

EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON, Publisher

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A woman moved is like a fountain troubled, Muddy, ill-seeming, thick, bereft of beauty; And while it is so, none so dry or thirsty Will deign to sip or touch one drop of it. —Shakespeare.

OREGON ABROAD

OREGON is in the eye of the east. The state has, at last, secured a place on the national map. Her products are everywhere admired. She was the only state that presented a printed and illustrated report of the state's resources at the National Conservation congress. Such is the announcement of Governor Chamberlain on his return from attendance at the Rivers and Harbors and National Conservation congresses. It is an announcement that is easily believable. So is that added statement that the state is the most talked of in the Union. The fact is daily reflected in the eastern newspapers. The Oregon apple is the premier apple of the world. It is the most sought and the most highly valued. It set the delegates to the two great representative congresses into furies of good humor and admiration. It gave the state entrance into the reflections of the big men of the nation.

There are, too, other reasons why Oregon is in the public eye. They are reasons that are not recounted by Governor Chamberlain. The governor himself is one of these reasons. He has been one of the big factors in placing Oregon on the national map. He was the chosen spokesman for the governors at the National Conservation congress. He was one of the figures in that great assemblage, and put forth constructive policies for conserving our national resources. He met the honor embodied in his selection with ideas that reflected credit on the choice. It was the first occasion on which so great an honor has fallen to Oregon, and to the credit of Oregon and her citizenship the responsibility was fully met.

Our state is in a career of progress. Her simplified plans of government are another factor in an emphasized commonwealth. Her citizens are everywhere admired and applauded for their achievements in working out problems of self government. Citizens of other states are studying us. The state has become an agency for the uplift of the whole country. It is a daily living appeal to people in other states to seek homes in this perfected commonwealth on the Pacific. The elimination of the political boss from state concerns, the deliverance of legislation from cabalism and the exalted citizenship manifest in the state's reforms are an advertisement of the state to people with the best citizenship the country can afford. In the midst of this pleasing contemplation of the state's repute abroad, how unfortunate it is that a cheap minority among us would put a blot on the fair picture, and turn back the wheels of progress!

THE CONGRESSIONAL REVOLT

A MAJORITY of the house is still in prostration before its unacknowledged autocrat. In a first skirmish Tuesday, those who hoped for elimination of carism from the body by modification of the house rules were defeated. The resolution of Gardner of Massachusetts for appointment of a committee to report on whether or not a change of rules is desirable was beaten by a vote of 149 to 135. This first failure may not foreshadow the final collapse of the revolt. The tide of sentiment against the yoke of Cannonism is growing throughout the country. It is becoming more and more widely known that government by that body is not government by the constitution, but by Joe Cannon.

It is a government that in spirit is in violation of the constitution. It is a subversion of the representative system, and the vesting of legislative function in one man and his chosen cabal. The power of this man is so great that members are held in subjection through fear that a revolt would imperil legislation for their several districts. It is a power far greater than that exercised by the king of England. It is a power so great that even the president of the United States, the embodied will of the American electorate, was not, during the last congress, able to move or influence it. It reduces legislation to a mere question of whether or not it is approved by the imperial speaker of what is accredited as the popular legislative branch. To call it popular government or popular legislation is to be grotesque, and that is why many members and millions of their countrymen want deliverance. It is a condition that time and good sense of the American electorate will yet correct.

WASCO AND THE PETITIONS

THE NEWS from Wasco county is that the Beach perjury petitions have been sent there for circulation. It is also reported that the same sense of outraged decency that greeted the attempt to circulate them in Portland is apparent in Wasco. It is wholly improbable that the scheme of securing signatures will succeed. The moral and civic standard of citizenship in that county is too high to be debauched by the Beach method. Few men will be willing to sign a written request for other men to break a written pledge.

There are schools in Wasco county. There are churches, there are courts of justice and there are other institutions founded on truth. There are juries that sit in judgment, weighing the testimony, and separating as best they can the truth from the false. They hear the oath taken by those who testify, and in the process are conscious that it is the "truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth" upon which the system of justice, the courts, our institutions and our very national life is founded.

