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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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It would be wisdom for every man to examine his voting, since the reaping is beyond his changing.—Ian MacLaren.

LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES.

SEVERAL machine organs are repeating the following statement of the Eugene Register:

The Register desires to add Statement No. 3 to the primary law, which is in effect as follows: That fitness of the candidates for the office of legislature is of vastly more importance to the state of Oregon than any provision that can be contained in Statements No. 1 or 2 of the law.

Ex-Governor Geer has repeatedly voiced this proposition. The Journal has several times answered it, and will do so once more, briefly.

There is nothing before the people of Oregon just now so important as to elect senators by vote of the people—to bring government straight home to the people.

There is no reason to suppose that Statement No. 1 candidates for the legislature are worse, less capable or less trustworthy, than Statement No. 2 or "Statement No. 3" men. The Statement No. 1 men are fighting for a great principle. The whole country is watching the battle.

Look over the tickets—in Multnomah, in Marion, in Lane, in Umatilla, in Clackamas—If among the Statement No. 1 candidates there is a horse thief, a swindler, a bad man, vote against him; this will be right.

The question is: Shall the people rule? Beyond and above party, above and beyond Smith, Jones and Brown, this question, this issue rises, it will not and cannot be obscured by this chatter and claptrap about the personal fitness of Tompkins and Robinson.

The Statement No. 1 candidates are, otherwise, at least as good and trustworthy as the others; the chances are that they are a little more so. The man who trusts the people, who is ready and willing to obey the people, who lives close to the people and tries to understand and serve them, is likely to be a better man in the legislature than the man who is a tool of a political machine, and has no thought, politically, but one of party.

THE ROOT OF THE TROUBLE.

THE agency that has done more than all else to bring harm to the Republican party in Oregon has been legislative election of senator. It has been the Nemesis of the party, bringing upon the whole party retribution for the sins of a few leaders and bosses.

Ambitious politicians have sown to the winds, and the party has reaped the whirlwind. They have deceived the party with their personal ambitions, and split it with their uncompromising factionalism. They kept it for 30 years in turmoil, discord, division and turbulence. Their way to preferment lay through 40 days of riot at Salem, with every thimble-rigger and every ward heeler in the state a figure in the game.

The purpose in a legislative session was, not to legislate, but to buy, traffic, barter, bully senatorial votes. Wine, women and song, shameful as it is to admit it, were assets in this saturnalia of scandal. As Senator Fulton, who ought to know, says, "Men of the highest character in the state went to lengths and did things they were no doubt ashamed of ever afterward." It was a political orgy for patrons of Mexican bull fights to turn from with disgust. It began at the beginning of the session and before, ran roughshod through it and everything pertaining to it for 49 weary days, and at the dismal midnight of the last day elected, or did not elect, a senator, as the case happened. Honest, decent men went to the session respected and respectable, and came away with the brand of hoolie on their foreheads and loot in their pockets. Reputations were taken there as resplendent as the noonday sun, to come away tarnished and tainted. "That money, large sums of it, was not only offered, but received and by men of the highest standing in the state," is the statement of Senator Fulton in his reply to Henry.

Records of the federal courts in Oregon reek with the nasty record of

some of these senatorial miscarriages, related there as testimony in the trials of convicted and condemned politicians. The trail of corruption and license leads from the assembly chamber at Salem to the McNeill's Island prison, to the senate chamber at Washington, into departments at the national capitol and through the newspapers of the United States, heaping contumely and odium upon the otherwise fair name of Oregon.

How could any party survive such a system? What wonder that 20 years of man-corrupting, legislative-wrecking, party demoralizing riot should have turned the Republican party into factions, uprooted its foundations, and given the state Democratic governors? Dolph assassinated by a blow in the dark, Mitchell with enough votes at his back to elect, defeated by a hold-up session, Simon turned down ignominiously to please the ambition of others, Corbett bled of his dollars by a greedy horde of bloodsuckers, such is some of the putrid record, and what and where is the party that could survive it? What but the honorable traditions of the organization under such a bedlam of viciousness and vice, could have survived so long?

