

EDITORIAL COMMENT AND TIMELY TOPICS

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C. S. JACKSON

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Work, every hour, every hour, paid or unpaid; see only that thou work, and thou shalt not escape thy reward. Whether thy work be fine or coarse, planting corn or writing epics, so only it be honest work, done to thine own approbation, it shall earn a reward to the senses, as well as to the thought. No matter how often defeated you are born to victory. The reward of a thing well done is to have done it.—Emerson.

THE GRINDING OF THE GODS.

"Matthews is not dependent on the salary of that office (the United States Marshalship) for a living, for control of the county organization means far more to him than the federal office."

So says the Oregonian. Many guileless persons have been under the impression that the ambition of Mr. Matthews to be and remain the political boss had some relation to his health. It now transpires that it is not a sanitary, but a financial measure.

There have, indeed, been charges made by the embittered and defeated political enemies of Mr. Matthews that in assuming to control the politics of Multnomah County he has been merely exercising the arts of a coarse and vulgar grafter. Until now, however, these statements have been subject to the usual discount of political animosity. They are now authoritatively confirmed.

There can be no question about the authority. The Oregonian was the enthusiastic and able supporter of the leadership of Mr. Matthews. It was his encomiast. It spoke for him and vouched for him. It promised in his behalf a reform in political methods in this county. It had then and has now unlimited resources of information about him and his chairmanship and his political revenues.

In addition to all that, that paper's editor-in-chief, had, as delegate and political adviser and associate of Mr. Matthews, peculiar facilities for knowing his methods.

Therefore, we may assume that it is true that the control of the county organization means far more to Mr. Matthews than the salary of his federal office. It means, indeed, if words mean anything, that Mr. Matthews is prostituting his position of trust in the Republican party to make money for himself.

Then the question arises whether a political party can afford to lend itself to a scheme of private aggrandizement. It is no longer a question between political parties. It is a question between the people on one side and a boss on the other. Is there any reason why Jack Matthews should make a living by peddling out the offices of this county? There is no salary attached to his position. Has the Republican party fallen so low that it will turn over the party to a man to enable him to blackmail a living out of it?

There have been just complaints against political bosses in the past. But never before has it been an admitted fact that the boss could live on the proceeds of his position.

That brings us to the simple question. Are the people of this county capable of administering their own affairs without paying tribute to Jack Matthews? If the Republican party can solve that question, well and good. The question is up to it.

Jack Matthews is only a generic term. He stands for the system. It would be no relief to depose him and to substitute another in his place. It is not Jack Matthews, but the system which he represents that must go.

Therefore the substitution of another grafter in his place does not touch the question. It is not a choice between grafters, but whether there shall be any grafters. Senator Mitchell is quite correct in saying that the people of this county are tired of political bosses. That he didn't mean what he said does not detract from its truth.

The people can wait. While the self-constituted leaders are parading out the spoils, those who are to be despoiled wait for the grinding of the gods. There will be fine grinding then.

CIVIL SERVICE RULES IGNORED.

It is not surprising to learn that Bristow's investigation of the New York postoffice has disclosed the fact that every employee in the office was compelled to make a contribution last year to the Republican campaign fund. Nothing could be a grosser violation of the civil service rules, but it was strictly in accord with the methods of the politicians who have made the Postoffice Department a huge political machine. The public has entertained the belief that campaign assessments in this branch of the government service

were a thing of the past, but this is plainly a mistake.

If the investigators should ever extend the field of their inquiries to the Pacific Coast, it is quite likely that here in the Portland postoffice they might find some practices decidedly at variance with civil service rules. It might be asked, for example, why patronage in the Federal Building has been turned over to the local Republican boss, whose record in the past is not marked by any conspicuous zeal for the betterment of the public service.

COUNTY IS AGAIN SUCCESSFUL.

Once more the county has been successful in the preliminary legal skirmishing which precedes the battle for the recovery of the tax sale certificates lost through the settlement with the First National Bank. W. F. White, who is a co-defendant with the bank, had filed an answer to the county's complaint, setting up various defenses. To all of them the county demurred. In a carefully considered opinion Judge Cleland this morning sustained the demurrer in every point.