Upon that truth and its preservation depends the life, the liberty and the just government of Wasco county, the state of Oregon and the United States. It is the lesson taught by the public schools as the correct guide of youth to useful career. It is the essence of the church and the teaching that has swept the church from a nothing into its present militant position for the uplift of earth. This truth is the life blood and life essential of the courts, of justice and the test of penalties of life and death. It is the soul of civilization, and by that token it is impossible for the citizens of Wasco county to sign a written request for truth to be perjured, for honor to be libeled and the spirit of our self-governing sovereignty to be profaned. Every sense of honor, every impulse of Oregon citizenship revolts at such a program. If it is to succeed, it is time to tear down the school houses, to raze the churches to the ground, to abolish the courts and burn the court houses and to set up new institutions such as S. C. Beach with his program of perjury may see fit to vouchsafe. Give Mr. Beach a power of attorney to act for the people, and let him prescribe how the affairs of the state should be conducted. That is the logical course, and the only logical course, if, by his personal wishes the verdict of the people last June is to be set aside and made meaningless. The Wasco perjury petitions cannot succeed, for they are revolting to the conscience of every citizen of that county of high minded people.

CASTRO'S REVOLUTION

IN HIS ABSENCE, the strenuous president of Venezuela is confronted with a revolution at home. Violent men must expect violent conditions to follow in their wake. The dominative character of this one, and the emphatic bent of his purpose has naturally repressed those among his people who have differed with him in opinion. Men disagree on governmental problems, and the disagreement between Castro and the present revolutionary portion of his constituency is the product of natural forces. In the volatile southern races, not yet proficiently schooled in self government, the resort to revolution is easy. The seizure of Venezuelan vessels by Holland as a result of Castro's policy, has in this instance furnished the pretext for the revolt against the absent president. That any ruler who may be substituted will be more devoted to Venezuela, and more strenuous in defense of that country's interests against foreign exploiters, is doubtful. Venezuela is a temptation to the exploiters of every clime. None knows it better than does the violent Castro. It has gold mines, developed or undeveloped, of dazzling richness. The El Caimo mine has an annual output alone of more than \$2,000,000. Other products of exceeding richness and great abundance are copper, coal, salt, asphalt, silver, lead, tin, iron, sulphur and petroleum. There was a national debt in 1903 of \$48,000,000. In 1898 the imports amounted to \$8,900,000 and the exports to \$14,900,000. The same year the imports of the United States from Ven-

ezuela were \$7,722,564. In 1899 there were 529 miles of railroad, and 4026 miles of telegraph lines. The government is a federated republic having a president elected for six years, and a congress of two houses. The government is modeled after that of the United States. There are three government universities, together with military and other colleges.

THE MUNICIPAL PROBLEM

"THE DES MOINES PLAN" of city government, which in its principal features it seems the charter commission will recommend, has its good and its bad or doubtful points. Municipal government is a continuous problem, and every form, or at least every change from the usual form in this country, which is almost universally unsatisfactory, is experimental. The tendency in recent times has been toward concentration or centralization of authority, which is a main feature of the Des Moines or Galveston plan, and while this has its manifest advantages, it also has its risks. A single man, a mayor, clothed with all authority, would be better than a wide division of authority, providing a city could get an ideal, or almost impossible man for mayor. So probably six councilmen will be better than 15, providing the character and capability of the councilmen will be improved in proportion. But if bad councilmen are elected, it will be easier for a majority of seven (including the mayor) to combine for any bad purpose than for a majority of 15 or 16.

A large meeting of members of civic associations was held recently in Boston, which proposed a board of five municipal directors, to have control of all the affairs of that great city, in effect five mayors, each in charge of certain departments, much as is proposed here, of which plan the Globe remarks:

A board of this sort, no matter how conscientious the members might be, would soon be controlled by three members—a majority—and the other two would be found recording their votes in the negative on many important propositions, and the entire membership could not be held accountable like a single mayor. As a rule, any commission is governed eventually by one or two strong men on it, with the consequence that the public loses confidence in it after it has been in existence a short time.

