

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at the Journal Building, 120 Main Street, Portland, Ore.

Subscription Terms by mail to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico:

DAILY: One year, \$1.00; Six months, \$0.60; Three months, \$0.35. SUNDAY: One year, \$0.50; Six months, \$0.30; Three months, \$0.15. DAILY AND SUNDAY: One year, \$1.50; Six months, \$1.00; Three months, \$0.50.

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SWORN CIRCULATION: 26,850

March, 1907, daily average, 26,850

March, 1906, daily average, 26,850

Gain in the year, daily average, 2,700

The Journal was the first paper in the northwest throughout the Oregon country to publish its circulation every day and to have its records at any time. The circulation is still open to friends or foes, even to any representative of our rivals, who may desire to know the strength of the Journal's circulation.

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umphant, has not been thrown down and trampled upon; it is baffled, but not beaten. We are sorry for the girl-wife, erring little sister though she was; we are sorry for the old mother, foolish mother though she was; but, remembering the importance of punishing murderers, we are glad that Thaw is not yet free.

A GOOD RESULT.

IT is often remarked by politicians—not always, however, openly and for publication—that the primary nomination law, such as has been adopted in Oregon, not only tends to disrupt and extinguish political parties, but that it has this effect chiefly on the dominant or majority party. This is no doubt true; but, if so, it must be true because the people as a mass are dissatisfied with parties, and especially with the party in power, whose bosses are more active and potent than those of the other parties.

This new law gives the individual average voter a greater sense and idea both of his own importance and his power as such. He now feels that he has a voice, a say in the selection of the public servants, as he never had before, or not for many years. The men elected, too, feel a direct responsibility to the people rather than to bosses, slate-makers, fund-contributors or a machine; hence they hold their party obligations more lightly, knowing that the people care less about party than about good service.

If a majority party will be careful to please and serve the people, instead of only promising to do so before election, and neglecting to do so afterward, there is no good reason why it should not remain in power under the new system, for at the outset a majority of the people approve of this party rather than of any other. But the people are becoming less easily fooled and more independent of party ties, and so a party that, being in power, does not "make good," stands to lose, while necessarily the party or parties out of power must gain.

This is a good process, and is one of the very best results of the new system. "Turn and overturn" is the law of progress. No party has ever been good enough to be trusted very long in power at a stretch. If any party becomes so, it will be because this reformed method has greatly improved it.

OUR WONDERFUL PRESIDENT.

OUR STRENUOUS president is an exceedingly entertaining performer. He keeps the country in a constant state of agitation about something. If he adds to their cares he also adds to the gaiety of many. He is the most curious presidential figure in our history, and will be a puzzle to the future historical analysts. He keeps on the jump, and keeps a whole lot of other people on the jump—about this, that or the other thing, big or little, important or trivial. He thunders one day against a gigantic trust; next day one would think he was going to order the army and navy out to suppress John Smith of Oregon for cutting a switch illegally; the third he is promulgating in terrible tones one of the ten commandments, as if it had not been heard of before for a thousand years.

Now there is an immense amount of talk about the Roosevelt "policies." Simmered down, the supposed Roosevelt policies seem to be to punish lawbreakers, to follow up here and there little miscreants mercilessly until they tell what they know, and also to pitch into a big lawbreaker occasionally and dramatically swing the big stick over him.

But why should such a tremendous fuss and furor be made about an executive doing his duty, as if it were something unexpected, wonderful, heroic, unprecedented? We don't remember that Andrew Jackson rushed to the photographer every other day and had his private secretary dictating to reporters when he fought the national bank, and crushed secession, and did a few other things.

A few days ago, with a great fanfare of administration bugles it was proclaimed that a great conspiracy had been formed by Harriman, Rockefeller, Hearst and others to defeat the Roosevelt "policies" by nominating next year some man not his choice for president. So far as can be gathered from the report this gigantic conspiracy rests on an alleged remark of Senator Penrose, when he was in a condition of post-prandial mellowness, and which he denies making. And what is there so wonderful and terrible and alarming if Harriman and Rockefeller and some others should choose to support for president some man not the choice of Roosevelt? That is their privilege. The president himself has

been associated politically with the same men, except Hearst. We do not like their political activity, and the people ought to render it nugatory, but they are under no obligation to support Roosevelt's "policies" unless they choose. They have been putting up large amounts of campaign funds for the president's party for many years, and with a few exceptions, in the last campaign, these contributions were thankfully received and "put where they would do the most good," and we never heard any outcry from the beneficiaries of a great conspiracy to wreck the country; but now if they are going to try to elect a president who would suit them better than Roosevelt's choice, their action assumes, in the eyes of the president, the aspect of a monstrous conspiracy, and they are doubly dyed and deeply damned traitors.

