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GRAFT VERSUS PUBLIC GOOD

Sixth Article by C. P. Strain, Assessor of Umatilla County

It has been my purpose in the preceding articles to demonstrate two significant facts:

1. That political government, here and everywhere, springs from indirect government—that is, from a concentration of power into the hands of rulers, irresponsible to the people.
2. That popular government is best adapted to units of medium size, assisting its adoption by the states sooner than by the nation.

The facts of history brought together in logical sequence prove the first of these propositions with an overwhelming array of evidence.

It is carved upon the tablets of human experience in characters, unobscurable and imperishable. Not only this, but not the contrasts between people of kindred races, differing only in their political institutions.

Expansion of morals and industry keep pace with the swelling tide of democracy in Japan, while decay and sin mark the path of Chinese autocracy.

Leadership of the white race has fallen to America and England, the most democratic among the great Caucasian nations.

The finger of destiny points toward democracy as the future star of true national greatness.

Popular government, as we know it in Oregon, having but little history, its adaptation to the various governments of our country, can be judged only by the logic of demonstrable probabilities.

Federal Incorporation.

The distribution of power over commerce between the states and the nation is not yet clearly defined.

In section 8 of article 1, of the federal constitution this language occurs: "The congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, exclusively interstate commerce, and among the several states and with the Indian tribes."

Those desiring to investigate the subject of interstate commerce exhaustively can find considerable information relating to it in the report of the industrial commission, a summary of which information is in volume 1, pages 232-237 inclusive.

The power to charter corporations has been and is now conceded to the states, even though it may be known that their purpose is to engage exclusively interstate commerce.

Domestic corporations are those chartered within a state. Foreign corporations are those chartered outside of it.

The power of any state to exclude the products of the business of a foreign concern is not clearly defined.

But foreign corporations must comply with the laws of each state which they enter.

The present is a period in our history fraught with mighty possibilities for good or evil.

Predatory corporations, doing an interstate business, have precipitated an epoch-making crisis upon the country. They have indirectly bribed the states of the union to enter into a competition for the granting of dangerous corporate privileges.

States find much profit in corporate taxation. Those offering strongest inducements by way of conferring privilege or immunity attract to themselves the largest number of illegitimate concerns wishing license to prey upon the people.

This exchange of spoils for privilege between corporations and state politicians has raised the present issue of interstate commerce.

Many of the states derive a very large portion of their revenue from these

sources, some of them maintaining their entire state governments in this way.

It means that the nation will lose the inspiring examples of such state executives as La Follette, whose successful fights against corporate abuses goad officials everywhere to a higher sense of public duty. It means that popular governments within the states will be deprived of the principal subjects under their present jurisdiction, necessitating extension of direct government to the nation in order to retain popular control of important public affairs.

It will multiply the powers of the federal government, which the people do not and cannot hope to control under its present organization, at the expense of state governments over which they exercise a growing authority.

In other words, federal incorporation would be an alarming retrogressive movement—a contraction of power into the federal government which is so largely irresponsible to the people under its present organization, and which would be difficult to administer directly by them under the system because of its size.

Federal License.

Federal license will afford the people of the country at large all of the benefits claimed for federal incorporation without necessarily exposing them to its dangers.

A federal license will not disturb the present balance of powers between the states and the nation.

Persons desiring to enter a state now must pause at the state line and qualify for admission.

States protect their citizens in many ways through the exercise of power. For instance, our state requires of a foreign fire insurance company a deposit of \$50,000 as a guarantee that it will meet its obligations within the state.

We protect life and labor by holding foreign corporations responsible for injuries inflicted by them through their own negligence or through that of their employees.

Nobody knows to what extent such powers as these would be lost to the states through federal incorporation. But many of them certainly would be.

A federal license will cooperate with the states. It will meet corporations at the boundary line of the state of their origin, requiring them to qualify to the satisfaction of the federal authorities as a condition of passing out of the state and assuming liability.

Advocates of federal incorporation are of three classes:

- 1.—Federal officials who see the question from a national standpoint as it now presents itself.
- 2.—Predatory classes who wish to escape lawful restraint.
- 3.—Corporations unwilling to submit to the inconvenience of divided control.

Nothing is more natural than for admirers of the Washington government to object to all obstructions in their way.

Whatever they do is, of course, right in their own opinion. State lines appear to them scarcely more than shelters for transgressors against the law. In their pursuit of public enemies they recognize no limit to the chase.

Yet their country's history marks the federal movement as the favorite asylum of the criminal class.

Mr. Archibald and John D. Rockefeller of Standard Oil, Mr. Rogers of the National Transit company, Mr. Gates and Mr. Pam of the American Steel and Wire company, are on record as witnesses before the industrial commission as favoring federal control.

The predatory interests of the country favor it now with practical unanimity.

