

THE JOURNAL AND THE STEAM ROLLER IS STILL TO GRIND

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. B. YACHEON, Publisher

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Words are the notes of thought, and nothing more. Words are like sea shells on the shore; they show where the mind ends, and not how far it has been.—Bailey.

LEGISLATORS MUST NOT TRAMPLE ON THE REFERENDUM

THE LEGISLATURE has no right to indiscriminately use the emergency clause. When that clause is attached to measures which are not required by any actual emergency, both the spirit and letter of the organic law are violated. By the terms of the direct legislation amendment there is a mutuality between the legislative assembly and the electorate. They are joint participants in the process of lawmaking to the extent that the electorate is guaranteed the right to veto any bill in which no emergency is involved. Emergency has a meaning that is patent to every legislator, and one so plain that it cannot be misunderstood or misconstrued.

The presence of an emergency clause in a bill which carries no reasonable emergency is direct and palpable notice that behind it is the purpose to violate the direct election amendment in which the right of the referendum is guaranteed the people. It is a step that no legislator can afford to take and that no legislative assembly can afford to approve. No member nor assembly can afford to deny the people the right of participation that constitutional law provides, or to thrust them out of the mutual and confidential relation that the law imposes. Such a course is not justified by past precedents or ordinary discretion. The principle was tellingly set forth in a special message to the legislature of 1905 by Governor Chamberlain. It is a message that the members of the present session will do well to read and heed. If the committees, to which non-emergency measures with emergency clause attached, are referred, will eliminate this unwarranted and objectionable clause, the session will be spared odium that will otherwise be inevitable. If the legislature in the very process of lawmaking wantonly and publicly disregards the law, what can, from the example, be expected from the private citizen? Why shouldn't he, too, break the law?

A GRAVE MATTER

CALM INQUIRY into the proposed change in the status of the county judgeship of Multnomah should be made by the legislature before action is taken. The change is a grave one. It proposes to substitute a \$3 a day man for a \$3000 a year man. It gives to the former an authority involving momentous undertakings. The county court controls an expenditure of approximately \$1000 a day. It is a very large enterprise calling for large business capacity and technical information. It is a position of vastly larger responsibility and trust than any other office in the county. Will a salary of \$3 a day be effective in attracting to the office a man as big as the duties and responsibilities of the position? The query is one of extreme importance to the legislative assembly.

Moreover, if a change is to be made, why should there be great haste? In spite of the large questions of public policy involved the bill carries an emergency clause. It is to take immediate effect. It cuts short the well elaborated plans of the present court, worked out through years of patient study and experience. The road plans of Multnomah county projected for the coming two years are involved. It is a serious question whether in the midst of his career of useful endeavor in this behalf, the man who has devoted years of investigation and preparation, should be retired at the very moment when he can be of greatest usefulness. Is retirement in the very moment when this preparation can be of the greatest service to Multnomah county a proper reward for progressive endeavor? In the same way, is it good public policy to effect this change when the court is in the midst of plans and preparations for a courthouse, a county hospital and other public enterprises of moment? These considerations must give pause to the average citizen and to the average legislator.

THE NEW YORK WORLD

It says, has never been a champion of direct nominations. It still believes that "the faults of the method are numerous and conspicuous." But it is now supporting Governor Hughes in his advocacy of direct nominations. It believes his plan is not seriously objectionable, and even if so, "as between direct nominations and boss nominations the weight of preference is all on the side of the governor," and it further perceives that "majority of the people will pre-

"No," says a Democratic organ, "the Republican party of Oregon is not dead, but the Oregonian will do its best to kill it, unless it shall reject its follies and get on rational ground. Just now, as in the days of the silver craze, the Oregonian will force, or help to force, the Republican party to abandon error, or will do its utmost to kill it. What's the use of a party unless it's sane?"—Oregonian.

EXACTLY SO. The Oregonian's purpose is to rule or ruin. It has pursued that policy for 30 years. Its will is held by it to be superior to the party's will. Its right to govern Oregon is held to be superior to the right of the people to govern. It wants legislative election of senator and intends to have it or "bust" the party. Disgusted with that method, the party and the people adopted another. The adoption was by a vote of three to one. That vote was confirmed last June by a vote on compulsory statement of \$9,665 for and 21,161 against.

But that is nothing. The will and wishes of 70,000 Oregon voters is nothing. The longings of 70,000 social units to retain the privilege of choosing senator is nothing. The hell-bent purpose of the Oregonian is everything.

