

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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Some men are very entertaining for a first interview, but after that they are exhausted and run out; on a second meeting we shall find them very flat and monotonous; like hand organs, we have heard all their tunes.—Colton.

THE FACTS IN THE CASE

THE DEMAND by the people of the Willamette valley for the purchase by the general government of the canal and locks at Oregon City makes the attacks of the Oregonian upon appropriations for river improvements in this state, other than those for the lower Columbia river and mouth only the more pronounced.

The difficulty with the Oregonian lies in the fact that it is not only out of touch with the situation but apparently is not familiar with the existing condition of the proposed improvement of the Columbia river even between Portland and the sea.

It belittles one of the largest projects for the improvement of the second greatest river in the United States, and one that has been the subject of unceasing labor of many people for more than a quarter of a century, by assuming that the projects now under way are the result of some squabble.

It bases its entire argument on the assumption that the city of Portland could if it would, control all expenditures for river and harbor improvements in the northwest. In its devotion to Portland's trade and interests, it overlooks the fact that repeatedly the commercial interests of this city have taken active steps to have the rivers to the interior opened to navigation. That is not a new subject, that this policy has been pursued for years. But two years ago the very policy it now condemns was urged upon congress by a committee representing this state and city, amongst its members being Senator Fulton, Governor Chamberlain, Mr. Scott and others. This committee stood openly for appropriations for both the upper and lower rivers and so stated to a subcommittee of the river and harbor committee headed by Mr. Burton.

The result was that the mouth of the river was placed on a continuing contract basis and Cello received a large appropriation also.

It now seeks to convey the idea that it, and it alone, appreciates the necessity for a deep entrance to the river and a deep channel to Portland. What are the facts? The improvement at the mouth of the Columbia river is on a continuing contract basis with every dollar recommended by the engineers appropriated. This result was largely brought about by the very people it now attacks. The mouth of the river has never had a more loyal supporter than Hon. Wesley L. Jones of North Yakima, for years past and now a member of the rivers and harbors committee, and soon to be United States senator from Washington. Yet Mr. Jones at a meeting of the chamber of commerce in this city told its members that the very policy now advocated by the Oregonian would result in harm to the interests of the lower river. Senators Heyburn of Idaho and Ankeny of Washington as well as the entire population east of the mountains have stood by us, but insisting at the same time the upper portion of the river should be provided for.

Is it conceivable we would have this support on the stand taken by the Oregonian? Without this support would we not be a divided house when today the river is being improved? Is it not true that the rest of Oregon but Washington and Idaho as well will forego their demands at our request.

Moreover it does not seem to be understood that it will take a very large sum of money in addition to what has been provided for to complete the south jetty as contemplated, and that a report embodying these facts will go to this congress. This being true, do the commercial interests of this city think it wise or even prudent to offend and antagonize the great influence exerted by our sister states and the rest of our own state, which influence is now with us?

But its chief cause of criticism is based on the lack of appropriations for the Columbia between Portland and the sea and in its desire for permanent channel work on this portion of the river. Everybody wants this work commenced. But those who are working to secure this appropriation know there is no approved project for this improvement suited to present conditions and that until there is one, no appropriations can be made.

The present project calls for a 25-foot channel a depth we now have and manifestly inadequate for the larger vessels. This fact being recognized by those familiar with the situation, they are now engaged in arranging to secure the adoption of a new project, carrying a depth sufficient for the needs of commerce, so that when the next river and harbor bill is reported it will carry with it an appropriation commensurate with our requirements. When this is done it will be found that neither the Cello nor any other project will defeat it.

Necessarily, if the Oregonian opposes for the present appropriations on the upper Columbia, it is equally opposed to appropriations for the Willamette, a tributary of that stream. Perhaps it expects Congressmen Hawley or Senator Bourne to tell their constituents that until the lower Columbia is fully improved to the satisfaction of the Oregonian, they should take no steps for the acquisition of the locks at Oregon City. Tillamook bay, Coos Bay and other places are all clamoring for improvement but they also must wait until we are satisfied. The utter impossibility of carrying out such a scheme even if desirable is apparent to anyone giving it a moment's thought. But what makes its success more hopeless is the further necessary factor in the situation of not only controlling our own state but Washington and Idaho as well.

Who, in the face of the irresistible demands of their constituents, will tell Jones, Ankeny, Heyburn, Borah and the other representatives from Washington and Idaho and eastern Oregon that they must abandon for years their efforts to improve the upper Columbia. Even if our commercial interests were selfish enough to desire it, they have good sense enough not to suggest it. What answer would we get, what answer would we deserve?

