

EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

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planation will not be satisfactory to the farmers of the Pacific northwest, who are taxed \$500,000 a year on grain bags imported from India in order to protect a little California establishment or two whose output amounts to only \$120,000 a year. Probably the farmers will not be satisfied, but the senator spoke as a true protectionist, and it is protection that the farmers have been voting for these many years. When they find out that they are not in it when it comes to parceling out the swag, they may vote differently. As Senator Heyburn, he is in for six years more now, and doesn't have to serve the people rather than the trusts.

WHO HAS BEEN HARMED?

WHY SO MUCH complaint on the part of two or three Republican newspapers about the election of Chamberlain instead of a Republican to the United States senate? Wasn't he elected by Republicans as well as Democrats? And are any Republicans who voted for him expressing regrets? It does not appear that any sacred "principles" have suffered, or that Oregon has been injured in any way. He appears in his votes, while not adhering strictly on every occasion to professed Democratic doctrine, to have represented the people of the country generally and of Oregon in particular, quite as well as any Republican would have done—far better, indeed, than any Republican follower of Aldrich would have done. And in other respects he has been attending to business, vigilant, faithful. This is no more than any senator should be, but why these reiterated walls about Oregon having an independent sort of Democrat instead of a Republican in the senate?

Here is the Hillsboro Republican moaning about it, and warning the Republicans of Washington county that in the state and county elections next year they must all stand together, must under no circumstances ever again vote for an "independent" or Democratic candidate—for see what a terrible thing has happened: Chamberlain is in the senate! This, that organ says, "is a highly displeasing state of affairs," brought about through the efforts of "independent" newspapers and voters; hence beware of being "independent." Be Republican, down to dogcatcher, though the devil be in it. While Chamberlain did not carry Washington county, several hundred Republicans who later voted for Taft voted for him, and the Independent (if should change its name) lectures them roundly, and warns them that there will be "a sifting of the sheep from the goats"—all the voters who choose occasionally to be independent being, we suppose, the "goats."

But beware, brother, if voters are threatened and coerced too much, and if it is attempted by the old machine element to undo the reformatory progressive measures that have been enacted, the "goats" are likely to so increase in numbers that they will butt the "sheep" out of the pasture.

NO CHANGE IS WANTED

SO FAR as The Journal is able to inform itself, it believes that the reported scheme to oust Director F. H. Newell from his extremely important position as head of the reclamation bureau, and to put in his place a politician, should meet with general protest throughout the country and especially in the west. Mr. Newell has been in this service for 20 years, and knows more about it, probably, than any other man in the country. More than any other he is an expert in it. He is absorbed in the work, and it is progressing finely—even if some mistakes have been made. He is not a politician, is oblivious to party "pull," will have no politics in his business—which is probably the real reason why great pressure is being brought to bear on the president to turn him out and put some "lame duck" politician in his place. It should not be done. Politics should be kept out of this service, this great work.

THE BILLBOARD QUESTION

THE CITY council of Seattle, yielding to widespread public sentiment, is preparing an ordinance regulating billboards by limiting their height, by providing for a lineal foot tax and by prohibiting them altogether on grounds facing schools, parks or boulevards. The ordinance may be passed notwithstanding an adverse or not encouraging opinion by the corporation counsel. He thinks the first limitation would be an invasion of the rights of private property, the second double taxation and the third non-enforceable. Yet he intimates that the courts might be inclined to sustain such legislation on the broad ground that the multiplicity of great billboards is a public evil, which a municipality has the right under its police powers to suppress or regulate. This suggestion seems more in consonance with reason and common sense than his objections.

True, billboards are not per se a nuisance in the same sense as great garbage heaps or odorous slaughter houses are, yet they are literally an offense to a large proportion of the people of every city, often to residents in their immediate vicinity, and it probably will be held in the near future, it has

not been already, that a city can abate the nuisance or regulate and tax it. It is unlikely that billboard advertising will be suppressed altogether, but it ought to be reasonably taxed in all cities.

MEXICAN POLITICS

NATIONAL election is pending in Mexico, and several incidents, among them a few riots, indicate that stormy times are ahead, when the venerable veteran Diaz shall have laid down the scepter, if not even before. There is no serious opposition to the election of Diaz as president for the seventh time, but there is a bitter fight over the vice presidency, the successful candidate for which will be Diaz's logical successor, and will in fact be his legal successor if he shall not live out his term. The present vice president is Ramon Corral, who is Diaz's candidate for reelection, but a numerous and strong faction resent the president's dictation, as they claim it to be, of his successor, and have united, to a considerable extent, on General Bernardo Reyes. Diaz was always a good deal of a dictator, but Mexico needed one, and his habit of domination has strengthened with increasing years, so that if he insists on using his overwhelming influence in favor of Corral, the Reyesites may start a revolution as soon as the old warrior and statesman is in his grave.

But possibly not; Mexico has learned and improved much in the generation that has grown up since Diaz fought his way to the presidency, and during which he has made a respectable nation out of it.

