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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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Pride requires very costly food—its keeper's happiness.—Colton.

THE CORPORATION TAX

IT MAY be confidently assumed that President Taft believes that the corporation tax will be a beneficial feature of the new tariff law. And no one disputes that Mr. Taft's opinion on such a question is entitled to much weight—far more than Roosevelt's would have been. That the corporation tax will produce considerable needed revenue there is no doubt (unless it shall be held to be unconstitutional), and to that extent it will serve a good purpose, but that it will or should become a permanent feature of our federal tax system is to say the least improbable. That it is unconstitutional, even more so than the income tax law, many lawyers and members of congress believe. That it will not impose taxes equally upon people according to their means and obligation to pay, that it will not be equitable and fair, it would seem that everybody must acknowledge. That despite of this Mr. Taft, surely a just man, insisted on it, is a mystery.

Aldrich openly declared that he accepted the corporation tax in order to beat the income tax. Not that he likes the corporation tax, but that the elements of the public for which he labors are far more hostile to an income tax. Why, that would mean a tax on the very rich; this in Aldrich's opinion is absurd. The whole tariff system is based on the principle of taxing the poor for the benefit of the rich.

The corporation tax is utterly illogical. Corporation capacity is a thing that can be put on or off at will. Not all the great corporations may dissolve in order to avoid the tax, but it is more than probable that they can devise ways largely at least to evade it. Aside from this, it will work a manifest injustice. A corporation can issue non-taxable bonds, interest on which will absorb its income, and so escape. Then why should men be penalized merely for doing business as a corporation? A concern on one corner chooses for convenience to incorporate, and is taxed; another on the opposite corner, engaged in the same business, with the same amount of capital invested, does not incorporate, and so does not pay a tax.

Instances might be multiplied. It is a pretty safe prediction that after a trial Mr. Taft will admit that the corporation tax is but a temporary makeshift. The income tax is in principle equal, fair and just, but whether it can be sufficiently enforced to justify its adoption is another question.

INDIANAPOLIS AND OREGON

WITH FINE dramatic fervor, there is exploited before us the experience of Indianapolis with a primary law as a lesson from which Oregon should learn something. Should Oregon sit at the feet of Indianapolis and learn? Indianapolis has had a primary law less months than Oregon has had it years. Indianapolis knows nothing about the primary law and its effects. She has not even held an election under it. One Indianapolis newspaper utters some criticism of it, but we have the same sort of a disgruntled newspaper in Oregon. What the Indianapolis newspaper says is as likely to be misrepresentation as is that uttered by the Oregon paper.

Besides, what are political conditions usually in Indianapolis? A dispatch of yesterday gives a glimpse. It says "the city council of Indianapolis was virtually in the hands of a mob from 1 to 3 o'clock this morning, and the feeling was so intense that the police had to be continually on guard to prevent violence." The trouble was over the appointment of election inspectors. Councilman Royse slipped out of the chamber just as the vote was announced and was pursued by a mob with cries of "hang the scoundrel," "shoot the traitor," and other denunciations. The mob pressed on his rear, and seeing no other means to escape, Royse ran to the police station, where officers succeeded in protecting the trembling councilman. The incident is a mere instance of the play of passion common in Indiana, where in the late presidential election gun play was more than

THE LOGIC OF SCUTTLE

IF THE politicians desire to substitute conventions for the open primaries, why do they not go about their enterprise in a lawful way? If, as the politicians say, the open primaries are bad, why not prepare an initiative measure, restoring conventions and submit it to the people at the next election? If their so-called assembly method is so good a thing as they claim, and the open primaries so bad a system, why do they fear to go to the people and ask for a change? When they refuse to go to the electorate for the purpose of establishing their "assembly" system, but prefer to foist it on the people by subterfuge, what does it mean? Does it not show that the politicians know they are wrong, and that the electorate would not permit this change for which they are clamoring?

They know that in any contest at the ballot-box they would be beaten to death, and as in the old days, that which they cannot do lawfully, they are undertaking to do unlawfully. They know the contentions they make are bogus, and that the electorate could not be fooled. Here, for instance, is a statement by the Oregonian: "This method of direct primary, conducted without guidance by party representatives, puts parties and especially the dominant party, completely out of business." That is not true. The Oregonian's program is an attempt to bunko the citizen. The Republican party is not out of business in Oregon. It carried the state for Taft by a plurality of about 25,000. It elected two Republican congressmen last year with a combined plurality of nearly 40,000. Three years ago, with the exception of the governor, it elected every state officer with the largest pluralities in the history of the state. It lost the governor because of the wide popularity of Chamberlain, just as it lost four years before under the convention system when Chamberlain defeated Furnish.

