

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. B. JACKSON, Publisher

Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at the Journal Building, Fifth and Yamhill streets, Portland, Or.

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Or., for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

TELEPHONES—MAIN FIVE, HOME A-601. All departments reached by these numbers.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE: Wendell Bennett, Special Advertising Agency, Brunswick Building, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York; 1007-08 Boyce Building, Chicago.

Subscription Terms by mail or by express in the United States, Canada or Mexico:

One year.....\$5.00 One month.....\$.50

One year.....\$2.50 One month.....\$.25

DAILY AND SUNDAY.

One year.....\$7.50 One month.....\$.75

Circulation Guarantee

This certifies that the circulation of the OREGON JOURNAL

has been audited and is guaranteed by the Advertiser's Certified Circulation Blue Book

This paper has been investigated and the circulation records are kept with care and the circulation stated with such accuracy that advertisers may rely on any statement of same made by the publishers under the ownership and management in control September 9, 1908.

We should have all our communications with men as in the presence of God; and with God as in the presence of men.—Colton.

THE STATE PRESS

IT IS significant that the state papers are almost unanimous in their attitude on the senatorship.

With few exceptions they are fighting for the ratification by the legislature of the popular choice.

The foundations of the economic structure are in the community. It is there that virtue has its surest asylum.

It is there that the per capita of purity is the greatest. If the social structure had to depend for its life on what is known as the smart sets of the country, decay would result.

It is amid these environments of town and country that the state newspaper does its work.

It is from these pure surroundings that it receives its inspiration. There is no profit for the farm home in a corrupted and corrupting system of politics.

The owner of that home wants simple and honest government. The practical raids of politicians in public affairs and their demoralization of legislation cost him a lot of money in excess taxes.

The money that bosses use in pushing their candidates under convention and legislative regime comes ultimately out of his pockets.

The politicians dance, but he pays the fiddler. That is why the corrupt practices act passed by an overwhelming majority last June. That is why the primary law was swept into existence by an avalanche of ballots.

That is why the compulsory statement vote rolled up to a grand total of 69,668. All were reflection of the spirit of the man on the farm. It is the spirit that comes from nature. Bad habits and evil motives are not contracted from the streams, the fields, the flowers or the woods. Evils are sent in the country life and from that life the state paper reflects a healthy, wholesome and virtuous spirit. That is why the state press stands for popular election of senator. It is why the state press stands for a redeemed legislature. It is why the voice of the state press is almost universally and always for the best ideals, whether in social, economic or political life. It has been said that the state newspapers are mirrors of what is nearest the hearts of the people, and it is true.

BRYANISM

THERE IS a greater field of usefulness for a political party than the mere winning of the offices. Victory is sometimes a calamity. It was so with the Democratic party in 1893. It arrived simultaneously with a panic. The party did not bring the panic, but got the credit for it. That and the unfortunate reading of the party in twin by the tactlessness of Mr. Cleveland are so-called sins for which the Democratic party still suffers.

Parties are often greater in defeat than in victory. Though out of power Mr. Bryan and his party have been potential agencies for countrywide benefit in the influence they have exercised in shaping governmental policies. That is why there is a pitiful refrain in the suggestion that the conference of Democratic leaders now in Washington may purgative the elimination of Bryan and Bryanism from the Democratic party.

Why eliminate them? Bryan and Bryanism in the Democratic party made Rooseveltism in the Republican party. Bryan and Bryanism are a safety valve for forces that but for Bryan and Bryanism would bring the country face to face with Socialism. Bryan and Bryanism are the great restraining agency that saves the Republican party from itself. Swung by the overmastering influence of the interests, the Republican party would, were the Democratic party also reactionary, drift into paths from which there would

OREGON'S NEED OF LEADERSHIP

YESTERDAY The Journal presented the need of leadership in Oregon politics.

A state's welfare is to a considerable extent dependent upon the character of its political leaders.

If in that leadership there is purity and civic righteousness the ends of good government will be well served.

If, on the other hand, there is impurity, public affairs and public ends will suffer. The proof is attested in the bitter memories of the old political regime in this state.

In yesterday's presentation of the need of leadership the story was but partly told. There is a great deal more to point out.

It is the dominant party of the state that suffers from the character of its so-called leadership.

Upon that party must depend to a large extent the state's welfare, for in the nature of things that party will be most of the time in control.

It is a party in which the masses are rich in civic righteousness. They are pure in their ideals, lofty in their opinions. Their votes at all times have been for uplift.

It is due them that there should be men around whom they can rally in movements for crystallization of their individual ideals.

Once given this opportunity there is no doubt of an outcome that will be highly beneficial to the state and to all its people.

The leadership is all that is needed for the marshalling of these forces into a potential activity that will be of infinite service to the state and its public affairs.

It is because there is such opportunity that The Journal brings this subject to public attention.

New leadership is needed because the present so-called leadership misrepresents the civic ideals of the masses of the dominant party.

It is a leadership that is attempting to lead these masses into false paths. It has made to them the amazing proposition of attempting to set aside the verdict of the ballot box by circulating petitions.

