

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

A POWERFUL CORPORATION.

REGISTER BOOTH and Receiver Bridges of the Roseburg land office, it is announced, will be re-appointed, notwithstanding the president's and Secretary Hitchcock's previous and well-grounded determination not to appoint them, particularly Booth.

The reasons cannot be doubted by observing Oregon people. The Booth-Kelly company is the greatest power in the Republican party in the state of Oregon, for wholly "business purposes."

This great land-grabbing corporation controls and "handles" Republican party politics, in a great degree, in Lane, Douglas, Coos, and other counties, where its vast areas of land, much of it acquired for cheap "songs," lie.

Consider: Mr. Booth, who is to be retained in the Roseburg land office, is a brother of the Booth who is the head of the Booth-Kelly company, and is secretary of that company.

The question answered itself to the president when he conscientiously approved his honest secretary's refusal to appoint Booth.

Well-informed men from Lane, Douglas and other southern Oregon counties do not doubt that Booth and Bridges were placed in the land office originally through the influence, chiefly, of this company, and will be retained there through the same influence, brought into renewed and strenuous activity by the prospect of their dismissal.

ARE THE DEMOCRATS EQUAL TO IT?

A POLITICAL PARTY which is not willing to stand on its own feet, to openly fight for its own principles to the last ditch, is not worthy the name.

There are conditions in Oregon that would warrant the hope of a compact and well organized Democratic party.

But the very foundation stone of the organization must be its independence of all entangling alliances with other parties. If it is to be a Democratic party it must be that and nothing else.

All of this cannot be done in a day or a week. The character of the party must be established before it can expect to get their unqualified allegiance.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

A Friend of the Japs.

Portland, Feb. 23.—To the Editor of The Journal.—In the Oregonian recently appeared a letter signed "O. M. W.," advocating American sympathy with Russia.

As for the other two reasons: Admitting that Russia is a "Christian nation," should we favor her on that account? Have we not passed that stage in this world where one nation shall stand by another, be she right or wrong, because her people happen to have the same religion?

any favor in the way of trade, because we can give value received for what we get, and if the sympathy of the Americans were for sale we will rather prefer to sell to a nation who stand by our ideals and principles of government than to one which is 1,000 years behind the times.

Dallas, Or., Feb. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal.—I note in this evening's edition of your paper an account of the defeat of senate bill No. 1,261, which measure proposed placing fraternal beneficiary orders with lotteries.

RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.

From the Philadelphia North American. Of Russian diplomacy, the last few years have witnessed such exposition that it stands forth as a monumental system of falsehood and hypocrisy.

It is applicable here. Alluding to the protected impudence of a "snubbing king" the Chicago Record-Herald concludes an editorial in language that might be locally applied, namely: "It is anything but amusing to see the officials to whom authority in such matters has been committed either timidly closing their eyes to their duty or brazenly ignoring it."

Oregon Sidelights

Eastern Oregon has been blessed both by a deep snow and a heavy, chinook—both good for farmers, stock raisers and miners.

Salem is not so very young; the first white child born there, R. T. Judson, is dead, aged 82 years.

Preferring light to darkness, because their deeds are not evil, the people of Dufur will soon have an electric light plant in operation.

Marshfield is becoming quite metropolitan. It is to have a brass band and a city park, which will go well together—also a board of trade.

"Butterfly" parties are in vogue in some Oregon towns, possibly so-called because real butterflies are now non-existent in this latitude.

The population, products and business of the Coos Bay country are growing rapidly. The wheat crop will be well for Portland business men to note.

A North Bend, Coos county, man's store was blown down, and his neighbors at once raised \$500 and made him a present of it, an incident that speaks well for the people of that young town.

The Dufur, Wasco county, Dispatch claims, and presents facts to prove that Dufur is as picturesque and well situated for the comfort and well being of its inhabitants as any town in Oregon.

The salary of the recorder of Long Creek has been raised to \$12.50 per month, but this generosity was partly balanced by reducing the treasurer's salary to \$24 a year.

Mr. G. M. McDowell, manager of the Ladd Metals company, tells the Baker City Democrat that they expect to have their new smelter at Homestead, near the Iron Dyke mine, in operation by next June.

Some people of Grant county want a new county formed; others desire rather a change in the location of the county seat; and yet others think things are going right.

Often is the fact illustrated that while some people meet with accidents in which they escape from sudden death "miraculously," to quote a common but incorrect term, others die from the effects of what seems at first but some trifling injury, scarcely worth notice.