These results show that the Republican party is not out of business. It is the bosses that are "out of business." The party is dominant, powerful and triumphant. It is rid of the volcanic feudism and factionalism that used to keep it split wide open and in a constant eruption of internal strife. The only discordant note in its ranks is the hyena howl of the manipulators who want, through restored conventions, more good times for them and their hangers on at the pie counter. The only discord is the clamor of the disgruntled bosses who, just upon return to a system by which they can seize the party, rule the people and reduce the state again to the lowest depths of political shambles. The Republican party of the state is sounder, healthier and stronger than at any time in 40 years, and the

once resorted to over political differences. To call upon orderly Oregon to go to such a chaos for information or precedent about workings of a primary or any other law is absurd. Why not invite us to go to the cannibal islands for instruction on the etiquette of dining?

IRRIGATION

IRRIGATION IS, to use a common expression, just in its infancy. Irrigation on a large scale is a new thing in this country. The national reclamation law was passed only seven years ago, and already millions of acres have been reclaimed and thousands of new homes have been established, but only a fair beginning has been made. It was a great scheme, literally. The government uses the money from public land sales to carry on these projects, and the people who buy the watered land pay the money back gradually, so that it becomes a revolving fund, and can be used over and over again indefinitely, as long as there are arid lands on which water can be taken.

Oregon is profoundly interested in this species of development. It has two projects now well along toward completion in southern Klamath county and in western Umatilla county, the latter in fact now in operation; and there will be another great project in Malheur county and probably others. These will add greatly to Oregon's products, population and wealth. But it is not the government alone that can irrigate on a large or considerable scale. A community can do it, as the people of La Grande and vicinity are going to do. A smaller project that could be carried out is that in Clackamas county in the vicinity of the Molalla river. There are many communities in well watered western Oregon that by careful combination or cooperation could get water on the lands, and so double their crops and render them sure.

CONCERNING PORTLAND MILK

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS are that the Portland health board is to be alert in supervision of the milk supply of the city. It is a policy that more than 200,000 milk consumers in the city will applaud. No endeavor by the board can be more profitable to the public or of wider popularity. Great issues of life and death hang on the use of milk. Disease lurks in the sediment found in the bottom of milk vessels. The presence of this

claim that it is "out of business" is the climax of absurdity. It is because such shallow arguments must be relied upon that it is not dared to go to the people with the question of whether or not the open primaries shall be debauched by boss controlled conventions.

Here is another sample argument by the apostle of conventions: "The civil war never could have been fought to a successful conclusion without party." If the power of party had been effective the civil war could not have been fought to a successful conclusion. The dominant party then was the Democratic party. But it was a time when party fealty counted for nothing. Men rose above party and stood for country. The Democratic party split in twain, and one half was against the war and the other for it. The figure of Douglas standing by Lincoln in the darkest days is one of the triumphal incidents of the nation. The candidacy of Breckinridge on one national Democratic ticket and the candidacy of Douglas on another, with the party riven asunder over the war is a monumental example of the impotency of party power in the war. In the face of such history it is the logic of a goose to argue that there ought to be conventions in Oregon because of the part partisanship played in the war. It was the great soul of Lincoln that won the war. It was not an issue of politics and politicians, but a heroic president, a great principle, devoted soldiers and an arbitrament of shot and shell.

It is out of shallow sophistry that the charges are made against open primaries, as above illustrated. The scuttlers magnify its possible faults and ignore its transcendent virtues. The rivers are sometimes at their flood and break out of their banks and spread ruin and desolation. But by the logic of scuttle there should be no rivers. Fire sometimes breaks out and destroys homes and cities; and by the logic of scuttle, fire should be eliminated. Sometimes the sun, by its fierce heat, kills human beings, and should therefore be put out of existence. The open primaries put the manipulators and beneficiaries of politics and privilege "out of business," and therefore should be scuttled. Yet the people want the rivers to water the country, they want fire for the needs of civilization; they want the sun to still be the center of their universe, and they want the open primaries because open primaries keep their public affairs wholesome, pure and in the people's hands, and put bossism "out of business." Is this not the reason why the scuttlers refuse to be orderly and lawful in restoring the convention system, by submitting the question to popular vote?

sediment is proof of a filthy source of supply. It carries germs that, when inoculated in guinea pigs, sometimes kill them, just as thousands of children have been killed by the same means of infection.