All of the developments thus far in this litigation give strong ground for the belief that the county will ultimately be successful. The extraordinary settlement made two years ago by the county board (of which Judge W. M. Calk was the presiding member) must strike every unbiased man as an unwarranted sacrifice of the county's property. The indications are that the courts will take the same view.

The state press has responded to the call for better advertising of the Lewis and Clark Fair and many of the Oregon papers will from now on publish articles about the proposed Exposition. This will be a great assistance to the committee on publicity which has altogether too much work to accomplish unless assisted by all of the state newspapers.

Apropos of the search for someone sufficiently strenuous to act as Theodore Roosevelt's running mate in 1904, what's the matter with the Champion Beef Eater of the World, who has just achieved the magnificent feat of eating five and three quarter pounds of steak in one hour and 40 minutes.

At the present rate of withdrawing land from entry, either under the homestead or timber claim laws, it will only be a short time until no entries of either class will be accepted. The cloud of fraud which hovers over many timber locations, has had much to do with the weekly "withdrawals."

The turning over to the Heppner relief fund of the money raised in various towns for Fourth of July celebrations is a greater display of patriotism than all the firecrackers or speech-making in the world could produce.

If our local Republican contemporaries approve so decidedly of the investigation of the postoffice frauds, why is it that they give no countenance to the investigation of the county frauds here at home?

"He shook Heaven and upset earth," is the inscription upon the tomb of Li Hung Chang, the great Chinese statesman. It seems calculated to arouse the envy of our strenuous President.

The Kaiser's generous reception of the American navy at Kiel will go a long way toward setting at rest the sensational stories of Germany's dislike for America.

The Department of Justice of Washington, D. C., might tilt the scales a little farther by weighing some of the Oregonian's remarks about Jack Matthews.

The liberal donations to the Heppner relief fund by the cities and towns of Oregon gives us still further reason for being proud of our glorious state.

A larger appropriation for police protection would be money well spent.

The man who is satisfied with himself doesn't want much.

FAMOUS SERMON FROM THE BIBLE

(Jesus Callest Earnestly for Confession of Faith.)

St. John 12:20-50.

And there were certain Greeks among them That came up to worship at the feast: The same came therefore to Philip, Which was of Bethesda of Galilee, and desired him, saying, SIR, WE WOULD SEE JESUS.

Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: And again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus, And Jesus answered them, saying,

THE HOUR IS COME,

THAT THE SON OF MAN SHOULD BE GLORIFIED.

Verily, verily, I say unto you,

Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die,

It abideth alone;

But if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

HE THAT LOVETH HIS LIFE SHALL LOSE IT; and

HE THAT HATH HIS LIFE IN THIS WORLD SHALL KEEP IT

Unto life eternal.

If any man serve me, let him follow me;

And where I am, there shall also my servant be:

If any man serve me,

Him will my father honor.

NOW IS MY SOUL TROUBLED;

And what shall I say?

Father, save me from this hour:

But for this cause came I unto this hour.

FATHER, GLORIFY THY NAME.

Then came there a voice from Heaven, saying,

I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

The people therefore that stood by, and heard it, SAID THAT IT THUNDERED:

Others said, an Angel spake to him.

Jesus answered and said,

THIS VOICE CAME NOT BECAUSE OF ME,

BUT FOR YOUR SAKES.

Now is the judgment of this world:

Now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,

Will draw all men unto me.

This, he said, signifying what death he should die.

The people answered him,

We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth forever:

And how sayest thou, the son of man must be lifted up?

WHO IS THIS SON OF MAN?

Then Jesus said unto them,

Yet a little while is the light with you.

WALK WHILE YE HAVE THE LIGHT,

Lest darkness come upon you:

For he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.

WHILE YE HAVE LIGHT, BELIEVE IN THE LIGHT,

THAT YE MAY BE THE CHILDREN OF LIGHT.

These things spake Jesus, and departed,

And did hide himself from them.

But though he had done so many miracles before them,

Yet they believed not on him:

That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled,

Which he spake.