A CASE IN POINT

THERE is doubt whether the legislature of the necessary three-fourths of the states will pass the income tax resolution, but there is no doubt that if the people had an opportunity to vote on the question directly it would carry in nearly, if not quite, all the states. Influences that can and doubtless will be brought to bear upon the legislatures of many states, with considerable chance of success in some of them, could not so easily or successfully be brought to bear upon the masses of the people.

This one proposition, if correct—and we think no one will dispute it—furnishes a powerful argument in favor of a primary law similar to Oregon's in all the states. Often the people don't get what they reasonably and justly want because they are not really represented by members of the legislatures. And when such a case occurs, with respect to any law or public proposition, they should have the power to take the case directly into their own hands and settle it for themselves.

A dispatch says that angered by a report that President Reyes, when he fled Colombia for Europe, took with him \$20,000,000 in gold and a bag containing millions of dollars' worth of jewels as his plunder from the government, the people of the republic are on the verge of a serious revolution. But he only followed many precedents, the quite usual custom in several of the republics of South and Central America. And what good will a revolution do after the gold and diamonds are gone? It looks like a case of smashing the stable all to pieces after the horse has been stolen.

The churches and their adjunct institutions are the principal objects of the revolutionists' wrath in Spain, as they were in France in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The reasons are much the same, and the results, in time, may be as also. When millions of ignorant, oppressed people begin to care more about their bodies and less about their souls, more about this life and less about the next, there is bound to be trouble.

The Osaka fire will rank among the great fires of the world's history, the area burned over being about four miles square, occupied by 13,000 buildings, though probably many of these were small. The Japanese responded quickly and liberally on the occasion of the San Francisco calamity, and if there is need of outside help in Osaka, Americans should do no less.

Among the items in the last appropriation bill was one of \$6000 for hire of autos and carriages for the speaker. This may be reasonable, is a general proposition, but it does seem like rubbing it in a little to tax the people \$6000 a year or auto rides for Uncle Joe Cannon, who is constantly using all his great power to injure and oppress them.

While there has been a stubborn strike at Pittsburg lately, involving some important features, it is noticeable that the country has been remarkably free from strikes for many months past, more so, we believe, than for any equal period in many years. This is a good thing and a good sign, and an occasion for general congratulation.

A French professor has proposed to the government a plan of bonusing large families, which is being seriously considered. He proposes that \$700 be allowed for the second child born in any family, \$200 for the third, and so on. This plan promises to increase the population

annually by 1,000,000 children, at a cost to the state of \$600,000 annually. This scheme of subsidizing motherhood is something new but in a nation whose population is at a standstill it may have merit. In this country we pay billions to "protect" certain interests, concerns and people, but as yet have not thought of subsidizing maternity.

Mr. H. W. Scott some years ago desired to go to the senate. He would, we may presume, like it if he were a member of that body now. If he were so, and he had been in Senator Chamberlain's place, in what respects would he have voted differently from what Chamberlain did? Would he have been a meek and lowly follower of Aldrich? If so, isn't Chamberlain a better senator for Oregon and the country than Scott would have been? Or would he have voted his personal ideas and principles, and so become a follower of Bryan on the tariff question? If so, is he a Republican? An answer would be interesting.

Experiments have shown that a howitzer can destroy a balloon 4000 feet high. Now the need is for a balloon that from a safe distance can drop something down that will destroy a howitzer. The thirst of the art of destruction is unappeasable.

Can't everybody understand that the only time that Thaw was really insane was at the moment he shot Stanford White? That in fact was the expression of his insanity. Any well paid alienist will tell you that.

TANGLEFOOT
BY MILLS OVERHOLT

NOVELLETTE—IN THREE CHAPTERS

Lovely Luella Lovelace sat in her room, musing with a pain in her forehead. She was also reading the 77th chapter of the book wherein the hero was a dark-skinned giant with blue eyes and a fighter from 'way up the creek.

Lovely Luella's ma hummed herself over the wash tub in the kitchen and sang, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," six inches below the scale.

Overhead the bluebirds were carolling forth their overtures to the dawn. (As a matter of fact it was 10 minutes to 11, but we have got to work some poetic language in here somewhere.)

Chapter 1.
Luella's mother stretched her gum from her mouth, yawned and then let it snap back against a dull thud against the mansard roof of her mouth. The blue-eyed hero had just killed eight Indians and had saved the life of the lovely heroine, and the pain in Luella's complexion had disappeared.

Chapter 2.
Luella's mother faint for the first time in 65 years, 8 months and 10 days. The dogs barked. The birds sang. The dishes rattled.

Chapter 3.
Luella's mother fainted for the first time in 65 years, 8 months and 10 days. The dogs barked. The birds sang. The dishes rattled.

"You've heard of lightning tearing off a man's shoe without injuring the man," I suppose," said the hero, "and you saw a half-witted fellow right on top of the head, and in less than a week he had just killed eight Indians and saved the life of the lovely heroine, and the pain in Luella's complexion had disappeared."