It is my intention to be entirely impartial. But it is the duty of every citizen to guard the welfare of his country. In this connection, strong conviction impels me to suggest that our senators should be required to modify his position upon the question of interstate commerce.

Metzger, jeweler, optician, 845 Wash.

CUPID LAUGHS AT OFFICIALS

Son of Congressman McKinlay Gets Married in Spite of Opposition.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—That love will always find a way in spite of obstacles is again exemplified in the case of Duncan McKinlay, son of Congressman McKinlay, and Miss Helen Vivian Hendricks of Berkeley.

Despite the refusal of the marriage license clerk in Oakland to grant him a permit to wed Miss Hendricks, young McKinlay is today a benedict. Instead of postponing the marriage ceremony, the refusal of the Oakland official to prepare the necessary papers hastened it by about 18 hours.

Young McKinlay, who is but 20 years old, appears with his bride-to-be at the office of Deputy County Clerk Frank Thompson in Oakland yesterday afternoon, but was refused a license.

The refusal to grant the license was based by Thompson on the fact that Congressman McKinlay's signature to the formal letter of consent produced by his son was not attested. Young McKinlay argued with the clerk but the official cupped proved obdurate.

The couple then hurried to San Francisco, secured a license and were married shortly before midnight.

BUSINESS CHANGES MADE AT ROSEBURG

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Roseburg, Or., Jan. 4.—Among the business changes of the new year is the formation of a new law firm, composed of the following: Louis Barzee, for many years a leading educator of the state and at one time president of the Drain normal school; E. L. Cannon, who also has had years of experience in education; and distinguished for oratorical ability, having twice won the silver cup at the university and represented that institution in the state intercollegiate contest.

Another business change is that of the Corner Grocery, B. A. Hunsaker having sold the business to Johnson and Harness, two of Roseburg's promising young business men. The new firm will take charge January 6.

Astoria Lodges Install Officers.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Astoria, Or., Jan. 4.—Lodges of Astoria have installed officers as follows: Charity lodge No. 53, Degree of Honor—Past chief of honor, W. C. A. Fohl; chief of honor, Hannah Porter; L. of H., Emma Cyrus; G. of C., Barbara Hartwig; recorder, W. C. A. Fohl; financier, A. R. Cyrus; warden, Mary Spelmair.

Beaver lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F.—Past chief, G. A. Y. Anderson; V. G., Olaf Anderson; secretary, John Hahn; financial secretary, J. L. Kline; treasurer, E. A. Gibbous; ward, Doug C. Young; conductor, Gust Anderson; R. S. N. G., J. W. Habbidge; L. S. N. G., Thomas J. Whitcomb; O. G., Emil Peterson; J. G. W. A. Peterson, R. S. V. G.; J. R. Anderson; L. S. V. G., C. S. Wright; chaplain, W. Olson; R. S. S., W. F. Jones.

GOVERNMENT SETTLES WITH ENPEE RAILROAD

Monster Deed Filed at Pendleton Giving Line Land Won in Controversy.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Pendleton, Or., Jan. 4.—A monster deed from the United States government to the Northern Pacific Railroad company is now at the county recorder's office to be filed. It is a patent for 18,150 acres of land and the transaction represents the government's fulfillment of its obligation to the railroad company in the famous overlap controversy. The deed covers 35 pages of manuscript, and the land specified lies in Umatilla, Morrow and Wasco counties.

Most of the land included in the deed was formerly in private hands but was relinquished to the government which desired it in fulfilling its obligation to the Northern Pacific. Those who relinquished land to the government were given forest reserve scrips which are worth much more per acre than was the land they relinquished. It is specified in the patent that in cases where land designated in the instrument is held by private ownership the railroad company may secure scrip which will entitle it to land in lieu thereof.

ATTELL KICKS TRAINER IN GROIN IN DISPUTE

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—Abe Attell, the American featherweight champion, and Kid Farmer, the Chicago welterweight, who has been acting as the little Hebrew's trainer, mixed it on Fillmore street last night. Attell getting the decision after landing a heavy left full on Farmer's groin.

The boys had a disagreement over money matters, and in the course of the argument Farmer called Attell a "cheap guy."

Attell retorted by calling Farmer an ingrate, and then the fists began to fly. Attell struck Farmer in the face and a mixup followed. After the breakaway Attell turned loose his foot and the stuff was off, friends interfering and preventing further damage.

MILLMEN PROVIDE FOR FUTURE ACCIDENTS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Silverton, Or., Jan. 4.—The men employed at the Silverton Lumber company's mill in this city, numbering about 75, have organized an association which will provide members with medical attendance and treatment in case of illness or injury. J. K. Mount was elected president, Ed Rule secretary, and W. A. Reynolds treasurer. Each member will be required to pay \$1 per month into the treasury.

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