But against any plan proposed objections could be raised. In German cities, or at least some of them, and elsewhere in Europe, the policy is the opposite of this one of centralization. A multitude of citizens are given little shares or scraps of honor and authority, probably on the theory that where so many have a finger in the pie all will be watching one another, and also that the government will thus be more surely popular and representative of the people; so that, curiously, city government in a monarchy is more democratic than here. But it is often asserted and appears to be true, that in Europe citizens are much more trustworthy in municipal offices than here. They take much pride in conscientiously serving their city, and would scorn any suggestion of graft or official wrongdoing.

But we are doubtless making some progress toward better city government in this country, and all these efforts and discussions, such as are going on now in Portland, are helpful. The "best citizens" are taking far more interest in the government of their cities than they did formerly, and many civic improvement societies are exerting a greatly beneficial influence. As the Boston Globe says: "It is an encouraging sign when public-spirited citizens meet in clubs and elsewhere to discuss municipal affairs. The efficiency of our city government cannot be improved unless the citizens do take an active, personal interest in the matter, hence taxpayers are warranted in feeling hopeful of legislation this winter at the state house that will improve the conduct of municipal business."

Though the total vote cast last month increased 1,341,531 votes over that of 1904, only a small fraction of it, as usual, was received by all the minor parties combined. The socialist party polled 448,471 votes, 45,368 more than four years ago, but its gain was really more than this, because then many Democrats voted the Socialist ticket. Yet the gain is not great proportionately, and cannot give much reasonable encouragement to that party. The prohibitionist candidate ran 17,284 votes behind that party's vote in 1904, receiving 241,252 votes, showing an actual and marked decline in the strength of that party. Hearst's independence candidate got only 83,186 votes, two-thirds of these in two states; Watson, Populist, only 33,871, and the Social-Labor candidate only 5,421. These minor parties make a good deal of noise during a campaign, but never amount to much in the count, and so far as is now apparent never will.

All new legislation is in a sense experimental. All the exigencies that will arise under its enforcement cannot be always foreseen. A case has arisen under the child labor law of Oregon, in which a certain lack of discretionary power by the commission or some other authoritative agency is regrettable. This is the case of the boy singers of Professor A. Roney, whose concerts under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. were prohibited by a strict application of the child labor law. The boys, the character of their endeavor and their environments are such that the solemn statute outlawing them as to Portland and Oregon is an absurdity. Professor Roney's singers entertained 600 guests for the president and his wife at the White House, and has the endorsement of Judge Lindsay, the best authority on juvenile courts in the country. To make their work a misdemeanor in Oregon, means that our child labor statute has a feature that ought to be corrected. The inflexibility of the statute might tend to bring the measure into disrepute, and this, rather than the incident here referred to, is the reason for a corrective.

Emma Goldman is coming to Portland again for four days of anarchistic deliverances, according to announcements, and what makes the matter worse is that these days are just before Christmas, when everybody is disposed to have good will for everybody else. Portland treated Miss Goldman quite well when she was here last and this early return visit seems to show ingratitude.

It is well to beware of idleness, unthrift, or dissipation. To one or the other of these was ascribed by Judge McBride of Oregon City the cause of seven death sentences that he has passed within two years. The announcement was made while he was passing sentence on Walter Montgomery Johnson. It is an announcement for our youth and young men to ponder over.

A Journal Washington correspondent is of the opinion that the talk and apparent efforts in congress in favor of the postal savings bank bill is mostly deceptive, and that there is no intention or expectation of passing it. There is nothing to be surprised at in this, though it may turn out that public opinion, if sufficiently expressed, will force the bill through.

Our Pinkertons and other detectives, it is announced, are certain that one of the bank robbers went north, another south and the third east, and there is some comfort in that. If we do not catch them, we shall at least know which way they went.

The perjury petitions are not a general movement. There is no body of citizens behind them. They are the personal enterprise of S. C. Beach. Whoever signs them, plays second fiddle to Mr. Beach, and sets the people of Oregon at defiance.