It has been so for 30 years. Throughout that time the party has been bullied into submission or been "busted." It is the policy that has ripped the party wide open a score of times. The past has been one long continued grind of the Oregonian's steam roller. If the will of the party got in its way that will was crushed. If men contested the paper's right to govern there was division and faction. It was the autocratic agency whose bullying tore the party into the Mitchell factions and Simon factions. It ripped open the party seams that yielded the rump conventions and

for it? That orderly and natural time will be when there is a regular change of officials.

THE WEST'S PACKING CENTER

PORTLAND IS well along in her career as a livestock center. The old order is changed and twentieth century methods are in vogue. Formerly Portland dealers kept an extensive staff of buyers in the field purchasing stock here and there as it could be found. It was a tedious and costly process. Now Portland maintains a competitive market, the only one on the coast. Buyers gather at this central market from all the leading cities. Each day they have assembled before them the shipments of hogs, cattle and sheep from the interior. Competition is shown at each sale so that the shipper is assured that at all times his holdings will receive the competitive bids of the entire packing trade of the Pacific northwest. The seller has the advantage of every phase of the demand and gets the benefit. The livestock brings exactly the figure that the market will permit, and the top figure at that. There is no shading of price due to uncertain conditions, but a perfect adjustment of it due to competitive buying, with every phase of demand present. All the market quotations in the daily press are based on actual sales rather than haphazard and widely varying estimates. In these reports the seller will have accurate information as to the state of the market.

Such is the new Portland as a livestock center. There is no other market like it on the entire Pacific slope. Nowhere is there such a wide range of demand for livestock. This city is the clearing house for the entire coast. It is the center where rail and water transportation meet, connecting it with the greatest stock ranges on the American continent. It is the natural center and therefore the actual center. The award of the contract for the buildings of the Swift packing plant further emphasizes the new order. The business is becoming so firmly entrenched that its further evolution is not a question of chance, but of time.

A CONVERT TO DIRECT NOMINATIONS

THE NEW YORK WORLD, as it says, has never been a champion of direct nominations. It still believes that "the faults of the method are numerous and conspicuous." But it is now supporting Governor Hughes in his advocacy of direct nominations. It believes his plan is not seriously objectionable, and even if so, "as between direct nominations and boss nominations the weight of preference is all on the side of the governor," and it further perceives that "majority of the people will pre-

fer to follow the governor." The reasons for this preference are thus stated: The convention system in this state is in no sense representative. It makes the nominations practically appointive, and elections are a matter of choice between candidates named by two aggregations of irresponsible bosses who, while maintaining a pretense of opposition, often work in complete harmony. The average Democrat is not satisfied to have Conners, Murphy and McCarran appoint the Democratic candidates for state office. Neither is the average Republican content to have Woodruff, Parsons, Barnes, Ward and Hendricks say who shall be the Republican candidates for office, even though these bosses bow to an irresistible public sentiment now and then and permit the nomination of a man like Mr. Hughes. Whatever the system of naming candidates may be, Democrats and Republicans alike have a right to demand that it shall be responsive, responsible and representative.

This is the case in most northern states; and more than this, these bosses almost invariably play the game of politics for the benefit and hand-in-glove with the predatory interests; corporations and combines that seek through public officials to plunder the people. Yes, the convention system has proved non-representative of the people and their interests, and will have to go.

NEW YORK'S NEW SENATOR

FOR THE first time in many years the great state of New York, after March 4, will have a United States senator of much ability and high character, one that will not disgrace the state. Then the unspeakable Platt will retire, and Elihu Root, a statesman of the first rank, will succeed him. Not only New York, but the nation is to be congratulated on the change. Two years hence that decayed old "peach," Depew, will also sink into oblivion, and may be replaced with some decent man.

It may be objected, in some quarters it is objected, that Root has long been a trust attorney. He has, and probably the ablest one in the country. As such he served the trusts well. But it does not follow that he will serve them as senator. He is a man of sufficiently high character and keen sense of duty to serve his employers, the people, as ably and faithfully as he served the trusts. Being a man ambitious for lasting honor rather than great wealth, it may readily be believed that he will do this, and the more readily because he has rendered the country greatly valuable services as secretary of war and secretary of state. Mr. Root has made a most excellent record as a cabinet officer, and though conservative, he will make a great senator. At least he will be as "Hyperion to a satyr" as compared with Platt.