Every bulletin ever issued on the subject of milk, every utterance ever made by a competent physician, every article ever written by scientists on the subject, iterates and reiterates the importance of a pure supply. A bulletin by the bureau of animal husbandry at Washington declares that if the subject were properly understood the campaign for pure milk "would become a national movement." The late health board of Portland was active in behalf of a clean supply, and among other things, secured passage of an ordinance that is of value in dealing with the situation. But, the swift expansion of the city makes the dairy a herculean task. Almost 100 dairies are producing milk that is sold in the city. The cleanliness of these, care of the cows, scrupulous cleanliness in handling the milk—these are essentials the health board must require in order to secure a safe and sane supply. An inspector is provided for, and he should be given ample conveniences and rigid instructions. The enlargement of the city, enlarges enormously the functions and responsibilities of those to whom the public health is committed. The village stage has been passed in Portland and the most enlightened and scientific application of health precautions and rules, such as the other great cities of the country employ, is required. The announcement by the new board that the milk supply is to be actively and carefully supervised, is gratifying.

It took nearly four months to pass a new tariff bill, and while there are a few good changes from the Dingley law, about as many as could be counted on the fingers of one hand, it seems to be a case of great cry and little wool, of much candle for little game. The session was somewhat educational, however; the people are finding out more and more about "protection."

In consenting to make lower bids for paving—if they have done or will do so—the paving companies seem to admit that they have been charging too much. And may not the reduced prices—if they shall be reduced—still be too much? This the mayor seems determined to find out and his curiosity in the matter is to be approved. The paving com-

panies are entitled to a liberal profit, but perhaps they could make that and reduce the cost a good deal more.

The common understanding of the Portland public is that it pays the health officer a salary, not so much to find fault with past administrations of the health department as to look carefully after the details of his own administration. It is also true, that more courtesy and less of capricious criticism of past officials is still a commanding virtue in all officials.

When is that movement for enlarging the boundaries of Portland before the next census to be taken up, and by whom? It will be of considerable importance for this city to make as good a showing as possible on that occasion, and there are quite a good many thousand people who really belong in the city but who won't be counted unless its limits are extended.

President Taft, judging from a remark quoted in a dispatch, appears to think that farmers wear only cowhide boots. This is a mistake, at least out in this part of the country, where lots of farmers ride in automobiles.

TANGLEFOOT

BY MILES OVERHOLT

DIARY OF A CITY COUSIN.

July 24, 9 a. m.—Goodness, they do rise early in the country. Here it is only 9 o'clock and they have been calling me already for at least 10 minutes.

10 a. m.—Went down to the cow house with Cousin Sue and watched her pump the cows. There were two little cowards there that looked just too cute for anything. I didn't look like I was afraid of them. I climbed up on a wagon.

11 a. m.—I was frightened almost to death a while ago. I went out to the orchard to get some peaches and I saw a foot-bug hanging in a tree. I thought it would be great fun to knock it down and kick it to the house, but when I hit it with a stick a great crowd of busy bugs came out of it and I ran home and they didn't catch me. I guess the foot-bug was fixed up that way to frighten me like a jack-in-the-box or a cigar with powder in it, or something like that.

Later—Uncle says the bugs in that foot-bug thing were good. Anyhow there was quite a band of them.

12 o'clock—I saw the strangest thing. Cows don't really make butter. It is taken from a churn.

1 p. m.—I saw the beautifullest horse just now. It didn't look like a horse in town. It had much prettier ears. Its name was Mule.

2 p. m.—Cousin Sue and I went out wading a while ago and we saw a real jumping jack like you can buy for 25 cents in town, only it was green. Sue said it was a jumping jack, but I thought I didn't know that and I told her that they came in cans. But I suppose they come in cans like geraniums and things.

3 p. m.—Goodness, I've had a strenuous day. I was out with the chickens for Easter here already. I saw a lot of little Easter chickens out by the barn. They don't put them in the store window.

P. S.—They don't raise ice water in the country. GWENDOLYN.

THE MIDNIGHT RIDE OF A TEXAS STEER.

List, my children, I tell you shall hear Of the midnight ride of a Texas steer. Up from the south at dawn of day, He was put aboard at Monterey. With a couple of tools the train pulled out. The steer in the boxcar galloped about.

Over the mountains crest it climbed. As through the night the freight train rushed. The dismal wall of a whopoorwill. Was echoed forth from hill to hill. Up the hill at breakneck speed, The train was pulled by its iron steed. Over the mountains crest it climbed. The engine bell on the night wind chimed.

Faster yet the freight train flew Preventing a broom from taking a chew. Some time later the wild steer saw The stockyard galloped down the road. He said, "I've beat the tariff game, And as the gates were opened wide, 'They'll take no tariff off this hide."