It was figured that if a ballot box verdict as typified in the popular choice of senator could be broken down by similar process other verdicts by the people under the primary law could be upset.

By making confusion in one they hoped to confound all, and for that purpose undertook the petition enterprise. For a bare-faced "skin game" it was the worst ever attempted on the people of Oregon.

It involved the principle of one man signing a written request for another man to forswear his own written pledge, made to the people and filed away in the public records. It was a straight out petition to men to

be millions of desertions from each by those who would cast their political lot with Socialism. A Democratic party purged of Bryan and Bryanism would have for its consequence a trusted Republican and trusted Democratic party.

Their ultimate would be a militant Socialist regime, with millions driven into it because of hatred of trustism.

The usefulness of Bryanism is stupendous for good, without the offices. It is a conception of principle rather than of pelf. It is a conception that is the rallying point of millions of American electors and it will be evil days for both the Democratic party and the country when Bryanism is, if ever, snuffed out.

OUR PRICELESS WATER.

SUBJECT vital to Oregon is about to be discussed. It is a subject of commanding importance. The state is rich in natural water courses.

These water courses are a basis for creation of limitless wealth. Their stored energy for use as motive power for manufacturing industries is of enormous value.

They are sufficient to carry comfort and convenience in various forms to countless farm homes. Every drop of water in every stream, by what it will do for mankind, is a precious thing. We prize the yellow gold, but all it can do for us is to serve as a tawdry ornament or furnish a favorite metal for exchange. It has a few uses in the arts, but they are trivial. Compared to the priceless drops of water in our flowing streams it is useless. For the sake of the coming generations it is as essential to save this water as it is to treasure the priceless soil of the valley. Each is a mine of gold in the wealth it can bring, each a fountain of happiness in the comforts it can supply.

Such is the value of our water courses as an instrumentality of potential energy. Scarcely less is their value as an agency of fructification. Both science and experience have shown how irrigation will make a dozen blades of grass grow where but one or none grew before. The arid and semi-arid plains of eastern Oregon are as blooming gardens under the spell of our precious water.

The two joined are a source of temper and busy life, where unjoined there is only desolate landscape. Destiny and the generations to come will unite them and add new abiding places to the appointments of earth. Even the fertile lands of western Oregon will, when the region is worked out, find in the fructifying mountain streams new and tremendous sources of well being. And so, the power of the streams for human comfort is measureless, and their value undetermined.

To save this natural resource from

commit perjury, to spurn a compact with the people and to smash the ballot box. No plan so wholly unprincipled, so completely unscrupulous was ever seriously proposed to the people of any state.

Yet it was urged as a party policy by those who insist that they are leaders of the dominant party in Oregon.

It is an incident that illustrates the need of real leadership, a leadership that will not commit the party to a policy that means travesty on truth and libel on honor, a leadership that has scruples in politics as well as at the mourner's bench, a leadership worthy of the traditions of a party whose rise to power was on an issue of conscience and justice.

For one moment imagine Sumner, imagine Phillips, imagine Lincoln, in contemplation of this petition scheme, and then answer the question as to whether or not the Republicanism of Oregon does not need a new leadership! For the sake of the party and for the sake of the state ought not new men to be raised up for a leadership that will lead?

Profit never came to an individual from perjury. Profit will never come to a party from perjury. Perjury has been a blight to the name and career of every person who ever resorted to it. It will blight the name and career of every party that ever resorts to it. Yet here are so-called leaders of the dominant party in Oregon asking the president of the United States to advise both. They have asked the president-elect of these United States to advise both. By that leadership the Republicanism of Oregon is placed before the country as asking both. By the act the party in Oregon is placed in a false and undeserved light. By it the people of Oregon are placed in a false and undeserved light. No leaders anywhere ever exploited any party or any people in any state in so bare-faced a spectacle of political larceny and political perjury. It is a proposed career of political insanity to destroy the name, fame and effectiveness of the best party that was ever organized. It is a course discredited by all human experience and hostile to all hopes of human or party progress. It is a plan that cannot be otherwise than deeply resented by all the forces of true Republicanism in Oregon. These forces are waiting for a leadership to captain them in the honorable career typical of the magnificent Lincoln whose hand was first to lift the name of Republicanism into mighty place and who kept it unsullied and unstained while he was its chieftain and exemplar.

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be signed by name and address of the writer. The name will not be used if the writer asks that it be withheld. The Journal is not to be held responsible for the return of letters or statements of correspondents. Letters should be returned as soon as possible. Those who wish their letters returned should indicate the return postage.

Letters are not to be published if they exceed 300 words in length, and at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION.

Portland, Dec. 6.—To the Editor of The Journal—In case of the death of the governor-elect of a state, who would be inaugurated in his place?

Who would succeed President-elect Taft should he die in office?

Please explain how and why these successors are chosen.

Are there any classes of aliens who are debarred from holding title to land or property in the United States?

1. (a) The secretary of state; (b) The speaker of the house.

2. There is a difference of opinion on this. Probably, Vice President-elect Sherman, having been elected, would immediately qualify as such, and would then by virtue of that office become president. In case of his death also, Secretary of State Root would become president. Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou next, and so on down the cabinet.