Fred Walling, of Marion county, 18 years old, received in plain blow on one hand, the bruise and skinned his knuckle, but he made no complaint of it, yet in a few days it caused his death, in spite of the science and skill of physicians.

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WHEN HANNA FIRS BUTTED IN

Holland's New York Special in Chicago Record-Herald.

Senator Hanna's advent into a field of politics which Republicans of New York believed they had a right to pre-empt was looked upon as an intrusion.

The campaign of 1892 might have been in any event an impossible one for Hanna to carry out.

Mr. Hanna was not well known personally, not greatly by reputation in this city, prior to 1895.

In the early part of 1896 it was apparent to the Republican leader of this state that some secretive, undiscernible current was awaiting a considerable element of the Republican party.

It was one of the weaknesses of the Republican leadership of New York at that time that it kept but slightly in touch with the masses.

That, of course, is the way always with the Republicans when the new comer appears until he is judged by the criterion of success.

There were in New York at that time men of prominence in railway affairs and in finance who were from personal acquaintance with Hanna.

Among the men of real intellectual power in New York who are politicians it is probable that Hanna's greatest achievement is regarded as that which followed the nomination of McKinley, and was proved by McKinley's election.

For when McKinley was nominated it was the presumption that the political campaign would be a close one.

It was in recognition of the extraordinary skillful manner in which Mr. Hanna met this flank movement, the extreme delicacy and at the same time the great courage with which he nursed the Republicans back to loyal support of their party that he was given the honor of being named as the manager of a campaign for one party had found himself confronted by his opponents, not in front or upon the old issues, but upon the flank, advancing obliquely, so to speak, through the current of the ranks in the far west.

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After all, most newspaper men, for the purpose of counting cash, don't care whether it is a thousand million or a million million that makes a billion. But if anybody really cares about knowing, why doesn't he ask Rockefeller?

A rich man has a perfect legal right and perhaps a moral right, too—this might be debated—to leave his property as he wills, but at least some friends of the late Senator Hanna will regret that he left millions to relatives only, and not a cent to worthy charity.

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The wonder is not that the rule prohibiting patrolmen from drinking in the saloons is being established, but that the duty should be established, but that the subject by the chief necessary. In most well-regulated cities such an act is positive and sure cause for absolute dismissal. But drinking in saloons by policemen is an old custom in Portland.

CAPITAL AND PUBLIC SENTIMENT. From the Bend Bulletin. Of the greatest importance to the Deschutes valley is the merger of conflicting irrigation interests that has practically been accomplished in the past week. With this consolidation of the financial interests involved every cause of friction has been removed, and it is hoped the inharmonious that has done so much to retard progress here will wholly disappear. Capital may get a certain benefit in the face of a hostile public sentiment, but it will not work unreasonable risks and it will not work freely where it is not welcome. We should gather wisdom from the past and join hands for the encouragement of the reorganized irrigation movement.

This region needs capital for its development. Capital will not come here to lose its life; it comes to make money. It should be permitted to make money. The circumstances of the case are such that while capital is getting its profit the people will also get their. This is what is meant by development. All will prosper or fall together.

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JUDGE MCGINN'S POLITICS. From the Portland New Age. It is only a rumor that ex-Circuit Judge Henry E. McGinn has rejoined his forces with those of the Simon people; but it is necessary to the very existence of a republic.

Hence it is matter of public and general importance that 230 newspapers, published in all parts of the country, represented at the meeting in this city yesterday of the American Newspaper Publishers' association, arranged to subscribe the sum of \$100,000 to further such action against the trust as the public interests demand.

The association asks President Roosevelt and the attorney-general to "institute a suit against any of the three trusts which are accomplished in the past and to stifle competition." It asks of the president and the congress a reduction of the duties upon paper and the wood pulp from which it is made.

Public opinion should recognize public interest in imperatively backing both requests.

From the New York World. The International Paper company, which, with its allies, controls the production and sale of paper in this country, is a typical made trust, and more.

It has the familiar trust features of "undigested securities" and lack of cash capital. It exhibits the usual indifference to improved machinery and cheaper processes, while actually restricting production, heavily protected by the tariff, it charges in America, like other trusts, "what the traffic will bear," and it "dumps" its surplus stock in England at prices far cheaper than those charged to home consumers.

In these respects it is true in its type, a corporation formed "in restraint of trade" to kill competition and to "capitalise" its corpse. But it is more than a money making trust. It is a tax on knowledge, a barrier to progress, a wall between the general diffusion of information which is necessary to the very existence of a republic.

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