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 name will be withheld. The Journal is not to be understood as endorsing the views or statements of contributors, but it is possible that those who wish their letters returned when not used should indicate postage.

Correspondents are notified that letters exceeding 300 words in length may, at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

Corporations Own the Government.

Bull Run, Or., Aug. 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—I saw your editorial on the land lottery. Why did you not give the cause for such? You know the corporations own the government. The railroad companies rob the people. Each one must register in person. The railroad companies will make millions of it. If you doubt the corporation owning the government, just look at the federal judge who, in passing on the case of the editor of the Appeal to Reason, said: "I am in doubt as to whether a crime has been committed, but I will send you to jail for six months and fine you \$1500."

Seems to Hurt Them.

From the Seaside Signal.

Every time the Portland Journal, or even any of the little silly country weeklies, has anything commendatory to say of the primary law, the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, or the initiative and referendum, the Oregonian has an acute attack of colic, and The Dalles Optimist, in sympathy with its monitor, slaps its stomach, with both hands, makes a wry face and says, "me too!"

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Madame August shines and smiles. It is also bad for a nation to have a mere old king.

War in Morocco, war in Spain and war on the Deschutes.

Now it is very fine down at the beaches—also in Portland.

So far no news has come of Harriman rushing back on account of that war on the Deschutes.

Considering what might have happened, the raising of the Madison street bridge is a relief.

New business buildings will replace the North Fourth street and adjacent shacks before long.

An exchange has an article on "the ever changing waistline." Yes, no two girls are just alike.

Most of the fortune tellers are frauds, of course; it is curious that so many people don't know that.

"Consumers have some rights," declares the Spokane Spokesman-Review. This is rank insensibility.

Rocketeer butter will be first cousin to Rocketeer axle grease, and step-son to Rocketeer religion.

Yes, no doubt this district needs a representative in congress, but it may have to wait a few years.

The tariff makers may have saved their hides, but they will be kicked all over the country by taxed shoes.

It is a wonder that Seattle and San Francisco don't protest against President Taft coming to Portland at all.

No, Gwendoline, the hope talked about on the bright side doth exist, that by June 1914 to Condon in an auto. It's a country of magnificent distances up there.

And yet we are over 10 inches short, since September 1st, of the normal rainfall. Gee! Has that got to be made up this month?

Every shower Oklahoma receives now is worth about \$1,000,000.—Oklahoma. Haven't you any pray-for-rain editor down in that state?

This is the third week of the second Calhoun trial, and after the examination of over 1500 men one was temporarily named as a possible juror. Apparently the second trial will be a worse farce than the first.

It is announced that women's winter hats will be 18 inches high. And wide in proportion, we suppose. But why this information now? Why cause worry about future unavoidable calamities? Let us have a little peace.

"Twas thought by jolly Mr. Taft, who the bright side doth see, that by June 1st a new tariff law the country would supply. In June our smiling president, with a happy eye, said the bill would probably be passed about the Fourth of July. 'Tis August now, and it's not through yet; talk fountains are not dry—take as long to pass a tariff bill as for women to pass 'good-bye'."

"LET THE GREED AND AVARICE BILL FAIL"

From the Detroit News (Rep.)

Thoughtful men have been appalled by the revelations which this attempt at revision has brought about. Possibly, if this revision should fail, that failure, coupled with the experience it has afforded, will lead to such an education of the country regarding the tariff that another carnival of money lust in the halls of congress may be made forever impossible. This is a good deal to expect. It is true, but sometimes the seemingly impossible occurs.

Certainly when men see legislation calmly prepared which will wipe out of existence some worthy enterprises and give to others, already making 100 per cent annually on their capital, the opportunity to make it 200, the menace to the stability of our institutions must be brought home to everybody who thinks at all. Such a process can not be followed indefinitely. Sooner or later, in one manner or another, the outrageous system must reach its natural crisis.

Untold millions poured into the pockets of a little group of sugar refiners under the thin and ridiculous pretense of fostering in the temperate zone an industry native to the tropics alone; lumber protected for no purpose whatever but to enable a limited number of people to work their will upon the American people in finishing the destruction of our forests; the extortion in iron and steel products continued, although America makes the cheapest steel in the world, and sells it all over the world; a raw fake adopted to raise the rates on cotton goods in order that the American people may be compelled to add to the riches of an industry which already pays 50 and 60 per cent a year, and which, penetrating to the farthest confines of the earth, meets and quells the competition of all coun-

tries; open trades on the floor of the senate by which senators from one section of the country agree to close their eyes to a robbery in another section, provided they be not disturbed in a robbery of their own section; almost an entire lack of evidence that anybody gives even one thought to the general welfare of the country or the ultimate outcome of a process calculated to pile all the money in the country in a few places and leave poverty everywhere else; every senator except a bare 10, representing not the state which elected him, but the state of Greed or Avarice; how can this go on without the end bringing disaster upon this country?