Suppose the president should conclude, as we believe he knows he ought to do, to denounce the high protective tariff, the mother of trusts and the tap-root of the national upas tree, and demand its revision and the enactment of a tariff for revenue only. Immediately there would be a "conspiracy" against him and his "policies" and his candidate, of all the protected interests of the country; but would not that be a natural, expected, inevitable thing, and nothing to make such an excited outcry about, as if it were something unexpected and unprecedented? If the president really wants to engage in a battle royal for the right and for the people's interests, here is his opportunity.

We are not decrying the president's good intentions or acts. He has rendered the country some tremendously valuable services. He has "stirred up the animals." He has prodded here and there a trust and big rascal, and immensely stimulated the people's interest in looking after their affairs. If he would run again he would probably carry the country in spite of all opposition. But some of his spectacularities are calculated to make timid patriots tremble with alarm, and careless ones to laugh with veritable amusement. He is two, three or half a dozen Roosevelts, not two of whom are in harmony. He is a big diamond with flaws that you can stick your boot in. But whatever he is, he keeps the country awake. Today it is a gigantic conspiracy. Tomorrow the nation may be startled by the presidential announcement that it is wicked to steal, and the next day that Mrs. Jones isn't fit to hold up her head because she has had only two babies.

THE HOMESTEAD LAW.

SINCE THE recent death of the late ex-Congressman Calusha A. Grow, who came within one vote of being nominated for vice-president in 1864, he has been quite generally credited with being chiefly instrumental in securing the passage of the homestead law in 1862, when Grow was speaker of the house; but while he aided the passage of that beneficent measure, others led the fight for it for 10 years. Several men have claimed the principal honor, or it has been claimed for them, but this should probably be accorded to George W. Julian more than any other one member of congress.

The first official political demand for a law of this kind is believed to have emanated from the "Free-Soil Democrats" in their platform adopted at Buffalo in 1848. In 1850 a bill giving each head of a family 160 acres of land was reported favorably by Andrew Johnson of Tennessee, who afterward beat Grow for the nomination for vice-president by one vote and became president on the assassination of Lincoln. On January 28, 1851, Julian, a member from Indiana, moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill had been referred to the committee of the whole, and the next day made a speech in favor of it. This was nearly a year before Grow first entered congress. In 1852 the Free-Soil party declared for a homestead law, and Julian was its candidate for vice-president. On the organization of the Republican party in 1856 this became one of its declared policies, and the bill was finally passed just at the outbreak of the war.

But because the law gave too great a chance to speculators and land-grabbers, Julian, in 1868, as chairman of the committee on public lands, reported an amended law giving land by homestead and preemption to actual settlers only, and his policy was adopted. There were many prominent workers for the law, but Julian was probably the most influential figure in its enactment.

Crow was an able man in his prime, but not broad-minded enough for a great statesman, and his election in his old age, after years of retirement, only served to accentuate the fact that he had not kept pace with the spirit of the times and was out of place.

fessions of the Hon. Binger Hermann furnish an illuminating commentary on at least one phase of local politics. For Binger, too, believes in organization and reward of the faithful, when read in the light of his remarkable efficiency in securing fat jobs for his relatives, even to the third generation. Brother Thomas' golden rule evidently is to be expounded as meaning to the hungry brethren about this: "I want office. Get it for me and I'll do unto you (in that respect) even as I would be done by."

One Colorado man has a herd of 500 buffaloes, said to be about one half the total number in the United States, and he is negotiating to sell them to the Canadian government at \$300 a head, or a total sum of \$150,000. If they are worth that much to Canada, why are they not worth as much or more to Uncle Sam? Or hasn't he any place for them—any more?

While we would not go so far as to say that a fishermen's strike throughout the season would be a good thing, it would have a heavily compensating feature in the greatly increased number of fish that would get up to the spawning grounds, and in their progeny which would come back to be caught in due time.

Sunshine will kill the meningitis microbes, says the health officer. Yes, and it will kill lots of other bad microbes, too, and we will have lots of it before long. Get out in the sunshine and shed your microbes.

As Others View Mayor Lane

Mayor Lane's Defiance.

From the East Oregonian. Mayor Harry Lane of Portland defies the Democratic machine organization of Multnomah county and will not submit to the regulation halter which the machine hoped to put about his neck when he promised to be a candidate for reelection.

There is but one way in which Lane will stand for reelection and that is upon the understanding that he enjoy absolute freedom in his administration. There are to be no pinioned arms, no muzzled mouths, no shackled feet—but absolute freedom on part of the mayor to direct his administration for the best interest of the people.

Harry Lane has been a mayor without a master and Portland has benefited by the Lane administration. If he can continue his free and untrammelled policy he will serve again, if not he will not be a candidate.

It is really refreshing to see and hear men of his type openly defying the machines, both Democratic and Republican.

Making a Show of Themselves.

