

THE JOURNAL

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Let another man praise thee, and not thy own mouth. —Solomon.

MORAL OBLIGATION.

RESIDENT MOORE of the failed bank does his duty, keeps a moral obligation, in offering to turn in his private fortune if necessary to insure full payment of the depositors. And we think his conditions are reasonable, or at least only such as almost any man would stipulate for. If there had been any intent to rob the depositors, the case would have been worse against him.

Mr. Lytle's excuse for not following Mr. Moore's example is insufficient and not well founded. He was a director and vice-president of the bank. He was known as a shrewd, successful business man, and capable of managing quite large affairs. As such, depositors depended on and trusted him, many of them perhaps more than Mr. Moore or anyone else.

TAFT AND THE TARIFF.

INTEREST IN Secretary Taft's Columbus speech was discounted by foreknowledge of about what he was going to say. It was largely devoted to the tariff, and his position on that subject has long been pretty well known. Mr. Taft says plainly enough that he is a tariff revisionist, but he is laboriously careful to explain that he is still a protectionist and a good Republican on that question. He advocates a tariff based on the "differential" between the cost of foreign and American production, but if he really means that, a great many Republicans will not believe that he is "sound" on the "sacred" principle of protection, for in many cases where a high duty is now provided for, there is no such differential. We can produce cheaper than the foreigners, and undersell them in their own countries.

CIGARETTES.

IT IS NOT always easy to arrive at the fact from reading alleged "statistics." They are in some cases contradictory; figures are made to lie. Or at least deductions from them are not always correct. We read of the rapid advance of prohibition, for instance, that the prohibition area is growing and the number of saloons in a large part of the country decreasing; and then we read that more spirituous liquors and beer are consumed than ever before. The first fact is apparent; the second, is well authenticated; what is the explanation? So with the cigarette. We have recently read what purported to be statistical figures showing that more cigarettes were manufactured and sold than ever before, and yet it is claimed and seems to be true that in many parts of the country cigarettes are not used so generally and extensively as formerly. In many states their sale to minors is absolutely prohibited, and they are regarded as a mischievous nuisance by a large proportion of society, yet it is said their manufacture and sale are growing. How is this? The anti-cigarette society should look

Congress will have at least six months in which to do this good work before the campaign begins. If the Republican party is honest and in earnest about revising the tariff, why not go into the campaign a year hence with the good job done, instead of with a platform promise that it will or a declaration that it ought to be done, some time? Performance is better than promise. The time to do a right thing is at the first opportunity.

PANIC-MAKING A HARD BUSINESS.

SINCE STANDARD OIL was fined so heavily by Judge Landis, Mr. Rockefeller has joined the pessimists. He says money can be borrowed only with difficulty and at a high rate of interest, and that there is a growing want of "confidence." As soon as a man like Rockefeller begins to talk of a lack of confidence, we may be sure that his schemes for plundering the public are not running quite as smoothly as he desires. The people are beginning somehow to succeed in blocking or checking his game; then he begins to cry "lack of confidence," and to talk and work so as to precipitate a panic rather than submit to the doctrine of a "square deal." The president showed that he had a clear apprehension of these men's motives when in his Provincetown speech he said:

It may all be that the government's determination, in which, gentlemen, it will not waver, to punish certain malefactors of great wealth, has been responsible for something of the troubles; at least to the extent of having caused these men to combine to bring about as much financial stress as they possibly can, in order to discredit the government's policy, and thereby secure a reversal of that policy so that they may enjoy the fruits of their evildoings.

If stocks are going down in Wall street it is because they were too much inflated with water and wind, or because they are the subject of high finance gambling. There has been no loss of property, nor any real depreciation of property that had not been overvalued for speculative purposes. There is also plenty of circulating medium in the country, nearly \$30 per capita, and most of it is in circulation and at work. It is possible that Mr. Rockefeller and a few other rich men could so withdraw and stop the circulation of money as to cause an appreciable stringency, in revenge, for the government's action in prosecuting high finance lawbreakers, but a country-wide panic cannot be so easily produced by them as it could a few years ago. As the Philadelphia North American says:

America has outgrown Wall street. That is the meaning of two stock exchange panics without failures. That is the solution of the inability of Harriman and Rockefeller to stampede the nation by their deliberate slaughter of security quotations. A new system of finance and a new code of commerce are coming into being. The gamblers, tricksters and double-dealers, great and small, fall to see the truth. The brokers and bankers, who still are blinded by long habit of accepting Wall street's patter as inerrant gospel, cannot comprehend that an old era is dead. Only a few broad-minded, far-seeing men among the moneyed leaders—men who are financiers in fact as well as name—grasp the truth that basic conditions in this country are changing.

