

P. A. STOKES

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WEATHER REPORT.

Portland, Dec. 9.—Western Oregon, Western Washington: Sunday, fair.
Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington: Fair and continued cold.

SUGGESTIONS TO VOTERS.

The voter of Astoria is the court of last resort in the settlement of public issues and personal claims for preferment in office. In his hands rests the dictum that shall, for two years, at least, settle all questions of program and people in the new administration. He should therefore, do a bit of careful and conservative thinking before he casts his vote on Wednesday next. There is much to consider and many to please and displease. Among the chief claims to his best thought in the electoral premises, are the following:

Is Astoria normally, and inherently Republican? If so, shall the Republican status be preserved, or shall it be allowed to pass, now, and for years to come, into Democratic control and dictation?

Is the Citizens' movement in this city, as it was originally devised, of the same clean and purposeful sort now? Or has it deteriorated into a pretext, a make-shift for scheming politicians,

a vehicle for the personal ambitions of men whose partisan backing is insufficient to secure them recognition and success? If the Citizens' organization is still pure and intact, as originally projected, with all its honest measures and helpful plans undisturbed, WHY IS IT LED AND CONTROLLED BY THE DEMOCRATS?

With every Democrat in the city deeply involved in its success, either as a candidate or the beneficiary of some candidacy, does not the "Non-Partisan" convention of November 15th, and the alleged "Citizens' Movement" that succeeded it, look very much like a determined, shrewd and Democratic-partisan scheme to capture Astoria now, and Clatsop county in June, for the complete exploitation of Democratic men and measures for all time? Is not a revision imminent? Is it to be permitted? Are Republicans to tamely relinquish the prestige of city and county government? If so, why?

Are the Democrats abler, wiser, cleaner, more loyal to Astoria and all her interests than the Republicans? Are their policies, as now known, and quietly acquiesced in by their "Citizen" allies, of a sort to build up the city upon a plane of high morality, safe finance, and communal integrity?

It is the cardinal feature of their local political creed to open up this city again, and open it wide, to the gamblers, the dive keepers, dance-hall men and the brothel-brotherhood (and sisterhood) in order to secure the consummate political aid such elements always contribute, to make their cleanup in December and their invaluable victory in June. They can see no other way of restoring the demoralized city finances except by restoring the "lost \$18,000" that once inured to the municipal treasury by way of the vices of the people; an expedient that means infinite loss of public prestige to the city and incalculable anxiety and trouble to thousands of homes by the warping of decent manhood back to allurements of the wide-open shams.

Without a word of disparagement as to the original Citizens' movement, it is enough to say the Democrats are in authority over them now and are using them as a stalking horse for the purpose of riding down the Republican status of the city and county and to establish themselves in the governmental saddle here, firmly and finally. There is nothing to stop their career but the solid, faithful vote of the Republican party. Will that vote be cast?

Some thinking must be done in these four days, and to some purpose, or there may be years of remnescent thinking that will do mighty little good.

WORLD BETTER FOR THEM.

A recent number of the Jolly Elk contains two articles of interest as illustrating the attitude taken by certain men of the cloth toward the B. P. O. E.

A Pittsburg minister recently declared that "there are in Greater Pittsburg some 250 societies, ranging from some very decent ones down to the Elks." Rev. Mr. Leonard, pastor of a Fargo, N. D. church, recently attacked the Elks of that city because they journeyed in a body to Jamestown to install a new lodge. Rev. Leonard said the money might have been better spent on the Sabbath better employed than on such a mission. In answer, a member of Fargo lodge makes the assertion that No. 260 does more for charity than any three churches of Fargo combined and remarks that some churches are religious organizations while the Elks as an order are religion exemplified. The latter statement may be as far from the truth as the slur of the Pittsburg divine was from justice. The fact remains that in the action which Jesus called more blessed than receiving the Elks rank favorably with any organization in the world.

Composed of men of all creeds, political beliefs and walks of life, as every other great fraternal association, their membership necessarily is motley. Their morality is not based upon the narrow tenets of any known church. They are as drunk, as sober, as manly, or as unmanly, as honest, as dishonest, as able and as shiftless, as mankind generally, no better and no worse.

But in recognizing the common frailties of the race, the order, like not a few others of a similar nature, has exemplified one great teaching. It extends a helping hand to the wife, as she rises from the bier of the husband and father; it leads the orphan into pleasant fields; it sustains the brother in the hour of mental affliction, physical agony or worldly poverty; without ostentation or hope of reward, it quietly brings men to those touches of human kindness that make the whole world kin.

SAME OLD ROW.

Lord Roberts has resigned from the committee on imperial defence, a difference of opinion between him and the Premier as to the number of troops required for the defence of India being the supposed cause of his action. Taken in connection with Lord Curzon's speech at Bombay, the resignation of Lord Roberts shows that Indian affairs are not in as harmonious a state as is desirable and further complicates the Premier's difficulties.

CONFIRM IT

From the latest account of the railway accident in Pennsylvania on last Thursday night an important detail which appeared in the earliest report is missing. The statement that the news was brought from the wreck to the nearest telegraph station by a brakeman,

both of whose arms had been broken, is not confirmed. Of course, the story was somewhat dubious; but if it had been true there would have been a good pretext for the bestowal of a Carnegie medal for heroism.

NO GREATER PURPOSE.

Messrs. Alexander and Torrey are said to have made 100,000 converts in their evangelistic campaign in England, which has just come to a close. If they had turned one-tenth as many persons from sin and vice to honesty and cleanliness of life, they would have done a work of incalculable nobility and beneficence.

REGULAR REPUBLICAN TICKET.

- FOR MAYOR
J. W. Suprenant.
 - FOR AUDITOR AND POLICE JUDGE
A. B. Dalgity.
 - FOR TREASURER
John Nordstrom.
 - FOR POLICE COMMISSIONERS
John W. Babbidge, six year term.
W. C. Laws, two year term.
 - FOR SURVEYOR
Alfred S. Tee.
 - SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS
James F. Kearney.
 - FOR COUNCILMAN—FIRST WARD
Karl Knoblock.
 - FOR COUNCILMEN—SECOND WARD
James J. Robinson.
R. M. Leathers.
 - FOR COUNCILMAN—THIRD WARD
C. A. Leinenweber.
- Morning Astorian, 75 cents a month.

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