AMERICA MUST NOT BOAST

Portland, Or., Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal.—Having been a reader of your valuable paper for many years, I have been particularly gratified by your attention to articles published in your paper concerning the conditions of the laboring classes of America and England, and in consequence of the statements made are misleading, especially to those who have never taken the trouble or time to investigate the conditions as they really exist in America and England.

In an article recently published in your paper concerning the old age pension just gone into effect in England, and also touching on the great number of papers that exist in the tight little isle, after reading said article we would readily infer that England was a nation of paupers. Now, having been closely identified for 55 years with labor and its conditions, 35 years in England and more than 20 in America, and having lived in New York, Chicago and several other large cities of America, and also in London, Liverpool and Glasgow, I can assure you that the misery amongst the laboring classes in proportion to population of said cities, are about the same. While I

regular conventions, the Mitchell conventions and the Citizens' conventions, the Republican conventions, the Independent Republican conventions. In the forefront of all this division, demoralization and strife the Oregonian shrieked its will as the "party's" will. Its aim was not the party's welfare, but its own ends, it scarred whomsoever it could not control. It vilified whomsoever would not yield to it, poor old persecuted John H. Mitchell among them. Penney was elected and reelected in a "strongly Republican state, not by a primary law, there was none then, but because the Oregonian kept the party torn and trenched. Chamberlain was elected governor first when there was no primary law and then when there was. Chamberlain was elected senator largely through the division created by the Oregonian in the Republican party over Statement No. 1. The wreck and ruin wrought in the party by the Oregonian's steam roller is piled high and strewn thick in the memories of the past. Fulton, a political derelict, made so by the deadly steam roller, is a sample. The present division over Statement No. 1 is another. There was no opposition and would never have been opposition to Statement No. 1 but for the Oregonian. But for it the party would at this moment have been peaceful, militant and triumphant.

It is a hard statement, but it is true, terribly and overwhelmingly true, that the Republican party would be infinitely more harmonious, infinitely more effective and Oregon infinitely more progressive and militant if there were no Oregonian, asserting its right to govern, demanding its power to take privileges away from the people and boasting that it will rule the Republican party or "kill" it.

I was engaged in the produce business for several years back east, buying and shipping on my own account, traveling buyer for different firms and in various other capacities and in all of my 17 years' experience I never met with such a condition of affairs as I have witnessed the past season in Portland and my own experience has convinced me that the fault is not all with the shipper. So strong has become my belief in this that I will pay \$25 to anyone who will furnish me with the name of a commission firm in Portland that will sell me produce for the highest price obtainable and remit me the net proceeds less the freight and commission.

It is my opinion that I could be perfectly safe in bringing \$1000 to do this as a business proposition and not a bluff. If there is a commission man in Portland who will sell produce for the highest market price and remit the net proceeds less the freight and commission, I will give \$25 to find him and act upon the presumption that there is a remedy for all evils I propose to try to have the legislature to enact a law that will give the shipper the right to appoint a commission man of his own choice from all odium of suspicion and drive the dishonest one out of business. I would first have the commission man appear before the county clerk for the county in which he proposes to do business and take out a license and give bond. I would also make it the duty of commission merchants to make out a bill of all produce sold, have the purchaser sign the bill, and give his full name, street and number, and mail it to the shipper with the net proceeds not later than one week from date of sale.

And I would further make it his duty to give a receipt, similar to that pronounced unfit for use by the market inspector or those authorized by law to do so (or consigned to the dump), to immediately make out a bill of the same, have the inspector sign it and send it to the shipper.

I think that such a law would relieve the honest commission man from the suspicion of wrong doing, drive the dishonest one from the market and which he proposes to do business and take out a license and give bond. I would also make it the duty of commission merchants to make out a bill of all produce sold, have the purchaser sign the bill, and give his full name, street and number, and mail it to the shipper with the net proceeds not later than one week from date of sale.

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hotel, \$60,000. These in addition to the usual multiplication of business and residence buildings will effect a long step in municipal growth. The limit set for the city's population by January 1, 1910 is 15,000. A city on a beautiful and fortunate site, a citizenry of broad and virile enterprise and a studied propagation of the boosting microbe in the community are the factors in this unusual growth.

Letters From the People

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The Journal is not to be understood as endorsing the views expressed in letters unless they are made as brief as possible. Those who wish their letters returned when not used should indicate so.