The aches and pains of Wall street are merely the birth-pains of the new regime. The development of the south and west has relieved the country from financial bondage to Wall street. Or at least the west and south, all the country but its northeast corner, are beginning to "take a tumble" and refuse to play Wall street's game. All the country except Wall street is all right. Let it have its monthly fits; the country will not continue to go into sympathetic spasms.

into it, at least to the extent of seeing whether the laws are enforced or not. Our neighbor state of Washington has a new anti-cigarette law that will go into effect next month, but that it will stop unlawful use of them is not expected. The Spokane Spokesman-Review says: It is a foregone conclusion that the devotee of the coffin-nail, as it is popularly known, that concoction of 15 per cent old waste paper, 85 per cent old-fashioned, unadulterated maldoroussness, will not give up shortening his own life and making the lives of everybody within smelling range miserable simply because a law has been placed on the statute books. Local tobaccoists report that cigarette fiends are already laying in a supply large enough to run them many months after the law goes into effect and are planning to send emissaries to Coeur d'Alene and other nearby points outside the state to buy supplies after the law has begun to be enforced. We have an anti-cigarette law here, and so far as we remember one arrest for smoking and perhaps two or three for selling the nasty little things—as we view them—have been made. The only virtue in a cigarette, remarks the Spokane paper, is its tendency to kill the user, but in the meanwhile he "goes through life puffing like a steam engine, rolling pills as industriously as a thresher in a harvest field, yellow-staining the forefinger as though paint had been smeared on with a brush, and causing the air to reek as though the lid had carelessly been left off of hades and the air had been further contaminated by being forced through an onion garden, an asafetida bottling works, a limburger factory and a skunk farm." This is the way it seems to many, perhaps to most people, yet they must remember that to the smokers cigarettes are a delightfully aromatic and innocent thing of joy. And there are plenty of doctors who will say that they are not deleterious to health. But we think the evidence is overwhelmingly the other way.

OREGON COAL FIELDS.

A GREAT need of Oregon is coal. Officially, statistically, Oregon has no coal except in Coos county, where large mines have been worked successfully for many years. But it is known that there are other large coal deposits, notably in Tillamook county. These, it is presumed, will be opened up soon after the railroad is completed to Tillamook. A large and considerably prospected field also lies in Morrow county, only a few miles from Heppner, but there is no immediate prospect of a railroad being built to it. Indications of coal in commercial quantities and of value have been found in various other parts of the state—in Jackson county, near Scott's Mills in Marion county, in Malheur county, and elsewhere—and there is no reason to doubt that development would show these and other prospects to be very valuable. This is a matter of public interest and importance. Coal mines would benefit everybody. If it could be done it would pay the state to tax itself heavily to get several large coal mines into operation. This cannot be done, but might not something be done to encourage and hasten prospecting and development? Among the many things that Portland is looking out for and trying to bring about, nothing is more important than this, if anything can be done.

THE JACKSONIAN PRESIDENT.

THE PRESIDENT'S Provincetown address gave no satisfaction to the "interests" and trusts, and renewed, if any further renewal were possible, the people's confidence in him. He has done some mysterious things, but not many people can doubt his sincerity and flirity of purpose after reading that speech. The people believe in him, and would be glad to elect him, but if he is not to be prevailed upon to become a candidate, the Republican party will be forced, probably, to nominate the man he prefers, if he chooses to exercise a controlling influence over the convention. It is supposed that his choice is Secretary of War Taft, who is admitted on all hands to be a large man otherwise as well as physically, and a good man, but he is not Roosevelt, nor is he much like Roosevelt. He is a different type of man in important particulars. He seems to be a kind of a medium character between those of McKinley and Roosevelt. Would he better or live up to Roosevelt's instructions? Or would he react toward the McKinley style of statesmanship? But the president's speech was "great." It was just what was needed. The country needs just now a president who cannot be scared by the fellows who threaten a panic every time their plundering privileges are threatened or criticized, or they cannot successfully dictate to

all branches of the government. The country has not had a president since Andrew Jackson, who was as fearless of these evil forces as Roosevelt. The country ought to be profoundly thankful for him, with all his faults—Jackson had some, too—and hope and pray for a successor who will not be in any respect a weakling.