LORD, WHO HATH BELIEVED OUR REPORT?

And to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

Therefore they could not believe,

Because that Esaias said again,

HE HATH BLINDED THEIR EYES,

And hardened their heart;

That they should not see with their eyes,

Nor understand with their heart,

And be converted, and I should heal them.

These things said Esaias, when he saw His glory,

And spake of Him.

Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him;

But because of the Pharisees they did not confess him,

Lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for

THEY LOVED THE PRAISE OF MEN

MORE THAN THE PRAISE OF GOD.

Jesus cried and said, he that believeth on me,

Believeth not on me, but on Him that sent me,

And He that seeth me seeth Him that sent me,

I AM COME A LIGHT INTO THE WORLD,

That whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

And if any man hear my words, and believe not,

I judge him not: for

I CAME NOT TO JUDGE THE WORLD, BUT TO SAVE THE WORLD.

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words,

HATH ONE THAT JUDGE HIM:

The word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

For I have not spoken of myself;

But the Father which sent me.

HE GAVE ME A COMMANDMENT,

What I should say, and what I should speak. And

I KNOW THAT HIS COMMANDMENT IS LIFE EVERLASTING:

Whatsoever I speak therefore,

Even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

GOSSIP ABOUT WOMEN

During the recent visit of Major-General Baden-Powell to Liverpool the ladies of the city in particular paid him special honor and so impressed him that he reciprocated by revealing the well-kept secret of why he is not a benedict. "The ladies are critical," he pleaded, "and see no great point in me. I have had that pretty straight from one of them myself." And he told the story of how, when in South Africa, his duty was to tell an old Dutch lady that she must leave her house, which was wanted as a police station. He told the lady to go and presume she would obey. Finding in a few days she was still in possession, he sent his men to turn her out. She refused to go and she said no one had told her. "Oh, yes," replied a sergeant, "The General told you himself." Then came madam's silencing retort: "You don't mean to say that little red-faced man was the General!"

It transpires that Queen Draga, in an audience with the foreign minister a few weeks ago, said she lived in deadly fear, not knowing what the day or night might bring forth. She knew, she added, that she was hated by the people and that King Alexander was also detested by his subjects, and she was convinced that the country would prove too strong for both of them. Various reports are in circulation regarding the value of the late Queen's estate, which was said to amount to \$2,200,000, chiefly invested in her sister's name in Switzerland and Belgium. A commission is now engaged in making an inventory of the property of the royal couple, and it is thought probable that the total private estate of both will be found not to exceed half the sum mentioned.

Few members of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are as energetic and faithful to the cause as Mrs. Florence C. Bethune, a society woman and wife of the well-known New York lawyer. Mrs. Bethune has within a few months caused the arrest of eight men for cruelty to horses and in each case appeared in court to testify against the accused. After securing the conviction of a driver recently Mrs. Bethune announced that she will now direct her energies against mail-delivery contractors for inhuman treatment of horses. In the last year Mrs. Bethune has turned over 36 sick and homeless dogs to the society.

Mrs. Sarah Snook of St. Joseph is Missouri's oldest inhabitant. She is 103 years old. She eats pie, ice cream, and other things; walks a mile every day for exercise; can see as far and reads as well without glasses as many young people, and remembers well many great characters of this country almost a century ago. She celebrated the one hundred and third anniversary of her birth at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Agnes Jacquay. Mrs. Snook is a native of Louisville, Ky., and spent many years of her life in Kansas.

Lady Warwick, one of the cleverest of English women, has invented a new design of dining table. It is sunken in the center, the space being filled with flowers, palms, and maidenhair.

Four great coal stations are about to be exploited in South Africa. The most southerly field lies between Ladysmith and the northern boundaries of Natal. These regions will in the near future supply a large part of the world's demand for coal. Natal exported 204,000 tons in 1901.