And, in spite of all this odium, in spite of the reading and dismemberment of the Republican party, in spite of this rotten record of shame made by politicians and pirates, a scheme has been unloosed to re-establish the system in the state, and false prophets and false friends of Republicanism are counseling its rehabilitation. Even Senator Fulton, protesting his devotion to his party, recipient from it of its highest honors, indebted to it as much as is any other man, is a non-committal friend of the foul system that has brought his party nothing but wreck and ruin. From one end to the other of the state, legislative candidates are appearing with bogus and deceptive pledges, from the Rev. Mr. Bonebrake's "majority" little joker in Benton to the "Republican voters' choice" in Multnomah, all for the purpose of creating a complexity and variety of statements that will ultimately throw the senatorial election into the legislature, and reenthroned the old system once more. It is an amazing spectacle, even in Oregon, where we are accustomed to spectacles, but more's the pity 'tis true.

THE VICTORIOUS RAILROADS.

INTERESTING news by wire is to the effect that the railroads are preparing to "press home" their victory in the United States supreme court, wherein it was held that states have not the power to regulate fare and freight rates, even on railroads wholly within their own borders. Their program is to carry the war into those states in which 2-cent fare laws have been put into effect by state legislatures. What adds to the interest is that 153 men own and control 89 per cent of the miles of railroad operated in the country.

The figures are authentic, being from senate document No. 278 of the first session of the sixtieth congress, embracing the report of the Interstate commerce commission. Further figures from the same source show that to these 153 men goes 94 per cent of the gross earnings of all the operated railroads in the nation. And, if these facts are not sufficiently significant to arouse the concern of the thoughtful citizen, there is the charge made by Congressman Lloyd on the floor of the house the other day. He declared, and submitted figures to prove it, that the government had been robbed of more than \$70,000,000 since 1880 by railroads carrying the mails. He demanded to know, and with perfect reason, why suits have not been brought against the railroads to recover this money.

The charge recalls the notorious incident in the last congress when a special committee, after months of investigation and backed by the recommendation of the postmaster general, advised a reduction of \$12,000,000 in the allowance to the railroads for transportation of mails, only to be met with a blunt refusal by congress to make a cut of more than \$2,000,000.

With so many good things at the hands of courts and congress, is it not to be expected that the 153 men who receive all but 6 per cent of the profits of the railroad world should "press home" their victory, and push on to demolish the little power left to what were once sovereign states?

KOREA. THE assassination of Durham W. Stevens was a tragical episode growing out of a long system of misgovernment. Stevens was to the Korean court what Robert Hart was to China—adviser, interpreter, lawyer. He was an employe and agent of Japan, yet advised well for Korea. He saw the Koreans utterly unfit for self-government; corrupt, ripe for national destruction; so Stevens advised the absorption of Korea by Japan. This may not have been quite justifiable. History will judge. Some remarks of the Detroit News-Tribune, however, are interesting. It says:

The Japs have learned to ape the western sophistries with which the conscience is assuaged, while the hand grows. They are giving the Koreans some real western "benevolent assimilation" under the excuse of "manifest destiny." They are making the back parts of Korea "bloom like a rose garden," and the streets and squares of the

capital to "shine like housewives' porcelain." They are "developing" trade and industry, promoting hygiene, morals, education and religion. It is the same old story, old as man. Japan showed Korea that she could whip her to a standstill, and Korea preferred to stand still and forego the whipping. Hence the spectacle of a subject race being exploited. Occasional outbursts are to be expected of any subject race. It is a way a worm has.

Yes, the worm turned, but the robin, having swallowed it, sings defiantly.

SOME WHEAT FIGURES.

OUT of the interior wheat growing region come encouraging reports for the coming year. Winter wheat, it is said, is in good shape in the interior west, there being ample moisture, while other conditions were favorable to its growth. As compared with a corresponding time last spring the farmers are nearly a month ahead in their work and already the seeding of spring wheat has begun. The present outlook is much more favorable than it was a year ago when half a billion dollars' worth of wheat was grown in the United States.