But the need of real tariff revision are being shown, and some day they may bring ruin. Already upon the floor of the house of representatives a distinguished member has made the suggestion that a simple act instructing the executive to levy all duties at a sum equal to the difference between the cost of production in the United States and elsewhere in the world. This proposal, which would give exactly the same degree of protection to all American industries, and would take the tariff out of politics, is being favorably discussed by all who give it thought. But it does not suit the over-protected interests, and at present the over-protected interests have control of the United States senate—absolute control. Hence, it would be no disaster if the present bill were to fail and the subject taken up at a later time when the senate may contain more men like the Hon. Cummings and his nine colleagues who stand for the exact application of the tariff the same as the other benefits of our institutions are supposed to be applied, under the terms of the constitution.

This Date in History.

1792—Lafayette accused of treason before the national assembly of France.

1814—James Dixon, United States senator from Connecticut 1857-69, born in Enfield, Conn. Died in Hartford, March 27, 1873.

1854—Territory acquired from Mexico under the Gadsden purchase incorporated with the territory of New Mexico.

1861—Confederates successful in the battle of Athens, Mo.

1862—The Federals were defeated in battle at Cedar Mountain, Va.

1864—Admiral Farragut entered Mobile bay.

1874—Twenty-five persons perished in the burning of an Ohio river steamboat near Aurora, Ind.

1884—The cornerstone of the statue of Liberty laid in New York harbor.

1894—George T. Anthony, former United States senator and governor of Kansas, died in Topeka. Born in Hatfield, N. Y., June 19, 1824.

1902—William M. Boardman, president of Iowa State college, died.

1908—Count Zeppelin's airship was destroyed by fire.

Frank Strong's Birthday.

Frank Strong, chancellor of the University of Kansas, was born in the town of Venice, New York, August 5, 1859.

After graduating at Yale university he decided upon a career as an educator and for several years was a school superintendent in St. Joseph, Mo. From 1892 to 1895 he was superintendent of the public schools of Lincoln, Neb., and for several years thereafter he was a lecturer on history at Yale university. He became president of the University of Oregon in 1899 and continued as

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Lebanon may have a new bank.

Land in brisk demand around Central Point.

Good roads convention at Tualatin Saturday.

One Union county man cut over 1000 tons of hay.

Wallawa county's hay crop was the largest in its history.

Oil leases covering 1778 acres filed in northern Polk county.

Even Curry county will not remain isolated many years longer.

Notwithstanding reports, Crook county's courthouse is all right.

Great rush for the 80,000 acres of Carey land in Harney county.

A well-dressed woman rode the brake beams from Corvallis to Albany.

There were 77 votes for and 11 against a new schoolhouse in Oakland.

The Booth-Keller company owns 75,000 acres of land in Klamath county.

Many apples being brought to Heppner. Morrow county can produce good fruit.

Twelve Minnesota families are on their way to Garden Valley, Douglas county.

An Albany firm's man at least, has been in business there continuously for 43 years.

The Hillsboro Argus is pulling for a restaurant and a circulating library for that town.

Six church buildings in Lebanon, and more to follow. Two or three would be sufficient.

Water in a well drilled 165 feet near La Grande came up within three feet of the surface.

Solo has a "Sons of Rest" society. Many would like to join an organization like that in most towns.

A bunch of transparent crabsapples raised near Milton contained 67 full sized apples in a space of less than two feet.

Willamette valley will be the fruit basket of the world, says the Salem Journal. "The putting it rather strong."

Willamette valley Jersey herds already contain some of the best cattle in the world, and the quality is constantly being added.

In no previous year in Newport's history has there been so many new buildings erected as this year, and the city is not to stop stopping place, says the Signal.

Gold Beach Globe: There is an enhancing brightness for the future of Curry county that even the "knocker" is forced to reluctantly concede. We see in the horizon of hope a new era dawning—so plainly written that all may read and rejoice, for it spells the assurance of augmented interest in our island, the vision of the investor and homeseeker from abroad.

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head of that institution until his appointment as president of the University of Kansas in 1902. At the commencement exercises at Baker university last June Dr. Strong was honored with the degree of LL. D. He is the author of a life of Benjamin Franklin and a number of other works on American history and biography.

The Taft-Aldrich Abortion.

From the Philadelphia Record.

It is announced from Washington that the end of the long tariff powwow is at hand. The end does not justify the means and the means do not excuse the end.