

NEWSPAPERS DECLARE OREGONIAN IS SEEKING TO DICTATE POLITICS

Many See Sinister Motive in Effort to Force Organization of Legislature.

VIEWS ARE SUBMITTED

Comments on Portland Morning Paper's Tactics Are Caustic, and Represent Voters of State.

Declaring that the Oregonian is attempting to set itself up as a dictator of Oregon politics, newspapers all over the state are making vigorous protests.

There is scarcely a paper in the state that has not expressed its disapproval of the Oregonian's methods and its assumption of authority of the legislature long before that body meets.

People Were "Mistaken"

Under the caption, "A New Career," the Medford Mail-Tribune says in part: "The people of Oregon supposed that the right of choosing a speaker belonged to the members of the house of representatives and that it was their province to pass upon the fitness of the various candidates for the office."

"In this the people were evidently mistaken. The Oregonian assumed the right to organize the legislature. It ordains that it be organized to carry out its schemes to promote the preposterous ambitions of its editor, who seeks to become United States senator."

"To elect Mr. Selling, in addition to brazenly bluffing and calling in old time bosses like Matthews and Burke to aid it, the Oregonian is indulging in the most sinister form of 'log rolling.'"

"To secure the unwilling support of the Multnomah delegation, it has parcelled out committee assignments in advance, rewarding its friends, punishing its opponents, bartering positions and patronage for votes."

Schema Is Scouted

Many of the papers look with disfavor on the plan suggested in the Oregonian for restricting the state so as to increase Multnomah's representation in the legislature from 19 to 30.

"Greed knows no satisfaction. The evil intentioned scheme to restrict the state for legislative representation was hatched in Portland—a serpent's egg, in very truth. The official trumpet of this proposed betrayal of the country districts is—you've guessed it!—the Portland Oregonian."

"Briefly, the scheme would give to the north a perfectly corking control of the state legislature—at the expense of the country districts. It would add 10 legislators to the Portland machine, already a juggernaut of no small tonnage. Jackson, Josephine and Curry counties now have a representation of seven legislators. Under the proposed plan these three counties would elect but four, the number Jackson county now has alone. Friends, fellow patriots, and folks generally!—is this a state of affairs to be desired?"

Capital Journal Outspoken

The Capital Journal is very outspoken in its protests against the Oregonian dictation. It does not let a day pass by that it does not have something to say on the subject.

"One of the important lessons due in this contest is a demonstration that the state and its people are not to be governed from the Oregonian tower," says the Salem paper in a recent editorial. "And it is not true that, as the Oregonian contends, Mr. Eaton's contest involves any opposition of the country to the true interests of the metropolis. What Mr. Eaton stands for is opposition to the dictation of the Oregonian and the handiwork of special interests which it represents. The people are not going to revive, under another form, its system of boss dictation."

New Precedent Set

"Because the Capital Journal advocates independent action on the part of the legislators in the matter of organization, and for all other purposes of legislation, the Oregonian jumps to the conclusion that Salem 'wants something.' Its only conception of public business seems to be that no paper or individual may take an interest in it."

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without having some private graft to work through. That has been its own rule of action so long that it places all other papers on the same low plane.

"Immediately following the election, the Oregonian announced that W. Lair Thompson would be president of the senate. Shortly afterwards it stated that Ben Selling was the choice for speaker, its misrepresentation of the real facts causing many members to elect their pledges of support to Mr. Selling. For three weeks past, the members of the Multnomah delegation have been holding a miniature legislature in Portland, under the lash of the Oregonian, framing up a program to be put through when the real session meets in Salem."

"This open declaration of state control by Portland sets a new precedent. It is an unheard-of proceeding, an honest fraud with danger to the people of the state, to have all the legislation of the session cooked up for them in the home of the Oregonian, and then to be interested. It is open and defiant bossism not in harmony with the independent spirit of the times."