From the Eugene Guard (Dem.). The people of Oregon will watch the mayoralty campaign in Portland with considerable interest. Dr. Harry Lane is one of the best known men in the state and universally popular, not alone because of his unquestioned honesty, but on account of his fitness. Portland never before having a mayor who could do the honor and give the people so happily as the genial doctor, whose short addresses never fail to captivate his auditors. As far as the "old guard" of Democrats are concerned, they are simply making a holy show of themselves by trying to keep Harry Lane out of office. Square and honest himself, he purposes to give the people an administration that comes up to the mark in every particular, regardless of the clamors of the spoliators, realising as he does that honesty and efficiency are the best qualifications for public officials, and that the people are entitled to an administration of this kind.

Foraker vs. Taft.

From the Outlook. Senator Foraker and Secretary Taft are as dissimilar as two great public men can be. Mr. Foraker is an orator; Mr. Taft is not. Mr. Foraker has been associated always with great corporate interests; Mr. Taft has been rather the reverse of this, because of his legal controversies. Mr. Foraker is rich; Mr. Taft is poor. Mr. Foraker is a politician and has been playing the game practically all his life; Mr. Taft is an earnest reformer and does not act without regard to the people in legal controversies. Secretary Taft's decisions as a circuit judge rendered government by injunction possible, and thus aroused the hostility of labor. Mr. Taft's speech in Ohio in 1895 prevented the election of a Republican governor of that state and brought him the open enmity of the Republican machine and Senator Dick, Foraker's colleague. Thus the two senators and the Republican machine of Ohio are united in their determination to prevent Taft's indorsement as that state's presidential candidate.

Today in History.

- 1676—Staten Island bought for the Dutch by York.
1712—General Frederick Heudel, German composer, died. Born February 23, 1645.
1791—James Buchanan, fifteenth president of the United States, born. Died June 1, 1868.
1845—Raleigh, North Carolina, surrendered to the federal army.
1848—Magdala stormed by the British under Sir Robert Napier.
1875—Samuel Bamford, English radical leader, died.
1890—Ex-Speaker Samuel J. Randall died. Born October 10, 1828.
1895—American protectorate in Hawaii ended.
1885—Greater New York charter passed by New York state senate.
1894—Russian battleship Potemovsk sunk by mine near Port Arthur.

Activity of the Y. M. C. A.

There are now 7,831 Young Men's Christian associations throughout the world with 761,956 members, according to the report recently issued by the world's committee. Of this 1,888 are in the United States and Canada, and have 495,743 members. Germany has 1,348 associations with 114,187 members; Britain and Ireland 1,463 associations with 153,774 members; India has 110 associations, Japan 67 and China 50. Of the \$40,000,000 worth of property held by the associations, the United States and Canada own more than five sixths of the 2,600 general secretaries.

The British Soldiers' Christian association, which is auxiliary to the Y. M. C. A., now has 400 branches with 5,000 members, extending throughout the ranks of the British army in all its dependencies. The governor of Madagascar has forbidden any kind of Y. M. C. A. to be formed among the Malagasy. He is the only ruler who has taken such action.

The Chicago Young Men's Christian association expended \$405,000 last year in all its enterprises, a gain of \$50,000 over the previous year. It has undertaken to raise \$600,000 for an endowment to safeguard its present work, provide for extension into quarters of its own, and to extend its influence into more factories and shops.

Young Men's Christian associations are being rapidly extended throughout Wales, Bishop and pastors of churches greatly favor them as factors in conserving the results of the late religious revivals.

To be told that "Cricket and Christianity never go together" is a discouraging thing. The great cricketeer of England, when he was a boy had commenced to show proficiency in the game. Now Tunnicliffe divides his time between cricket and preaching as a parson. He declares, when speaking recently at the anniversary of the Scarborough, Y. M. C. A. in England, that the moral influence of players who tried to live Christian lives had raised the standard of cricket and sport in general.

A. H. Whitford, secretary Y. M. C. A., has set the church people of Buffalo thinking by the facts about the membership and attendance of men at the churches. He found that out of 300,000 nominal Protestants in that city only 50,000 attended church. Out of 75,000 young men, 45,000 profess allegiance to the Protestant faith, 25,000 are Catholics and 1,000 Hebrews. But less than 20 per cent of the Protestants attended their 125 churches, while 65 per cent of the Catholics were at mass. Out of 25,000 houses visited, less than one-third were found to be occupied. Out of 8,514 male members of Protestant churches only 25 per cent are engaged in Christian service. With these facts in hand, Mr. Whitford is in a position to show the members of the Y. M. C. A. a great field for work.

In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, it is found that conditions were worse prevail. Only 15,000 men out of 80,000 attend the 120 churches.

At three of the Boston Y. M. C. A.'s best athletes were "approached" and offered "inducements" to represent athletic clubs they indignantly refused. They held at heart the ethics of clean sport.

An Anecdote of Mr. Cleveland.

From the Baltimore News. There are many stories told in connection with Mr. Cleveland's hunting trips. One of the best relates to an experience he had while hunting with a friendly Maryland game warden. It occurred during his last term in office. He, together with the Rev. Dr. Henry Van Dyke and Ernest Gittings of this place were spending a few days with "Old Ben," a Maryland friend, who owned a 40-acre forest which was simply overrun with squirrels.

In a log cabin