The Chicago mother who has mortgaged her home for \$89,000 and says she is ready to spend the whole sum in defending her son for the murder of his father, is entitled to sympathy on several counts.

A jury was secured in the Hains case in New York in two days. This is certainly wonderful if not unprecedented speed. But the trial is not occurring in the city.

The garbage problem is another one that illustrates how almost impossible it is for a city's authorities to do anything of consequence and a little difficulty.

St. Johns has decided to become wet again—or its council has decided that it shall, but the fight is probably only just fairly begun.

Alexander Agassiz' Birthday. Alexander Agassiz, the eminent naturalist, was born in Switzerland, December 17, 1825, the son of Professor Louis Agassiz. He came to the United States in 1846, and completed his education at Harvard University and the Lawrence Scientific School. For several years he was connected with the United States coast survey. From 1866 to 1869 he was superintendent of the famous Calumet and Hecla copper mines on Lake Superior. For several years he was in Peru, in 1875, and subsequently conducted explorations and scientific investigations in the Hawaiian islands, in Australia, among the coral reefs of the West Indies and in other parts of the world.

1778—Four hundred persons perished in the burning of a theatre in Saragossa, Spain.

1812—Town of Derby, Vt. attacked by the British.

1824—Thomas Starr King, preacher and lecturer, who saved California to the union in 1850, born in New York. Died in San Francisco, March 4, 1864.

1877—Edward Kent, first Whig governor of Maine, died in Bangor. Born in Concord, N. H., January 8, 1802.

1880—Paul Kruger elected president of the South African republic.

1891—Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry dedicated in Philadelphia.

A Unique Farm. From the Kansas City Star. Near the town of Jasper a settler has a farm which probably is unlike any other in the world. This farm occupies the table land on the summit of a ridge and is inclosed with a fence which is any work of human hands, unless it does not rise above the surface of the farm, but falls sheer from the edge a distance of many feet. The man who homesteaded the table land had a hard climb up the face of a cliff to reach the comparatively level summit. By blasting and drilling the discoverer made a path by which stock could be brought up, and now has horses, cattle and hogs in his fertile little kingdom, but no wheeling vehicle has ever been taken there.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

At least the toy pistol ought to go. Those who buy least often are longest about it.

Now the criminal mill is grinding quite briskly.

A reputation often counts for more than real talent.

The Brownsville affair and Foraker are equally stale.

A fatality to Taft would be a great calamity to the country.

There was nothing in the message about simplified spelling.

It is not expected that Mr. Taft will augment the Liars' club much.

Uncle Joe may be a sort of a czar, but he isn't much afraid of bombs.

The Germans hoch der Castro because he is persona non grata in France.

It will probably become quite fashionable to be called an infamous liar.

The rest of this week is earlier than next week to do Christmas buying.

But pity 'tis one can't always buy Oregon made butter, pork and eggs.

Collier's is still trying to beat Cannon for speaker. It is a vain effort.

It is reported that J. Pierpont Morgan will go for luncheon. Well, he can afford to.

Probably nobody more enjoys being a perpetual nuisance than the Goldman woman.

The Holy Rollers are also what are known in another slang term as Holy Terrers.

It seems that at least one of those robbers was a big chump. Yet he easily got away.

Most cities now prohibit prize fighting, but nearly all of them have rows in their councils.

So far as is known General Simon is yet president defacto of Haiti. Nobody knows who will be so next week.

It has not been considered offensive just recently for one person to ask another, even a lady, to go to "The Devil."

A Union county man was sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary for assaulting a young girl. Justice does get in a proper lick in the courts sometimes.

An edict has been issued at Pekin ordering the late dowager empress, Hsueh Tsai An, the posthumous title of Empress Dowager, to be buried in the Heavens, Equal and Bright in Practicing Holiness. But this may not be recognized as a burial in the realm whither she has departed.

A report says that in deciding an appealed damage case, the plaintiff having been injured by a streetcar, the supreme court of the state of Washington said: "He was drunk as hell when he got on the car, and getting drunker." A judicial opinion as to how drunk that is, and whether or not it should be described, would be interesting.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

The Vale Booster is boosting all right.