The citizens of Idaho, of Washington, of eastern Oregon, of the Willamette valley, are just as loyal to the mouth of the river as is the Oregonian, but it is expecting too much, when it is suggested they abandon efforts to secure appropriations for projects having a direct and immediate interest to them for those farther removed. We would not do it—nor will they.

In order to create dissatisfaction amongst the taxpayers it is pointed out that this city is doing work through the Port of Portland which the general government should be doing. The Port of Portland has been and is doing excellent work, and while it would be a fine thing to be relieved of the burden, there is no tax the people of this city more willingly pay.

But Portland is not alone in this. But recently the city of Marshfield raised by voluntary subscription \$25,000 to dredge its harbor. This is a very large amount for that city and would mean on the same basis a subscription of from \$500,000 to \$800,000 by this city. Tillamook city has its Port, and raises money by taxation to improve its harbor. Astoria is to do the same. Even little Stiuslaw is about to raise \$100,000. Cities do this all over the United States as well as in Europe, and will continue to do it in their own interests. In fact, our efforts in helping ourselves have been a most potent influence in securing large appropriations in the past. Is it to be expected that all these other projects in which taxpayers are spending their own money will have to wait, in order that we may be saved from doing likewise? Hardly. The state was never more united than now; there are no squabbles, no disagreements, except as the Oregonian disagrees with everybody else and squabbles and disagrees with itself from time to time.

A NOBLY USEFUL RICH MAN: THE PACIFIC coast, and especially Oregon and Washington, owe a perpetual debt of gratitude to Mr. D. K. Pearsons, who has done much to strengthen and uphold Pacific university at Forest Grove and Whitman college at Walla, Walla. Mr. Pearsons formed the idea many years ago that the smaller colleges were the ones that in proportion to size did the best work and accomplished the best results, and were most in need of aid, and so he selected many of these small, struggling colleges throughout the country to help, among them the two mentioned. His benefactions were most timely and of vital importance to these institutions, and that his gifts have been well bestowed and have accomplished

all that he could expect there is abundant evidence to prove. The Journal quite agrees with Mr. Pearsons in his idea that small but substantially founded and worthy colleges are deserving of more encouragement and aid, and also with the view he expressed in an interview published in The Journal Saturday, in which he said: The principal fault, in my mind, with the educational institutions of this country is that they do not specialize enough in starting the young men out for the business or the profession for which he is most suited. Give me any boy in the country and within four years, or while he is receiving an ordinary education I can tell the vocation or trade or handicraft for which he is naturally best fitted. This is an important question and should be given more consideration everywhere. Start the young man out where he is best adapted to, with a good education he will take care of himself and do more and accomplish more than in any other way.

It is an era of specialization. The man who can do one thing better than anybody else, or better than the average who are doing the same thing, has success in his grasp from the outset. Both teachers and pupils should strive to find out what a boy can do best, what his bent is, along what path the best success lies, in what direction his natural tastes and talents tend, and shape his education accordingly. As is often remarked, the country is overrun with poor lawyers, preachers and doctors who might have been successful in some other vocation.

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the possibility of being the best apple state in the union. As to samples she is perhaps that already.

"If the pledge exacted by the legislature is void, why is not a pledge voluntarily taken by the candidate void?" asks Judge Williams. The question answers itself. In the one case the pledge is required by a valid and unconstitutional law, is attempted to be forced upon members of the legislature without their consent and probably against their will. In the other case the pledge is entirely voluntary, is optional, is taken with the full assent of the candidate to the proposition that he will make the people's will his will—in short that he will be representative, not master of the people.

The Pendleton Tribune talks about "disrupting the Republican party of the state," and "drawing Republicans into a Democratic trap," unless anti-Statement members organize the legislature. The Democrats cut but little figure in the whole business. Republicans voted for Chamberlain's election, and most Statement members are Republicans. To throw them down would surely "disrupt the party."

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE: Another conundrum: How old was Tel An? According to precedent boob must be put in the cabinet. The time for man turkeys to gobble is growing very short. Finest football weather in Oregon anywhere in the country. Are you going to buy anything? Ask for the made-in-Oregon article. So far Kaiser Wilhelm has not threatened to resign or abdicate. Is there any "honorable" way to life and deceive thousands of people? Everything promises more prosperity for Oregon than it has ever enjoyed. After March 4 it is supposed that it will be a golf instead of a tennis cabinet. An electric line greatly enhances the value of adjacent lands. So do good wagon roads. But gentlemen, can you suggest any "honorable" way for men to break their pledges? People are scarce who can't be thankful that they are not as bad off as they might be. Mrs. Taft is said to be a good cook. Looking at Bill. It has not been even hinted as yet that Chancellor Day will be a member of Taft's cabinet. One way to lessen the work of the courts would be to pass a more stringent divorce law. After Roosevelt becomes one of the editors of the Outlook, its name may be changed to the "Outburst."