Last year the estimated production of wheat was:

World, bushels..... 3,060,120,000
Value..... \$2,448,098,000
United States, bushels..... 625,874,000
Value..... \$500,460,500
Export wheat, bushels..... 76,539,428
Value..... \$60,214,285
Export flour, barrels..... 15,584,667
Value..... \$42,175,337
Home consumed, bushels..... 425,088,775
Value..... \$348,071,025

Commenting on these figures a Mississippi valley exchange thus philosophizes: "If by any possible coincidence every grain of wheat should be blighted for one year this might be a pretty hungry country and still a single grain is rather an insignificant atom. But it means more to mortals than all the gold in the world. Man must have bread and man has failed to discover a substitute for wheat of which bread is made."

Why wouldn't corn do? It would save the world from starvation. But let us not worry; the wheat will grow, and the corn, and the barley, and the grass, and we shall be fed. America will for generations yet feed itself, and help largely to feed the world.

ALL RIGHT—BUT DOUBTFUL.

Weeks ago the Oregonian showed how utterly unfit the Aldrich currency bill is, and gave the reasons why it should not pass. But it has passed the senate, and now the commercial and industrial organizations of New York and other eastern cities are holding meetings to protest against it, and sending resolutions to the house, which declare that there would better be no currency legislation than this.—Oregonian.

YES, and "weeks ago," and months ago, and years ago, the Oregonian has shown how "utterly unfit" the tariff law is; yet that paper now frequently practically asserts that the Republican party can do no wrong—is the acme and summary of political wisdom and virtue.

What are we to believe? If the Republican party can and will do no wrong, why doesn't it then defeat—or pass—the Aldrich bill? Morgan, eminent Republican, wants the bill passed; Scott, eminent Republican, wants it defeated. This situation represents the Republican party.

Yet hurrah for the lustrious, luminous, historical, Grand Old Party. Possibly, however, a political amateur and inquirer may be pardoned if he ventures to entertain a faint suspicion that "party" is a good deal of a delusion. At least, under the mentioned circumstances, and when so many "doctors" disagree, we claim the liberty of a doubt.

PARTY.

THIS statement appears in several exchanges: "Parties must be preserved, for only through their medium can constitutional government be carried on. Party fealty is necessary and should be shown in upholding party principles, promoting good government, purity in public office and harmony in party efforts; unsettled allegiance, discord and factional differences should be condemned."

But what is "party" good for unless it serves the people? Fealty to whom, to what? Let us know; the world is inquiring. What has party done for Farmer Smith and Mechanic Jones?

We want public men to serve the people, not party.

The Detroit News seems to have some doubt about Tom Lawson's scheme. It remarks: "The well-known reputation of the Guggenheim twins for philanthropy, and of Tom Lawson for moral reform in gambling, almost justifies the public confidence in his latest sale of gold dollars at a liberal discount for cash."

"Judge Gray's boom is starting, and if it doesn't stop too many times by the wayside it might reach Denver on time," says an exchange. It will never get across the prairies.

One of the most significant signs of the campaign is the eleventh-hour change of heart which is being experienced by a number of legislative candidates who entered the field originally as opponents of Statement No. 1. During the last three or four weeks reports have come from va-

rious counties telling of a sudden change of front on the part of sundry of these gentlemen. Awaking at last to a realization of the fact that the voters are in deadly earnest in their demand that United States senators shall be elected in Oregon hereafter by vote of the whole people, these candidates have "flopped" with varying degrees of grace and agility and have now subscribed to Statement No. 1. Certainly better late than never. But we fancy that their chances of election would have been much improved if they had subscribed to the statement in the first instance. No man who seeks election to the legislature should be in doubt upon a principle of such importance as this.

The Pacific Outlook (Los Angeles) remarks: "The Harrimans and the Calhouns are greater anarchists than the hungry men who throw bombs. The greater a man's intelligence and responsibility, the greater the crime of which he is the author." This is a truth worth thinking about.

Letters From the People

Appreciation of Fairness. Solo, Or., April 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—I wish to congratulate you on your editorial, under the caption "Free Speech," that appeared in The Journal of March 30. In this editorial you displayed an intelligence, honesty and fairness that is truly commendable, and I feel that I should let you know that there is one of your readers, at least, who appreciated it.

While this may be the only congratulatory letter you receive regarding this editorial, don't think that I am the only one who appreciates and approves of it, for I am sure that every right-thinking person in the country will approve of it most heartily.