"Speaking of economy in living expenses," said a gentleman in the Plaza yesterday, "I know a man who has got it down to a science. One day he stopped in to the butcher shop and bought a pound of sausage. The butcher didn't fill the order right away, and in about 15 minutes a boy handed him a note which read: 'Don't send sausage; the cat just caught a bird.'"

This Date in History.
1864—Treaty of peace concluded at Albany between the colonists and the Five Nations.

1792—The Declaration of Independence was engraved and signed by the members of congress.

1816—First Presbyterian congregation in Missouri was organized at Bellevue settlement in Washington county.

1820—Sir John Ross, Canadian statesman, born. Died August 26, 1885.

1836—Elitha Gray, famous electrical inventor, born in Barnstable, Ohio. Died in Newtonville, Mass., January 20, 1901.

1863—Cavalry fight at Culpepper, Va., between Generals Stuart and Buford.

1873—Large section of Portland, Or., destroyed by fire.

1900—First fires devastated several towns of British Columbia.

George P. Wetmore's Birthday.
George Peabody Wetmore, United States senator from Rhode Island, was born in London, Eng., August 2, 1844. He was graduated from Yale college in 1867 and after a two years' course at Columbia college law school was admitted to the bar of Rhode Island. He was first presidential elector of Rhode Island in 1880 and in 1884. In 1885 he was elected governor of Rhode Island on the Republican ticket and a year later was honored with reelection. In 1887 he was defeated for a third term, receiving, however, a greater number of votes than at either of the two preceding elections, when succeeded by Mr. Wetmore was elected to the United States senate in 1894 to succeed Nathan F. Dixon, and was reelected in 1900 and 1907.

Senator Gore (Blind) on Light.
From the Congressional Record.

"In my judgment a tax on print paper is a tax on intelligence. It is a fine on knowledge. It sets a premium upon ignorance and a penalty upon learning. It is on print paper is a shade on the

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Harvesters have taken their coats off.

Hurrah! Congress is about to adjourn.

The downward revision is only in spots.

Colonels are dying off fast in the arid south.

The sugar and steel trusts are quite satisfied.

Speaking of local trusts, how about the plumbers?

Railroad building is costly—in the Deschutes route style.

It's seldom so bad as predicted, never so bad as it might be.

My! but won't Big Bill Taft be glad when congress adjourns?

Glorious nights to sleep, as is nearly always the case in Oregon.

Harrison has a habit of getting what he wants when he wants it.

Even in reporting news of disasters in war, Spain's motto is "manana."

The principal ruler of Spain for centuries has been General Anarchy.

An exceedingly superstitious people can not be fit for self-government.

Whether sane or not, Thaw and his case have become a great bore.

The air will have much fun with a lot of people before being fully conquered.

The people will applaud a smashing of the paving trust, or the plumbers' trust.

"Woman divorced from wrong man," said a headline. Usually the case, in the woman's opinion.

Mr. Rockefeller's kerosene butter may come handy out camping in making a light to eat by.

If Oregon ought to be ashamed of anything, it is importations of things she should produce.

The farmer is willing to submit to various kinds of uplift; but he won't take to a balloon.

Next, the governments will be going into aerial freights. They must prepare in every possible way for peace.

It is in these clear, warm evenings and under a full moon that Love gets his young dream work in, to perfection.

Irrigation convention in Eugene Saturday. What would people of the Willamette valley have thought of that a few years ago?

It is reported that a Spanish warship was sent to Mexico to know Spain had any warship since Dewey and Schley operated on the Spanish navy.

Woodburn Independent: That water grade haul is distinctly advantageous to Portland. The heavy mountain climb to Seattle and Tacoma no longer looks good to railroad owners.

A Eugene man who gave \$40,000 in money and property in aid of the district school, there was fined \$5 for swearing at an automobilist who almost ran over him. Perhaps it may be said that the angel dropped a tear on the oath, and blotted it out forever.

Songs have been sung and orations made, to the man behind the gun; millions in bloody death he has laid, and glory triumph won. But a little verse to the man who, causing no pain, but to feed the hungry, waiting world, rides out to reap the grain.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Elkton is building waterworks.

Irrigation ditches out of a job lately.

Clatskanie farmers want a good roads lecture.

Five steamers left Tillamook in one day northward.

Not a vacant house in Toledo, and houses in demand.

New electric building for the Brownsville Woolen mills.

Harrisburg man imported very fine buck from Ontario.

New buildings going up in Canby, one for a general store.

Roseburg Masons will build a four story \$20,000 building.

Tacoma packinghouse buys many cattle in Klamath county.

Everything looks mighty nice around Irrigon, says the Irrigator.

An 18-acre barley field near Weston yielded 85 bushels an acre.

Sumpter valley "railroad" company wants lots of men and teams.

Many fine apples are also raised in Tillamook county—or could be.

Many wheat fields around Weston