Commission Men Grifters? Independence, Or., Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal.—While in Portland during the holidays I could not help but notice the scarcity and high prices of produce. The market which up the valley here are a drag on the market, and have gone to waste not by tons, but by car and trainloads. When I ask the farmers why they do not ship such things to market and try to realize something out of it, the answer invariably is that they hardly ever bring enough to pay the freight, and rather than the commission men should enjoy all the fruits of their labor they prefer to feed it to their stock or let it go to waste. But the commission man gives entirely a different version of the affair. He says that the cause of poor returns is entirely the fault of the shipper, or at least that it is in poor condition or ship so as to arrive the last of the week, thus compelling it to be held over until Monday when it is in such poor condition that it must be sold at a reduced price or to the stock.

There you have it. A peculiar condition of affairs. You people of Portland paying a high price for your vegetables, milk and butter, poultry and traveling buyer for different firms and in various other capacities and in all of my 17 years' experience I never met with such a condition of affairs as I have witnessed the past season in Portland and my own experience has convinced me that the fault is not all with the shipper. So strong has become my belief in this that I will pay \$25 to anyone who will furnish me with the name of a commission firm in Portland that will sell me produce for the highest price obtainable and remit me the net proceeds less the freight and commission.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Taft's geniality just fits the hospitable South. Sunshine and rain, wind and calm—regular April weather. Three holidays next month. It seems more than short February's share.

Many men will rejoice on the coming of March 4—for different reasons. Somebody sent Taft a bottle of water. That's what he gets for swearing off.

Some high water, yes; but read how much worse it is in some other states. Everybody down in Georgia is apparently for Taft now, but no promises for 1912 are being made.

Willitt's speech may be expunged from the record, but not from the newspapers or the tablets of memory. Congress would rather bait the president and wrangle with him than pass any laws of benefit to the people.

Judge Dimick of Clackamas county seems to have faith in the old saying about the early bird catching the worm. Wealthy and well-to-do war veterans are deserving of the country's and the states' esteem and gratitude, but not its money.

What are some Republicans complaining about? Aren't they soon to have a Republican governor for the first time in over six years? There are two Bones in the house, and though one of them is only a boy Bones, he draws as much pay, as a boy, as the big Bones.

One big normal school at Salem, Gladstone, where plenty of ground could probably be procured cheaply, would be about the best school.

It was an honest, truthful woman who told a judge that she would not stop talking to him when she was being wrong to him at contempt of court. The people will never return to the purely representative system, because they discovered that they were being choused rather than well represented.

If Geer were still governor, he would doubtless be glad to enable that nine-foot sheet bill—though he would want it amended to include quilts and blankets.

The Astorian alludes to "the miserable fiasco at Salem last Tuesday." No fiasco at all; a senator was elected in a few minutes.

It has been pretty easy for the predatory politicians to fool a majority of the people, but it is a different matter when they are awake and alert.

A bank thief caught at St. Louis says he stole \$10,000 to enable him to learn the plumbing trade. He knew that if he could become a plumber he would have all the money he wanted.

It may not be right for the government to pay the president's barber \$1600 a year by carrying him on the list of the regulars, but it is not right that the job isn't worth that salary.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

"Homes of the People"—By Henry W. Gray

(From a speech at the Bay State club, Boston, December 13, 1889.) I went to Washington the other day, and I stood on the capitol hill; my heart beat quick as I looked at the towering marble of my country's capitol, and the mist gathered in my eyes as I thought of its tremendous significance, and the armies and the treasury and the judges and the president and the congress and the courts and all that was gathered there. And I felt that the sun in all its course could not shine down on a better light than that majestic home of a republic that had taught the world its best lessons of liberty. And I felt that if honor and wisdom and justice abided therein, the world would at last be ruled by the light of the ark of the covenant of my country is lodged, its final uplifting and its regeneration.

Two days afterward I went to visit a friend in the country, a modest man with a quiet, unpretentious house, set about with big trees, enclosed in meadow and field rich with the promise of harvest. The fragrance of the pink and hollyhock in the front yard was mingled with the aroma of the orchard and of the gardens and resonant with the cluck of poultry and the hum of bees. Inside was quiet, cleanliness, thrift and comfort. There was the old clock that had welcomed in steady measure every newcomer to the family, that had ticked the solemn requiem of the dead and had kept company with the watcher at the bedside. There were the big, rustic beds and the old open fireplace and the old family Bible thumbed with the fingers of hands long since still and wet with the tears of eyes long since closed, holding the simple annals of the family and the heart and the conscience of the home.