I attribute the progress and greatness of our country more to the freedom of speech and press than to all other factors combined, and he who seeks to curtail this freedom by force is an anarchist of the worst type.

I am personally acquainted with Emma Goldman, and while I think she is entirely wrong in her views on sociology, still she is by no means the demon she is often pictured to be. With her it is an error of the head rather than of the heart. I have no fears of her ever converting any considerable number of the people to her views. Then let her talk as long as she does not advocate violence. I have heard her lecture and have read her literature, and there is some wheat among the chaff. To forcibly suppress that which we cannot meet with logic is to admit our weakness and nothing more. It would be more truly un-American.

You will probably remember me as the author of the editorial in the Journal of last summer for the manner in which your reporter handled the report of the Haywood trial. I think the verdict of the jury proved that my criticism was just. But, however that may be, I wish to assure you that I am equally as quick to commend and congratulate you on a good sensible editorial as I am to condemn that which appears to me as wrong.

With best wishes for The Journal and trusting that your editorial treatment of all subjects will be characterized by the same fairness and common sense as the one alluded to. O. E. CYRUS.

Where did Senator Fulton Stand? Portland, Or., April 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—There is one thing I would like to hear from our senior senator upon while he is in the state. He is a member of the subcommittee of the judiciary committee of the senate. They have recently had under consideration the Bacon bill, and reached what seemed a rather premature conclusion, and many of the senator's constituents would like to know where he stood.

This Bacon bill is the old Hepburn-Dolliver bill under a new name, and its history runs something like this: When the "original package" of the supreme court gave the liquor trade the right to ship liquors into "dry" territory, the temperance people of the country immediately commenced to try and have the law amended so this could not be done.

This is the American idea of "fair play." When a state decides it has had enough of the liquor traffic and prohibits it, it is not fair play for the general government to tie its hands and hold it while the liquor trade continues to flourish from just over the border. To accomplish this amendment the old Hepburn-Dolliver bill was introduced. It ever failed to pass both houses in any one session. This year a different tack has been taken, possibly because the prohibition sentiment of the country is at such full tide the liquor interests dared not trust such large bodies. This year, as the Bacon bill, the subcommittee of the judiciary committee have undertaken to handle it. The press report simply stated that by a vote of 8 to 2 this subcommittee decided that the bill was unconstitutional and so passed it out entirely. For a bill which has the support of so great a number of people, and where so many able lawyers consider it constitutional, it seems rather peculiar that this subcommittee should usurp the powers of the supreme court.

What I want to know is where Mr. Fulton stood on this vote. I have known Mr. Fulton for over 20 years and have a very high personal regard for him, and in a state which will probably vote itself dry in two years from the coming June I can see the importance of letting the people know that he stands for them as against the liquor traffic. If he did, and I am still strong in the hope or belief that he is too good a lawyer and too true a friend of the people to be found on the side of the liquor trade, I can see any constitutional question the supreme court should decide that, and I can't believe Mr. Fulton would try to forestall them.

I hope he will fully discuss this for the benefit of his friends and the general public. E. T. JOHNSON.

Charles G. Burton's Birthday.

Charles G. Burton of Missouri, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, was born April 4, 1844, in Cleveland, Ohio, but spent his boyhood in the town of Warren, in the same state. When 15 years old he enlisted in the Nineteenth Ohio Infantry, but was obliged to ask for his discharge because of illness. In 1864 he served 100 days in the National Guard of his state. He was admitted

OPINIONS OF THE STATE PRESS ON STATEMENT NO. 1

A Square Statement.

From the Seaside Signal (Rep.). The Signal stands squarely for the primary law, Statement No. 1. It believes the state President Roosevelt that it is better to choose a good man for an official from any other party than to choose a bad man from the Republican party. With this thought in view, the Signal reserves the right to select men and measures of whatever party from the standpoint. However, its predilections are, and always have been, with the Republican party, and it delegates its choice between candidates and measures, it will support those of Republican principles.

The Marion County Statement No. 1 Ticket.

From the Salem Journal. Do our readers fully realize what it means to have this ticket nominated and elected? In the first place no one questions but what that ticket will be elected if it is nominated. It is very doubtful if men of any party can be found to run against Statement No. 1 ticket if it is ratified at the primary election on April 17.