OREGON SIDELIGHTS: Now is the time to spray orchards. Business is livelier than ever before at Toledo. Cougars are numerous and troublesome around Cascadia. Fruit trees lately planted around Du-fur number over 1,000. Wild ducks are more numerous along the coast than for years. The heavy storms lately at the mouth of the Columbia did the jetty no harm. Fossil will tax its business people, the tax ranging from \$250 to \$500 a year. Looks like Eugene will raise that \$50,000 Y. M. C. A. fund easily. What next? A visitor says that there is not a sidewalk nor a barber shop in Curry county. Sales of orchard lands in the vicinity of Medford since January 1 amount to \$1,000,000. The apple crop of the Grand Ronde valley for export will amount to about 300 carloads. The Albany Herald is "under new management" again. There is a chance for improvement. A Jackson county man received a shipment of over 18,000 fruit trees from the Milton nursery. For the second time within a few weeks a large plate-glass window in Astoria has been blown out by the wind at a considerable loss. There are a number of new residences being built throughout Chehalis County, which shows that the country is improving, says a correspondent. A Lane county man who sold his fine place on Camp Creek last spring and went to Illinois has returned and says Oregon is good enough for him, and he bought the old place back again. A Washington county man has raised a great crop of carrots. The yield from eight square rods was 4,480 pounds, or the rate of 44 2/3 tons per acre. The yield of sugar beets was also remarkable, being at the rate of 2 1/3 tons per acre. Corvallis Times: Benton county land price as fine apples as Hood River land. It will produce as fine peaches and pears as any other section west of the rocky mountains. Benton county should become a great fruit state. Those who are now putting out orchards will reap a great reward at no far distant date. At the meeting of the Harmony (Clackamas county) Improvement society in the schoolhouse last week it was voted to donate \$25 toward building gravel paths to the schoolhouse. The Literary society donated \$68 for the same purpose. This is a very commendable move, and may well be imitated by other districts. There was a rather exciting time in Alma, in Lane county, when some hounds treed a monstrous black bear. The bear was shot and the hunters and men sat up all night beneath the tree which was a big cedar. Some of the neighbors gathered it at about 1,000 pounds. The bear was skinned and the grease was obtained from the carcass. The celebration of the fifty-seventh anniversary of the marriage of Father and Mother Hobbs is being celebrated in the exceptional healthfulness of the Willamette valley. There is only one family of that name, says the Astoria News-Reporter. There are several couples in Yamhill county who have survived the century. Mr. and Mrs. Becher of Lafayette, Mr. and Mrs. James Hemphre, by six years. The editor of the Alliance Democrat, on his way to Denver, writes: "I spent my first night in a Pullman sleeper. No night sleep and I was so tired when it is easy to sleep anywhere if you can turn the key to your brain, am getting used to higher priced styles of dinners. Have gotten the business down to a science and can get a meal for 25 cents. A long suffering patient and disgusted people would rise up and call them blessed."

Another Yale man was once elected president—Samuel Jones Tilden—but he was swindled out of the office. The tariff has many "friends," who want to get something out of the people to which they are not entitled. Mr. Rockefeller will die in the serene consciousness that he has been one of the world's greatest benefactors. According to some pictures of the late empress of China she wore quite a beard. Perhaps she was a man, after all. If the hens could get the money for their eggs, wouldn't they be prosperous? It is very biddy could wear ostrich feathers. It may be possible to keep the German emperor from talking, but the same methods won't work with the 2-year-old emperor of China. Mr. Roosevelt's attorneys complain of prejudice against him. So there is against a known, certain, cold-blooded murderer. Should he, therefore, not be tried? A former weather expert has been sent to an asylum. Perhaps he guessed right several times in succession, and the surprise was too great for his intellect. At Chillicothe, Mo. It took five preachers all of one day to baptize 300 converts. Presumably men who had been Democrats and voted for Taft, and their families. Bryan received 149 electoral votes in 1896, 49 in 1900, and will receive 59 in 1908, and at this rate of gain the Philadelphia Inquirer figures that he can be elected in 1908—if he can live to be 148 years old. A Bellingham, Wash., man secured a divorce on the ground that his wife did not talk enough. It follows logically should, that a man can get a divorce because his wife talks too much. He really divorces industry will boom as never before. One can scarcely imagine an excuse so trivial that is not now a ground for divorce. Pendleton Tribune: If lawyers would abandon the habit of brow-beating witnesses who don't need it and all judges would utterly eliminate every vestige of dilatory processes which they know are intended to postpone the trial with other purposes, a long-suffering patient and disgusted people would rise up and call them blessed.

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