A new brick business building in Stayton is talked of.

A large bed of fine-dreep gravel has been discovered near Forest Grove.

There are 304 pupils in the Sheridan school district, a gain of 45 over last year.

"Prineville must bustle," says the Journal, "to get a railroad." Well, you are hustlers, aren't you?

The railroad company's well at Dorris is down 340 feet, where the soil is a black loam, supposed to be decomposed tules.

McMinnville Reporter: Prospects for a winning track team appear brighter this year than ever before. The principal conceded that McMinnville has the best material in her history.

A cooperative store is being talked of for Grants Pass, and the promoters state that they have over 200 stockholders already signed up. The store will be called the capitalization being \$5000.

Dallas Itemizer: The three cells at the county jail are now all full, each having one occupant. Ab Hembre is charged with robbing a man of his watch in parading out the grub to his fellow inmates.

Harrisburg Bulletin: No one living in this vicinity need feel any regret over the condition of our roads. They average well with the roads of most progressive districts, and are way ahead of the ordinary town.

Union Republican: C. W. Jones is figuring on putting in a battery of 15 incubators at his webfoot ranch, and estimates that by next fall he will have ducks enough to supply much of the northwest territory.

The arrival of the box factory force has added eight new families to Seaside's population, besides a number of single men, but when the plant gets in operation to the extent of its capacity, the present force will be doubled, says the Signal.

Monmouth Herald: Mrs. Maria Smith is transforming her hophouse into a barn. She has most of her hop yard plowed up and will plow up the rest as soon as possible. A little more of the same kind of work could be well done in the Willamette valley.

More and more land is coming under irrigation and project after project comes to the front, says the Echo Register. Within 10 miles of Echo will be 50,000 acres of irrigated land. It depends upon us living today as to where that center of population is.

A horse sold for a cent in Lakeview the other day, where a man raffled off his mare and there were 110 chances, costing from one cent to \$1.10. All these were sold, and the winning number folded and drew the winning number from a hat containing all the numbers. No. 1 was drawn.

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The REALM FEMININE

Holiday Entertaining.

OUR Christmas observances are a curious mixture of old rites, folklore, the beautiful Christ child, etc., and a holiday merry-making, containing a suggestion for the thoughtful mind, of the long journey that the race has traveled, and of the various contributions to our civilization.

There are so many associations with this great holiday, in entertaining a household of young people it is easy to separate one theme from the common store of decorations and observance follow that line.

One hostess may find it agreeable to plan a German holiday. To make this successful it is best to have a tree, placed, German fashion, upon a table and most elaborately decorated, with such gifts as bright ornaments of all sorts, colored balls strung from branch to branch, and lit by many tiny candles, and a household of young people it is easy to separate one theme from the common store of decorations and observance follow that line.

Another suggestion for the stocking which Santa Claus is supposed to have brought to make these little stockings of tarlatan, in the egg and fashion of the Sunday school festival, and to hide them about the room with such gifts as bright ornaments on a slip attached to the stockings. Then let the little ones hunt for their stockings.

In the few moments quiet after these are found is the time for a story, and the whole of the evening should be on the floor devouring the sweets and edible trifles which the stockings contain, lest one of the older people tell some Christmas story, the legend about the Christmas stocking, for instance. This tells how Saint Nick overtook a stormy traveler on his way to a convent where he preached to the good nuns, after they had given him supper, and he promised to come again the following year and of his promise to do so, and before long, his request that each give him one of the stockings, which in the morning each stocking was found to contain sugar plums and in this way Saint Nick provided the gentle nuns for their kindness.

So many pretty Christmas legends may be told in a story to find one which is appropriate to the age of the children. Hans Christian Anderson's writings will furnish many themes. Do not dwell upon sorrowful scenes or tell a stormy tale, but rather a story of dire happenings that will linger in the minds of the little ones. A little girl was told recently for the first time the story of the Christmas stocking, and took in every word. When it was finished she drew a long breath and said: "A nice story—a good story—but the best part was when the mother thought she