This is not because Democrats want to help Republicans but because there is a vast majority of people of both parties who want to take the selection of United States senators entirely out of the hands of the legislature. But there is a greater principle involved within the Republican party itself.

It is a well known fact that the so-called leaders in the party at Portland have been deliberately started out to make the legislative tickets themselves in old fashioned conventions. That was the plan in Marion county, and it did not fail for lack of intention on the part of the machine leaders.

It failed because there was too much sentiment among rank and file against the proposition. On a showdown in a convention called by the machine leaders, and composed of delegates from their own selection, three out of four Republicans in Marion county were opposed to a return to the old methods of making up a legislative ticket.

A Statement No. 1 man cannot trade his vote for any office or for any commissions, or real estate or anything else, enough of the liquor traffic and prohibits it, it is not fair play for the general government to tie its hands and hold it while the liquor trade continues to flourish from just over the border.

To accomplish this amendment the old Hepburn-Dolliver bill was introduced. It ever failed to pass both houses in any one session. This year a different tack has been taken, possibly because the prohibition sentiment of the country is at such full tide the liquor interests dared not trust such large bodies. This year, as the Bacon bill, the subcommittee of the judiciary committee have undertaken to handle it. The press report simply stated that by a vote of 8 to 2 this subcommittee decided that the bill was unconstitutional and so passed it out entirely.

For a bill which has the support of so great a number of people, and where so many able lawyers consider it constitutional, it seems rather peculiar that this subcommittee should usurp the powers of the supreme court. What I want to know is where Mr. Fulton stood on this vote. I have known Mr. Fulton for over 20 years and have a very high personal regard for him, and in a state which will probably vote itself dry in two years from the coming June I can see the importance of letting the people know that he stands for them as against the liquor traffic.

If he did, and I am still strong in the hope or belief that he is too good a lawyer and too true a friend of the people to be found on the side of the liquor trade, I can see any constitutional question the supreme court should decide that, and I can't believe Mr. Fulton would try to forestall them. I hope he will fully discuss this for the benefit of his friends and the general public. E. T. JOHNSON.

This Date in History.

1774—Oliver Goldsmith, poet, died. Born 1730.
1793—Thaddeus Stevens, American statesman, born. Died August 11, 1868.
1833—Lawrence Barrett, celebrated tragedian, born. Died March 21, 1891.
1841—William Henry Harrison, ninth president of the United States, died at Washington, District of Columbia. Born in Virginia, February 9, 1773.
1858—British force under Sir Hugh Rose defeated the Indian mutineers and took the city of Jhansi.
1882—Peter Cooper, philanthropist, died. Born February 12, 1791.
1905—Explosion in a cartridge factory at Bridgeport, Connecticut, resulted in a number of deaths.

Hanging Pictures Dangerous.

From the Kansas City Journal. "Railroad casualties receive such wide publicity," said an insurance man yesterday, "that there is a common belief on the part of the public that one is more liable to accidents while traveling than when living the simple life in the confines of his home. As a matter of fact, statistics show that accident insurance companies pay more losses to people who get injured in their own homes or on their premises than they do to people hurt in railway accidents. Insurance companies pay more money to people who get hurt hanging pictures or taking stoves apart than they do to the victims of head-on collisions. It sounds strange, but it's the truth."

NO USE TRYING TO PLAY POSSUM



Small Change

We await an answer: What is a Republican? People are following leaders who rise above party. Visitors: You get Bull Run water nowhere else. Don't keep on paving streets with good intentions. Tacoma claims to have alligators in its harbor. Now, Seattle. Wall street may scream and wail, but Portland goes along just the same. Yes, April showers will make May flowers—and then lots of roses in June.

"I tremble," said Secretary Taft. And curiously the earthquake occurred in Mexico. Boston Globe: Congress has been in session since December 12, 1907, and is still busy marking time. Governor Hughes says men are nine tenths good. But what an awful lot of meanness there must be in that one tenth. It is all right to cook with gas, but not always the right thing to do with the cook. Eugene Guard: Had personal experience, eh?