PRIMARY LAW AND PARTY AGAIN.

THE HARNEY VALLEY NEWS, ex-Speaker Davey's paper, says: "The Portland Journal, the daily organ of Democracy in Oregon, is pursuing a bold and daring course with the intention of developing a portion of the Republican voters of the state and weaning them away from their natural political allegiance." The News is one of a few ultra partisan papers that "view with alarm" The Journal's fight for the maintenance, in all its integrity, and for all its purposes, including the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people, of the primary law. While not daring openly to attack that law, and especially the senatorial feature of it, these papers, speaking for a number of ambitious politicians, are meaning and trying to undermine and in effect destroy this law, and bring about a return to former political conditions in this state. Hence they cry that The Journal is trying to seduce Republican voters from "their natural political allegiance."

The Journal is not trying to do this at all, unless it follows as a natural and incidental consequence of what it does advocate, namely: Government by the people, to the greatest extent possible, rather than by a gang of self-seeking and non-representative politicians; the making of the people's interests paramount to the interests of any party; and in local elections the selection of the better, truer men, regardless of their politics. This is The Journal's political platform, and if approval of it by voters leads them out of the Republican party, then it is that party and not The Journal that is at fault. The Journal asks no Republican to leave his party, unless he believes, on indubitable facts presented, that it is best for the people generally and for himself to do so. It asks voters to see and consider the truth, the facts, of various kinds, in matters political; then to act intelligently, honestly, and if they think circumstances demand, independently. And in the elucidation of matters political The Journal occasionally takes occasion to point out the hypocrisy of the pretenses and the evils of the practices of thoroughly organized political parties—one, having the same strength and opportunities, being ordinarily just about like another.

By the way, no man has any "natural political allegiance." We suppose this means that a man should always adhere, under all circumstances, to the same party his father did; that if he was a Republican at 21 he must remain a Republican till he is 91, if he lives so long. A man owes a natural allegiance to his government, unless it becomes so bad that he thinks it should be overthrown by a revolution; but there is no such thing as a "natural" party "allegiance." If that were true, it would be a one-party government, with no chance of change or reform, perpetually. The News cares a great deal about party; The Journal little. The Journal cares a great deal about the people; to the News they are a secondary and minor consideration. And in the people's interest The Journal insists that the primary law be fully and in spirit and letter maintained, and all insidious attacks on it exposed and resisted. What effect this will have on parties we do not inquire, for we do not care.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF TELEPHONES.

M. R. T. JOHNSON, in a communication to The Journal, very pertinently suggests that the failure of the Oregon Trust & Savings bank, showing up the price of Home Telephone securities, is a pointer toward the advantages of municipal ownership. If a telephone company, or any other public service corporation, is to pay dividends on more than double the actual cash invested in its plant, why couldn't or shouldn't the city, the people, take hold of this public service and do it at half the charge that the private corporation can, after selling its securities, including both bonds and stock, for less than 50 cents on the dollar? We confess that we see no good reason why a city should not own its telephone system as well as its water system, and be able to operate it at much less cost to the people than the private corporations charge, except that private ownership is a custom, and the people are timid about making

a change to public ownership. Besides, the corporation having a foothold, and franchises running through a long period of years, it is scarcely worth while to urge or lengthily discuss public ownership now. But we think that the next generation will be more courageous and wiser, and will look upon private ownership that costs the people twice the reasonable and necessary value of the service as too great a folly to be endured or even thought of seriously. The people have yet to be educated up to the fact that private ownership of such a public utility involves a needless and foolish burden.

HARRIMAN AND CENTRAL OREGON.

PREDICTING that a certain railroad project, on which the people up there had placed considerable confidence, would be abandoned, the Prineville Review says: It's an old game, this railroad game, but the same old bluff will invariably work when made by the man who has the most money at his command. For central Oregon we are sorry, but there is no use in trying to hide the facts. The very minute someone tries to project a line into this territory Mr. Harriman gets busy and the other man will quit before he does. Then he'll quit. He would rather expend a half million to keep another man out than to add another half million and built into central Oregon. Was ever there another such case of perversity? It is doubtful if the railroad magnate would allow even a horse road constructed from the Columbia to Crooked river.