3. All aliens can hold or own land in this country.

Respects Fair Play for Finch.

Portland, Dec. 6.—To the Editor of The Journal—Isn't a law, written or written, that can prevent the merciless Oregonian from hanging James A. Finch, his attorneys, his poor old mother and all of his friends before the gallows in many past elections in Portland, that anyone that the Oregonian editor endorsed was defeated and anyone that he roasted was elected?

The Oregonian's constant roasting of Sherman, having been elected, would be the same as in many past elections in Portland, that anyone that the Oregonian editor endorsed was defeated and anyone that he roasted was elected?

The fact of the case is that this unfortunate man Finch has had softening of the brain for the past year or two, and he should be sent to the penitentiary for life, which he deserves. Time will prove that he was a fit subject for the insane asylum before he committed this crime.

Minid you, I am not defending James A. Finch for he should be put away for the rest of his life, where he can do no harm no one, but he is entitled to a fair trial, if not for his own sake, for that of dear old mother Finch.

A TAXPAYER.

Our Representative in China.

A reader asks for the name of the American representative in China. W. W. Rockhill is the United States minister and his address is American embassy, Peking, China.

The Delight of Mud.

From the Washington Post.

The Swiss professor who says American children are kept too clean and thereby started on the high road of mollycoddledom, hits the nail on the head.

Children, instinctively obeying a great law of nature, despite finical prohibitions, hunger to get back to the earth, to wallow and wade in good, clean dirt and to dab themselves from their dear little toes to their inquisitive noses in good, rich mud. The killed-up, speckless, spotless kid is a parental crime against nature, a crime for which the child must pay in after life.

There are three great, looming events in the life of the first, perhaps, in the moment when the despised dressers are discarded for the first pair of trousers; the second is the thrilling hour of the first circus; but none of these events can compare in utter happiness with the first time a kid, excited from his mother's too watchful care, in complete abandon and sweet defiance of domestic tyranny, gets his full of the ecstatic delights of clean dirt and luscious mud.

Supposing.

From the Pendleton East Oregonian.

Supposing the legislature should refuse to elect the people's choice for senator—suppose a sufficient number of statement men should be bribed or terrified to meet their pledges?

Who would want the senatorship after such a proceeding? Who would want that office if it had to be secured through "broken pledges and disregarded laws"? Who would want to wear the toga when the whole world would know it had been secured through the sacrifice of honor—through the violation of solemn oaths?

If there is a man who would like to secure the senatorship at such a price, is not the fact of his willingness proof positive of his unfitness for the office?

Hard to Please.

From the Washington Star.

"You audiences seemed shocked by the show?"

"At first," answered the manager, "but we expurgated it."

"And then?"

"Then they seemed disappointed."

and as seems at this distance to have been the case at Kansas City.

Out of 73,000 votes cast in Los Angeles Hearst's man, Higgen, received 783. Mr. Hearst has a newspaper there. Out of 60,000 votes cast in San Francisco Higgen received 751. Mr. Hearst has a newspaper there. The average of the Higgen vote in the two cities is a little more than 1 per cent. From the position of powerful influence in former days the influence of Mr. Hearst and his newspapers in California has become nil. Acrobatics politically by their owner and erratics by the newspapers themselves are the cause. A straightforward course by a man or a newspaper is the price of public confidence.

Our friends who argue that "a good old Colts with which to let daylight through the holdup man" is the real solution will take note that the East Side bank was so armed but that the bank was robbed just the same and that it was done at a revolver's muzzle. The holdup man always gets the drop. That is his business. It is his capital. It is the vital link in his success. If he does not get the drop he does not perform. That is the reason why it is almost always useless for the citizen to be armed. The better plan is to have the right law and then search out and disarm every criminal.

Letters From the People

Really Abruzzi and Kate Elkins are of no more importance than John Smith and Mary Brown. It is only a perverted sense of human importance that gives them all this undue space in the newspapers.

Any man who is traveling around the world on a wager should be helped along—with a kick out of town. What good are these fellows?

Brother Nutting of the Albany Democrat rode away off to Denver on the night train, and got back alive, and wasn't bunked once. Hurrah for the Oregon editor.

The world is awry; Tennessee and Kentucky have a war to the finish with the Balkan states.

Roosevelt had to burst loose again and call a lot of men liars. That man has to have a constant amount of so often.

"There is nothing growing faster in the Pacific northwest than Eugene," says the Guard. Been in Portland lately?

"Brainstorm," "aberration," "temporary insanity," and in most cases "self defense" are insufficient excuses for murder.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Yet that \$40,000,000 is not explained.

A good cow milker is a useful citizen.

Simon is preparing against a revolution already, of course.

Mr. Carnegie can now manage to live and be pious without the tariff.

Wonder if Mr. Hearst, when he looks at Higgen's vote, thinks it worth the price.

Notwithstanding his late experience, Mr. Geer may believe he can become governor again.

Come down, Brother Geer, we will need some new councilmen next year and thereafter.

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