The Oregonian's attitude when it is accused of framing a political machine reminds the Junction City Times of "Nero" in the zoo. The Times says: "In every part of the state the papers are rallying to the support of Mr. Eaton. Nothing is spoken in this either. It is just a case of 'getting wise' to the smooth, underhanded effort the Oregonian is making to deliver the legislature into the hands of the Multnomah machine. It will snort and bluster at the mention of it being identified with any machine. It reminds one of the keeper in the zoo who sits up the flea-bitten lion. 'Nero' smites a roar or two to the edification of the spectators and then all is over. The Oregonian lets out a howl or two when you mention machine politics in connection with it, and the howl amounts to about as much as Nero's roar."

Machine History Recalled

The Ashland Tidings, in commenting on the "Machine still at work," recites a little of the history of the 1913 legislative session. It says: "In 1913 the Portland machine named the president of the senate. He was a Portland lawyer. The Portland machine named the speaker of the house. He was a Portland lawyer. The Portland machine named the chairman of the senate ways and means committee. He was a Portland dentist. The Portland machine named the chairman of the house ways and means committee. He, too, was a Portlander. Ang of most of the other important senate and house committees the chairmen were named by the Portland machine, and in each case the holder was a Portlander or an outsider who had been pulled into the organization."

Sees Rocks Ahead

That the "bull-dozing, band wagon, sandbagging tactics made use of by the Oregonian" may prove the undoing of its candidate, is the prediction of the Cottage Grove Sentinel. Continuing, that paper says: "The Oregonian's method has so galled the country newspapers that a number of those that might otherwise have taken no part have come out flat-footed against this attempted usurpation upon the part of the Portland

daily. A determined stand on the part of the country press will put sufficient backbone into the country members to keep them from being fooled by the band wagon movement. The country members have about 48 votes. Portland has but a dozen. With four-fifths of the votes, only a little backbone is necessary to elect the country candidate, Mr. Eaton."

Old Political Stuff Not to Be Tolerated

Annual Banquet of Jackson Club Will Be Held at Commercial Club Tonight.

When Colonel Robert A. Miller, president of the Jackson club, begins to hand things to the speakers at tonight's annual banquet of the club, no mercy will be shown anyone who tries to inject the old political stuff into his remarks. The banquet—one of the famous dollar kind—will be held in the main dining room of the Commercial club and Colonel Miller expects fully 350 people, men and women, to sit around the board.

The occasion will be strictly informal. Governor West and Judge Munday of Vancouver, Wash., will be the chief speakers, but impromptu oratory will spurt from every corner of the room, particularly from those persons who come from a distance. Delegations will be on hand from Corvallis, Vancouver, Oregon City and other places. The program will be a formal and Colonel Miller says the best speakers of the state, men and women alike, will feature the program. Music will be in charge of Dr. Clement C. Shaw, lately of Chicago, assisted by F. Hampson Wing, violinist; Mordaunt A. Goodnow, pianist, and Miss Margaret Hanson, soprano. Mrs. Sylvia McGuire Thompson of The Dalles, a reader of dark dialect, will give several selections.

Theft of Auto Is Admitted by Boys

Harold Kelland and Joseph Robson Taken Into Custody; Sellwood Youths Are Now All Bounded Up.

The arrest of Harold Kelland, aged 19, at East Sixteenth and Tacoma streets, and Joseph Robson, aged 19, of East Nineteenth and Sheridan streets, rounds up the gang of Sellwood youths, led by 17-year-old Earl Riley, Circuit Judge McGinn's "honor boy," that for the past three months has engaged in burglary, automobile thefts and holdups.

Kelland and Robson, who were arrested by City Detectives Moloney and Swines, confessed they had stolen Dr. E. B. McDaniel's automobile from St. Vincent's hospital Saturday.

The machine was found at East Third street and Hawthorne avenue, several hours after being stolen, in a damaged condition. Robson was paroled by Judge McGinn at the time the judge put Riley on his honor.

AD CLUB 'SATIRE' TO GRIDIRON EVERYBODY WITH IMPARTIALITY

Leading Citizens of City Will Be Harpooned and Lam-pooned to King's Taste.

ALL SKITS ARE ORIGINAL

Seven Acts Will Comprise Regular Bill; Stag to Be Held After Grilling Is Finished.