"LABOR" AND "TRADES" UNIONS

The "labor question" assumed a very interesting phase recently in New York. In discussing it the Times of that city commented upon the "labor issue" in an editorial, as follows:

"The Board of Building Trades has come, none too soon, to a decision to eject from representation in their body the unions of the drivers and handlers of building material. It is hardly fair to say, even now, that they have 'come' to this conclusion. They have been driven to it by the action of the employers' unions, representing dealers in building materials and the owners of trucks, who in turn were backed by the united action of the employers of labor in the building trades. To have achieved this result is evidently a vindication, not only of a union of employers, which has never been so close or so firm as in the contest provoked by the drivers and the laborers, and very injudiciously taken up by the skilled workmen in the building trades.

"The lesson has been sharp. But there is reason to hope that it has been effective. Certainly it will have been effective if the representatives of skilled labor in the building trades stick to their present profession of an intention to take no action in common with what are incorrectly called the 'unskilled trades' connected with building. Their action goes to the root of the whole question of the organization of labor. It draws a sharp and broad line between trades unionism and labor unionism. And it shows that the interests of the two classes of labor are not identical, but different and possibly hostile.

"A trade union aims at comprising a monopoly of the skill required in its particular art and mystery. Its strength is that it does comprise such a monopoly, and that the particular work its members undertake to do cannot be done by outsiders except after a long apprenticeship. A trade union which has arrived at this stage of perfection is perfectly sure of getting all the share of the profits of the enterprise in which it is engaged that employers can afford to pay. In the most intelligent and best-managed unions it gets this without a strike. Employers recognize that they cannot carry on their business except upon terms which the union is content to accept, and when these terms are such as the employers can afford to pay, they pay them without the loss and delay involved in a strike. That seems to be the position of the 16 skilled trades represented by the Board of Building Trades.

"Now, evidently, this position is not at all that of unskilled laborers who organize simply for the purpose of hiding on, on their own terms, to the jobs which they happen to have in some branch of industry.

WHY HE CLIPPED.

I saw him take the paper, and Turn to the household page, Then scan the columns up and down As one who all would gauge.

"Ah!" he muttered to himself, "Here's 'How to Make Rice Fritters,' And 'How to Utilize Cold Beef,' And 'Home-Made Stomach Bitters.'"

Then from his pocket forth he took A pair of scissors small, And severed from the printed page The helpful hints and all.

He clipped "The Way to Scramble Eggs," And "How to Make Peach Butter," As well as half a dozen more, "That's all"—again his mutter.

"A thoughtful man," at once I mused, A man who cares for things, Who loves the calm, contented song The home tea-kettle sings.

"Do you," I asked, "preserve these notes So that your wife may eye them?" "Not much," he growled, "I cut them out So she won't get to try them." —Baltimore American.

THE TOO-FREQUENT ASSASSIN.

One of the curious facts of civilization is that prior to 1890—a date from which, in a general way, the world is considered to have been making more progress than ever it did before—attempts on the lives of heads of states were rare. Since then they have been very frequent.

They say the Sultan of Turkey shuddered while his courtiers were telling him how the late Serbian sovereigns were done to death. Unfortunately there is no reason why the most desperate ruler should feel more unsafe in these times than the heads of constitutional monarchies or republics. Within 10 years the French Republic has lost Carnot, the American Republic McKinley, Italy her constitutional King, Austria (also a limited monarchy) her Empress, while attempts have been made within the same period on the lives of the constitutional King of England and the Presidents of Mexico and Brazil.

It would seem that, if there is any method in their madness, the assassins are more disposed to strike at those heads of states who rule with limited powers and by popular consent than at those who rule absolutely and by "divine right."

THE REAL "CONJER."

"Do you think that there is luck in a rabbit's foot?" "Not as much as dar is in a chicken's foot," answered Mr. Erastus Pinkley, "provided de res'er de animal is attached." —Washington Star.

"THEM THAT HAS GITS."

The idea is growing that the start of the bear campaign came with a wholesale unloading of stock by the Standard Oil crowd. Quite likely. As Josh Billings used to say, them that has gits.—Boston Herald.