Outside, there stood my friend, the freely admit that the conditions in England are bad especially in the large cities. I also wish to emphasize the fact that such is the case in the large cities of America. And such being the fact with the resources at our command better conditions should bring the blush of shame to all true Americans. If we compare the opportunities which our congressmen and legislators have to better the conditions of the toiling masses in America to the opportunities of the English legislators, one can readily see our government has the advantage over the English government 90 per cent in its favor, and as large as America and had the same resources as we have conditions would be better there, and we would have to look to our laurels as the first nation of the earth.

I have many times made a tour of our department stores on Saturday evenings, and in many cases I have noticed poor girls bordering on nervous prostration, being nothing more than slaves to the counters during working hours working for a paltry wage in their endeavor to live, while their masters and families are making a tour of Europe.

Therefore, I say, let us not waste our sympathy on other nations, but endeavor to build up and better the conditions of our own toiling masses. JAMES SALMON, 711 Williams avenue.

"Hermiston has growing pains," is the way the Pendleton Tribune puts it.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Yamhill Record has completed its fifty year anniversary. It has become used to knoels.

A new boat launched at Corvallis is a substantial, magnificently equipped little freighter and passenger boat designed for use in the shallower waters of the upper Willamette.

The greater Eugene will be a reality by the end of the present year. It will apply in all respects that will continue growing from year to year until it differs widely from the interior cities of the west, says the Guard.

Vale Oratio: It is of little use for the local editor to waste his lungs and sprain his spine in trying to boom a town when the citizens all stand around with their hands in their pockets and differently wait for something to turn up.

A disease has struck the horses on a Gordon creek, Wallawa county ranch, and already three have died, and another is sick, relates the Elgin Recorder. The disease which is killing the horses is unknown, and so far all efforts to stay its progress have availed nothing.

Some of the hustlers of Harney, Malheur and other counties are planning for the organization of an inland empire league, consisting of representatives of the interior counties from Boise to Bordeaux as a preventive of apple tree anthrax; applied to peach trees just before the buds open in the spring it is a preventive of peach-leaf curl, and in the case of grapes and summer season work at the Oregon Experiment station also show that when diluted it can be used as a substitute for Bordeaux in the case of grapes and summer spraying with exceedingly good results.

There are two methods of preparing the lime-sulphur spray. The formula which has been most generally used in this state is as follows: Quick lime, 50 pounds; sulphur, 50 pounds; water, 150 gallons.

"Strike the lime thoroughly, add the sulphur, and boil briskly for at least an hour or until the mixture is of a deep blood red color with but little free sulphur in suspension. Add water to make 150 gallons. Apply with considerable force through a thick nozzle.

The "stock solution" method which is now most generally used in this state has been devised by the Oregon Experiment station. During that time there have appeared upon the market a number of concentrated lime-sulphur solutions, which have only to be diluted with water to be ready for use. Care should be taken in diluting these solutions to use the proper amount of water. These sprays are fully equal to the old home made lime-sulphur spray in destroying San Jose scale. Whether all of them can safely be used for summer spraying is yet to be demonstrated.

The chief fault to be found with these commercial preparations is that they cost too much. The retail price is \$3 to \$4 per barrel of 50 gallons. The price of the ingredients necessary to prepare 50 gallons of stock solution which is equally as efficient costs at present retail prices approximately \$3.

New Tariff on Coffee

From the New York American. The wise men of Washington propose to put a tax of five cents a pound on coffee—not five per cent of the value, mind you, but five cents a pound.

This is one of the nice, old-fashioned taxes, so small that it doesn't make any difference to the consumer, but big to the pouf man, so big that it will weigh heavily on the poor.

It is probable that among those that will work and vote for the tax in Washington there are some "men." We suggest that you advise.

Find out how many million pounds of coffee have been brought to the United States free of duty lately and stored away.

Take a trouble to investigate the coffee importations and find if there are not held for speculation in America now, safely through the custom house and beyond the reach of your duty, scores of millions of pounds of coffee that if it were put in value over \$100 a ton you put on that five cent tax.

Of course you know that a tax on coffee would not last. It would be put on, and public indignation would probably take it off again—that has been tried before.

The idea in this particular thing is to help some speculators put in their pockets about \$20,000,000 which would be taken from honest merchants and honest consumers.

Our distinguished legislators will please bear this in mind when the coffee tax is discussed.

An Official Tyrant

From Brooklyn Eagle, Jan. 4, 1909. It was about