Next Thursday night will witness the "1915 Satire" and gridiron sizzling which the Portland Ad club has planned to mark the retirement of one set of officers, the seating of another lot of men for the coming year and the harpooning of some of Portland's leading citizens. The scene of slaughter of the innocents will be at the old Baker theatre, Eleventh and Morrison streets. It will begin at 8 o'clock.

Seven acts will comprise the regular bill of entertainment, each act being composed strictly of Ad club talent. During the progress of the show it is confidently asserted that about every prominent concern in Portland will be held up to good natured ridicule—not in a spirit of vindictiveness, but because they are big enough to offer shining marks for javelins of wit and humor.

Even some of the big preachers of the city may have some of their pet follies exploited to their discomfort for the moment. One of the acts is located in heaven and shows a bunch of present-day news writers from all the papers of this city trying to get-together to send down a syndicated report of the happenings along the Golden Way. Merrill A. Reed is the author of this bit of ridicule.

All of the acts, except the musicians, are being herded at the Commercial club each evening, where Walter Gilbert of the Baker Players is whipping them into shape.

"Lemons" is the title of a travesty which will hand the police force and Mayor Albee a few souvenirs, and in which B. H. Lerner, a C. Merrill, Sol Stillier, R. H. Atkinson, M. Mosesohn, George Vinton, Fred Newton, McCormack Snow, J. L. Duffey and Glen B. Miller have leading roles.

Of course the Ad Club quartet will be headlined, but not this time in their usual harmony work. They will offer a genuine one-act musical comedy—classy and real music. The skit is called "The Battle of Chile Con Carne," and features three original songs written by Dean Collins and J. H. Keat-

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ing. They are "Kickin' Little Chicken Slickin' on Behind," "My Red Cross Girl Good-bye," and "Old Daddy, U. S. A."

H. G. Whipp is "General Brannigan Holdover, ex-admiral of the Swiss navy"; N. A. Hoose appears as "No-body Home, from Brazil, where the nuts come from"; H. L. Bowman is "Hector Hangback, another real admiral"; Dr. R. H. Emerson is the man who is partial to Chicken; Tom Keating is "Old Doc Yack, a hasty messenger," and sings one of the leading roles.

Following the usual custom the "1915 Satire" will be a stag party. Tickets are on sale at the Ad Club rooms, Portland hotel. The jinks will be open to the public.

An Improved Quinine. The happy combination of laxatives in L.A.A. TIVE BROMO QUININE makes the Quinine in this form have a far better effect than the ordinary Quinine and it does not affect the head. Remember the full name and look for signature of E. W. GROVE on box. Price 25c. Ad.

FEAR OF PNEUMONIA HALTS INQUIRY INTO N. Y. SUBWAY TIE-UP

Passengers Summoned as Witnesses Suffering From "Smoke Bronchitis."

(United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Jan. 8.—Lively times for the New York subway management seemed assured today in connection with the inquiry into Wednesday's tie-

up of the system, resulting in the death of one woman and the narrow escape of hundreds of others from suffocation in trains stalled in the big tube.

District Attorney Perkins has summoned as witnesses in his investigation 60 subway passengers and 27 policemen and firemen who took part in the rescue work. He said it would take two or three days to determine whether or not anyone was criminally responsible for the accident.

"I intend going clear to the bottom of this case," he said. "I propose to learn why passengers were kept in the stalled subway trains for more than an hour, and also why the firemen were not called sooner."

Two hundred victims of the accident, said the doctors, were suffering from "smoke bronchitis," and would fall easy prey to pneumonia. The district attorney accordingly postponed examining them until Friday, remarking, however, that he might question some of the experts he

wished to consult concerning purely technical questions later today.

Among the charges against the management were these: That the insulation of the electric cables in the subway was eight years old. That the guards locked the doors of the stalled cars when the insulation took fire, refusing to permit the passengers to escape until they were half suffocated.

That an hour elapsed between the time the short circuit which was responsible for the accident was reported to the subway officers and the alarm of fire in the tube. That the cables were overloaded. Investigations were being conducted by Governor Whitman, Mayor Mitchell and Coroner Riordan, independently of District Attorney Perkins.

Senator Lewis III. Springfield, Ill., Jan. 8.—Senator James Hamilton Lewis is seriously ill of acute indigestion.

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