This is bitter, but scarcely an exaggeration. The people of Klamath Falls and vicinity are feeling quite friendly to Harriman, because they are to have a railroad—to San Francisco. Any region whose trade can be diverted to San Francisco Mr. Harriman may allow to have a railroad, but all the great region of central Oregon, lest it might be brought into connection with Portland, must wait on indefinitely, year after year. Is it possible that this man can keep that region of some 50,000 square miles from having a railroad for another generation or decade? Hops are the meaneast crop in the land. That, they are the most uncertain. For a year or two the grower may get a good, big price and make quite a lot of money, and then for several years his yards may scarcely pay the expense of caring for and picking. So it is no wonder that a lot of growers are threatening to plow up their yards. It may be best to do so, and yet perhaps next year hops may be away up again. One can never tell a year ahead. It is said that a prisoner is not to be blamed for escaping if he can; that it is to be expected that he should do this, and he should be excused for escaping or trying to escape. This is all right, but if the prisoner understands that an unsuccessful attempt to escape involves certain punishment thereafter, he ought not to complain if that punishment is inflicted, providing it is not "cruel or unusual." He took his chance of this punishment. But it should not be administered revengefully.

Public and Corporate Prosecutions. From the Wall Street Journal Aug. 14. In the prosecution of corporations for the purpose of enforcing obedience to law and punishing infractions thereof, it is highly important that the great body of the public be kept in mind as a reserve factor in the issue. The general public wants to see above all things, a free and fair effort at achieving justice. Yet there are two mistakes that help to detach public confidence in prosecutions of this kind. One mistake is that in which the technical violation of law is exaggerated out of its due rank as a means of conviction. However great the difficulty in getting evidence, it is doubtful whether any case based upon public opinion will sustain penalties upon what is incidentally and rather than essentially a technical wrong. Prosecutions which depend upon such points easily seem to be political, rather than animated by the judicial spirit seeking to enforce law. Another thing which weakens the public confidence as a source of support in the prosecution of corporations is the apparently fixed purpose to secure convictions at all hazards. The tendency of officers of justice to feel bound to secure convictions as a means of maintaining their places in office has attained a strength in some quarters which makes it easy for a big corporation, no corporation is safe, no matter what its record of respect for law. These two motives are dangerous elements in governmental activity—the seizure of some incidental violation of law where no essential disregard was present, and the purpose to make an accusation equal to conviction, regardless of the defense that may be offered.

This Date in History.

- 1560—The reformation established by Scots parliament.
1580—Battle of Alcantara.
1584—Louis XIV. born.
1585—The Spanish Armada, besieged by the Spaniards.
1683—Iroquois Indians captured Montreal.
1700—Prussians defeated the Russians at battle of Zorndorf.
1770—Thomas Chatterton found dead in his garret in London.
1814—Louisiana purchased by the U. S.
1815—Bank of Canada commenced operations in Montreal.
1821—Jehudi Ashmun, American missionary who saved the colony of Liberia, died in Boston. Born 1794.
1830—Revolution in Brussels.
1846—Louis Bonaparte, ex-king of Holland, died.
1890—United States cruiser Baltimore sailed for Sweden with the body of Humbert.
1900—Bread, the assassin of King Humbert, sentenced to imprisonment for life.
1906—Many killed and injured by explosion of a bomb in the residence of the Russian premier, Stolypin.

amount being more than double the rate of insurance in any regular insurance company. The employee remained long enough with the company, which was practically the balance of his natural life, he would receive a stipulated sum and pension, and the pension, which was in reality a part of what he had paid in. But if for any reason he was discharged a few years before the age limit expired and then that what he was out the money he paid in. By this means the railroad would accumulate hundreds of thousands of dollars without interest, and the reason for retaining it would no doubt present itself so strongly that a good excuse could always be found for discharging the employee before he could get his hands on any of the money. The scheme did not work, however, as the San Francisco papers put up such a howl about fraud that it was abandoned.

RAILROAD SLAVES

There is an unwritten law that a railroad employee should engage in a business outside of his profession, either actively, which is right, or otherwise, which is wrong. The object of the law is to keep the employee dependent on the railroad, thereby permitting them to regulate his wages owing to the fact that the railroad would be so fortunate as to have money to invest after paying living expenses, which is very doubtful, he might be some indigent person who would rob them, or be in a position to demand more wages, hence they take a rather drastic course. For a few years ago I saw a man who was a slave, and was not following with love for his employer, consequently the letter above referred to was sent to him, and the public is extremely doubtful, was forced upon them in order to hold their positions, and could be so treated by the public. Listen to the words of the public, the employee is most seriously injured by hostile legislation, we have just cause to advance the price of oil, the railroads are making money, and the public will public may reduce salaries to make up what they so happily term their loss of revenue.

