregonian has done its share to achieve the nomination of Mr. Selling and the defeat of Mr. Bourne. The retirement of Senator Bourne and his elimination as a factor in Oregon politics is no small achievement; indeed it is a great achievement. He has been a disturbing and demoralizing influence in Oregon affairs all his life. He has degraded politics; he has disorganized and debauched party; he has been the voice of faction and the very spirit of strife and political manslaughter. He is in a measure responsible for the unrest, dissatisfaction, non-restraint, bitterness and disloyalty that we behold everywhere today. He gives fealty to no good cause; he has contributed much by ceaseless agitation and outright example to more than one bad cause.

Yet withal it is astounding to find men in Portland who profoundly believed in President Taft and his policies urging the renomination and election of Senator Bourne because, they said, he was in position now to get appropriations for Oregon. They wanted Taft to be re-elected, and they earnestly wished his Administration to be a success; but they manifested their entire want of political judgment or discretion by seeking the return to Washington of a Senator who would stop at nothing to embarrass the President and would oppose him with all the great power of the Senatorial office. Moreover, those are the men who have been deeply anguished for many years because the times were out of joint, the public tendencies were in opposition to all constituted authority, and the soapbox orator was abroad in the land. Yet they would honor by conferring upon him a great and dignified office the chief agitator of all.

If the Republican party shall find a nominee at the Chicago convention who represents fully its progressive purposes and who shall be able to reconcile its discordant and quarreling elements, The Oregonian will be pleased. Yet it would almost appear that the factions had reached an impasse. Perhaps a leader may be found who will wrest victory from a grave and perilous situation. We hope so.—The Oregonian.

**Strong Wins Prize**

E. N. Strong, who has been manager of the Oregon Life Insurance company for The Dalles and vicinity during the last three years, won the \$100 prize offered by his company to the agent who secured the most business during the year ending March 31, 1912. He was also leader for the quarter closing March 31 and for the three-year period ending on the same day.—The Dalles Chronicle.

**PRECINCT VOTE IN REPUBLICAN AND TOTALS IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARIES**

	REPUBLICAN													DEMOCRAT														
	Boegli	Ellis	Foillard	McFarlane	Brown C D	Elkins	McFiggart	Brown Willis	Turner	Jordan	Myers	Van Allen	Wyde	Brewster	Rice	Bell	Pepper	Smith E C	Thompson	Forbes	Smith W O	Covey	Graham	Springer	Rafour	Edwards	Brown Warren	
Ashwood	3	0	21	13	3	25	5		24	29	25	10	19	6	25	13	14	6										
Beaver Creek	2	0	3	6	6	7	5		17	17	18	5	13	13	7	2	1	16										
Bear Creek	16	0	3	1	3	6	1		5	9	8	2	7	4	6	8	0	4										
Bend	7	78	17	11	84	21	10		85	83	79	70	27	55	40	90	24	13										
Black Butte	4	4	3	32	4	38	2		31	40	39	30	10	34	10	23	15	7										
Breese	0	0	13	1	3	6	4		9	12	10	2	11	7	3	6	4	4										
Camp Creek	2	4	6	10	7	9	3		12	16	14	19	1	13	5	5	13	3										
Cline Falls	4	3	2	14	1	7	5		12	13	12	4	8	3	8	7	3	3										
Cross Keys	8	19	20	5	24	17	8		37	39	36	40	5	16	31	10	7	25										
Deschutes	3	1	3	24	1	20	5		23	28	23	7	16	7	21	3	6	16										
Hayercreek	49	3	13	2	7	23	35		44	58	54	22	26	38	23	9	26	29										
Haystack	0	0	11	3	2	11	1		5	15	14	2	10	6	8	4	0	9										
Hat Rock	5	2	3	13	5	14	3		15	19	19	17	4	5	13	7	6	6										
Hillman	0	0	0	4	5	0	9	0		3	9	5	2	1	2	4	5	0	4									
Howard	0	0	0	4	2	2	1	7		8	10	11	1	2	9	2	8	3	1									
Fire	1	17	4	6	17	11	2		7	22	23	17	8	11	13	13	11	4										
Ireland	8	1	9	2	1	12	3		9	20	20	2	17	7	13	5	1	14										
Johnson Creek	40	8	6	30	2	38	42		57	65	69	38	36	35	40	19	22	38										
Kutcher	11	20	5	5	17	12	9		28	36	39	32	5	24	14	10	14	16										
Laidlaw	1	1	10	3	2	16	8		17	20	16	10	13	7	16	9	8	6										
Lamonta	1	3	2	2	3	2	2		5	5	7	3	8	4	3	2	0	4										
Lava	13	0	14	12	2	25	12		82	30	32	17	18	15	21	21	11	15										
Lyle Gap	14	4	5	18	0	32	9		36	37	38	32	16	29	12	11	9	21										
Madras	0	0	0	2	0	0	1		1	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	0										
Maury	1	0	4	0	1	5	0		4	5	6	0	4	3	3	0	0	5										
Mill Creek	3	0	3	9	3	10	2		8	13	19	5	9	7	8	5	0	9										
Montgomery	3	2	23	3	2	25	5		16	27	25	4	22	11	21	13	7	8										
McKay	0	0	13	0	0	2	10		7	13	12	1	12	6	7	2	1	10										
Newsom	20	0	3	7	2	15	13		16	29	25	23	5	11	19	7	1	21										
Powell Butte	2	2	1	105	9	82	7		73	89	85	96	6	64	27	38	12	49										
Redmond	2	1	0	0	1	2	0		2	3	1	1	1	0	3	3	6	0										
Summit	0	2	10	0	0	6	5		8	6	7	4	3	9	2	2	11	2										
Warmspring	11	0	6	0	0	12	5		11	13	11	3	14	6	8	8	6	1										
Willow Creek	4	1	4	39	10	26	9		33	37	40	43	3	24	16	5	3	30										
Tatherow	17	0	7	2	2	3	8		9	15	13	0	14	14	2	2	5	8										
White Butte	0	14	49	42	6	94	28		80	132	116	14	115	51	83	36	10	85										
Prineville																												
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>44</b>	

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