"They have no monopoly of skill, for their work involves no special training. It is only when all crude labor is employed at better wages or more favorable conditions than those they reject that they have any fair chance of succeeding in a strike. In any other conditions it is only by unfair means that they can hope to succeed—that is to say, by assaulting or intimidating out of taking their places the unemployed to whom otherwise the terms that are unsatisfactory to the strikers would be satisfactory. That is to say, whereas a trade union relies upon its monopoly of a certain skill, a labor union relies upon violence. It is only through breaches of the peace and rioting which the state is either unable or its officers unwilling to put down that they can keep out of their places as good and as skilled men as themselves who are willing to work for less money, or on less advantageous conditions. They must strive to weaken the forces which society has organized for its own protection, whether of the constabulary or of the militia. Every such strike tends to array the strikers against society, to put them in an attitude of defiance toward law and order, toward peace and civilization. Their general and permanent success would simply be the reign of anarchy.

"Now, why should men who rely upon their knowledge of their business to earn their livings and to get as high wages as their employers can afford to pay, ally themselves with men who rely and must rely upon brute force and violence to get more for doing their work than other men can be hired to do it for? Why should a trade union join hands with a labor union? That is the question which the Board of Building Trades, under the pressure of the action of the employers, has been asking itself, with the results that we see. That is the question which every representative of skilled labor ought to ask himself when he is asked to 'affiliate' with a representative of unskilled labor. The benevolent but absurd Powderly, with his ridiculous motto that 'the injury of one is the concern of all,' returned the wrong answer to it. He took the ground that when any digger or hodman chose to quarrel with his bread and butter it was the duty of all the highly skilled artisans whose work was in any wise connected with his to quarrel with theirs, whether they had any quarrel with it or not. The consequence was that he succeeded in shrinking the membership of his 'noble and holy order,' before he had done with it, to a pitiful fraction of what it was when he took hold of it. The Board of Building Trades has shown much better judgment in refusing, on behalf of skilled labor, to embark in the same boat with unskilled labor, or to admit that the two have any interest in common."

TOM JOHNSON'S WAY.

Last year eight Democratic members of the Ohio Legislature violated the platform on which they were elected by voting for what is known as the "curative act," designed to confirm a corrupt grant of franchises to the Cleveland Traction Company. Mayor Johnson at the time told these eight black sheep that if any of them ever came up for office he would go to their districts and endeavor to defeat them.

Last week Johnson spent three days campaigning in his red automobile in Richland County, where one of the black sheep named Earhart, supported by the local bosses, was seeking a renomination at the party primary. In his speech at Shelby, Mr. Johnson said: "The Democratic party will remain the minority party in the state as long as a handful of hoodlums are permitted to parcel out second terms to such men as Earhart." "The difficulty with the Democratic party in Richland County is that it is rotten at the top. The foundation seems to be all right, but the head ought to be cut off, then the party will get back to the good old majority of from 1,200 to 1,500."

The result of the primary on Saturday afternoon was the defeat of Earhart by a majority. In commenting on the result, Johnson said:

"The defeat of Earhart means the utter annihilation of the eight 'black sheep.' Gear is absolutely out of the running in Wyandot County, and the other six have not dared to show their faces. *** The result will have a most salutary effect over the entire state. It will give the Democratic party a chance from now on to move forward and accomplish results."—San Francisco Star.

A LADY'S POCKET.

Apropos of the difficulty even fair owners experience in locating ladies' pockets, a good story is told of a lady who, arrayed in a new frock, took a hansom the other day, and, on alighting, hunted vainly for the entrance to the pocket where she had confidently placed her purse.

The quest was so unduly prolonged that at last her charioteer, who was not a man of refinement, remarked from his perch: "Now, then, marm, when you've done a-scratchin' will you pay me my fare?"—Spare Moments.

WHAT STARTLING NEWS.

The Honolulu Advertiser is out with the news that Secretary Loeb, in an authorized interview, "practically announces Roosevelt's candidacy for the Republican nomination." What a scoop by our Honolulu contemporary! Theodore Roosevelt actually a candidate for another term, and nobody this side of the Pacific Ocean suspected it!—Louisville Courier-Journal.

SOME NEEDED DATA.

The Rock Island Railroad is probably the only road in the country which employs a woman as the boss of a section gang. This road finds that she can make the men work hard. It would be interesting to know how much her husband weighs.—New York Tribune.