Again: "The means applied to extort money from the earnings of the railroad, and the means applied to the public view. The reprehensible practice of being 'brought up' can be expressed by the army of employees exercising their right to strike, and the public will be wholly unconcerned, while their pockets are being picked. Isn't this the case? The public is not to be taken in by the foregone, overlooked a very important point in his argument. He forgot to mention that the reprehensible practice of being 'brought up' is not the public whom the railroad trusts, but the public whom the railroad trusts for fraudulent purposes, money that should have gone into the pockets of the army of men who make it possible for the railroad to thrive. He forgot also to mention the fact that out of the 'corruption fund' maintained by the railroads millions are being used to bribe legislators by robbing the public of their just dues and forcing them to take action for self protection. To quote again: "Business principle and business laws have been violated and outraged. The public is being robbed, and that is the reason why there is 'hostile legislation.' "Relief, if it comes, must be secured by public action, and that action must be an concert of action between those who supply the cash and those who furnish the physical force to keep it in motion. Where do the railroads obtain the cash and where is the source? Right here it might be well to remind these employees who expect to do so much for the railroads and who so earnestly demand that the public be kept in mind, to recall the attention of the railroads to the fact that if there were no racially public action, the railroads would be able to exert the aforesaid physical force, and both the railroad and the employee would go begging. There is an old saying: "The goose that lays the golden egg, and while it is true that the public has been the goose with a big, and has been yielding the golden egg for many years, the time is coming when the goose will have her lining, and if those in charge of railroads could but foresee this, and instead of antagonizing the public, cooperate with them in the upbuilding of the country, then and not till then will the agitation for legislative reform cease." The letter goes on as follows:

"Railway employees have been, and are, driven near to industrial bankruptcy in this state (Washington) by vicious legislation, to a great extent outside of their own indifference and neglect." Shade of Mount Tacoma! What drive is this. Once more: "It is painful to see that railway employees, by their inaction and failure to stand fearlessly in defense of their rights, have encouraged the organization of legislative reform, which is permitted to continue to exist and threaten the destruction of much good property and the loss of giving thousands good employment." Through all this you will observe a plaintive plea for the protection of the railroad from the "booding public." Doubtless the legislative bodlers referred to are the legislators who are the railroad commissions of the different states. Their activity certainly does no good to the arbitrary rule of the railroads, but it is a measure to drive them out of existence, but it is a foregone conclusion that they have come to stay, and that the people will take a hand in the regulation of railroads. It is to be sincerely hoped that the "twentieth century" will give the place to the gentlemen who organized that institution have left themselves open to so much ridicule and censure and will be a pity to have the railroad men here make a sorry spectacle of themselves.

Albany is Bound to Grow.

From the Albany Democrat. If everybody would get in and talk Albany up, it would be a wonderful thing. Before things would be humming here. We are the best situated for a big inland city of any town in the state, with a ready-made splendid start in transportation facilities, with 26 trains a day, running splendidly for business purposes. The fact that the trains appreciate what a large number come in on them to secure the superior advantages of the Albany stores. We have the biggest saw-mill factory in the state; a condensed milk factory under way; a fine sawmill ready to start in a few days; two ice works, a soda water works, a paper mill, a brewery, two butter factories and other industries, good schools, plenty of churches, and able citizens, and a cement walks than any city of its size in Oregon, fine residences, well-kept lawns, fine sewerage system, fine water works, and a splendid class of citizens, with a good society. All these things are a good starter for a big city and a prosperous one.

Portland Experiments.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian. Portland, Oregon, is the first city in the United States to pass an avowedly anti-trust law—one which reflects the spirit which the national anti-trust law is supposed to express. It is an experiment which will be watched with much interest as the famous "trust-busting" experiment, which gave to the world a new formula for municipal government, and which has been imitated by several progressive cities, notably Des Moines, Iowa. If Portland makes even a measurable

success of her municipal trust-busting experiment, it will give the place as much advertising as the Lewis and Clark fair did, and will do her every bit as much good as the exposition did.

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