A claim caught a rat in a New Jersey restaurant. "Low season," is a delicious claim to swallow. And what a slow rat it must have been! Every time a duke or count marries an heiress he is sued by a tailor or some meddling, meanly tradesman. This is awful, don'tcher know? Chicago Record-Herald: If Prince Helle knew it, he might make money by building a fence around himself and charging an admission fee.

Emma Goldman is reported as saying: "I will talk when I am pleased." We have long suspected that Emma was both un ladylike and ungrammatical. Observe those fine, gray-haired statesmen who are for "fair" revision in the future. The public is their policy, when it comes to doing anything for the people. So Anna is to marry Helle. Look for a divorce in two or three years! We knew Anna was fierce to marry when she said she wouldn't marry. She's built that way.

A Nebraska court has ruled that women may get out of cars backward. The judge was doubtless married. He could not afford to have a woman in contempt of court. We see nothing for it, as far as Senator La Follette is concerned, but to invent a party especially to fit him.—Los Angeles Times. West has 90,000,000 people may invent the party yet.

Los Angeles Times: Jim Hill is reported as having had another fit of pessimism. The public will, therefore, impatiently wait to learn where Jim intends to build five or six new roads. Albany Democrat: The students of Albany college in mock convention have nominated Governor Hughes for president, declared for the gold standard and the independence of the Philippines and against the woman suffrage and the government ownership of railroads. The coming national conventions will please take notice.

It is said that "Little Bob" is gaining ground in Oregon, but while he would carry the state on a popular vote for president, the state party, by a majority, his time hasn't come yet. Why should you care about that, Governor? It is always going to be "man-sans" with you Republican politicians?

Oregon Sidelights. Rains have helped crops. There will be millions of bushels of wheat—perhaps more than ever. Roses are getting ready to be glorious all over glorious Oregon. Commercial clubs are now organized in almost every Oregon town. Buildings erected in Corvallis last year cost \$80,000. Hunting is good at Windy Point, says a correspondent of the Burns News.

Canyonville Echo: T. W. Weaver is putting in 2,000 vines of Black Prince and Malaga grape vines this spring in addition to 3,000 vines which he has already on his homestead. Wedderburn Radium: Get away from political prejudice. He who allows himself to believe there is nothing good in the other party, barricades himself so completely behind prejudice that he cannot advance.

For the first time in three years, A. J. Sturdevant, the pioneer merchant of Pilot Rock, visited Pendleton, the county seat, last week. He would not trust himself on the new railroad, and traveled by private conveyance. Eugene Register: The present low price of lumber and labor have induced many Eugene home owners to build, and before another 30 days rolls around we will be able to announce some other very important building improvements.

Silver Lake Central Oregonian: Two bulls belonging to Charles Pitcher became engaged in a sanguinary battle over the last of the week with the result that one killed the other before they could be separated. Klamath Falls Express: J. D. Carroll was in town Monday on his daily quest for a cock. He says he can find all kinds of men to work on a ranch but not a female cook. Carroll has his head cock for several ranch hands, and he shows the effect of the strenuous life.

Mentioning a "pretty" wedding, the Canyonville Echo says: This is the third wedding we have had this year. Remember, the year is leap year and yet we will not have this grand opportunity for another four years. You know time flies fast. If first you don't succeed, try, try again.

Madras Pioneer: There was a strong movement in Madras on Monday afternoon. With the wind blowing with a velocity of not less than 40 miles an hour all day every 50-foot lot in town changed hands several times—or so it appeared to the poor unfortunate who happened to be out in it.

Albany Herald: Farmers are getting busy and it is not an uncommon thing to see two or three teams in almost every field rushing the spring work, though here most farmers are still along with their spring plowing, and as soon as the ground receives more sunshine seeding will be in vogue, and ere long the spring grain will be in. Fall grain is looking fine and all vegetation is taking on a new growth.

Wallawa Chief: While the recent rains have cost the railroads considerable money and caused some delay in the mail, etc., they have been of untold benefit to the farmers and stockmen of Wallawa county. The ranges were sadly in need of just such a rain and the grass is taking a road race. The result: "More rain, more grass," say the stockmen, and if they are directly benefited then it follows that the remainder of the people will be benefited in an indirect manner also.