C. A. SPRAGUE EARL C. BROWNLEE SHELDON F. SACKETT Publishers

Editorial

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Features

Salem, Oregon Saturday February 9, 1929

Italy's is the best advertised of

Every steamship into New York

brings a cabinful of returning

American" tourists, overflowing

with stories of the wonders of

Italian governmental efficiency,

It may not be freedom. They

the new dictatorships. Maybe Be-

nito Mussolini is the ablest of the

dictators.

inder Mussolini.

admit that.

Building Up Party Responsibility

T is one thing to build up party responsibility which has been badly shot to pieces by the isms and vagaries of recent years. But it is another thing to copper-rivet the control to political parties by party committees. The latter would be the obvious effect while the former is the ostensible purpose of the bill sponsored by Floyd Cook, secretary of the republican state central committee. Cook's bill, which so far is fatherless in the legislature, would give the state central committee power to draw up the party platform and require candidates to declare whether or not they adhered to that platform.

Party committees are composed of course of political warhorses, men always faithful to their party principles no matter what they are or who the candidate is. Party committees are the political machine, necessary to be sure, but by no means representative of the majority opinion of the party. The platform such a committee would draw up would be merely a composite of party platforms of past genera-tions, and certainly would be silent on any major issues an expression of opinion on which might cost a few votes.

Why not have a real party convention for platform purposes? This would give opportunity for building up of party responsibility and at the same time preserve democratic control of the party's declaration of principles. Some people shy like a scared colt when the word convention is mentioned and wave all manner of red blankets as a warning against the return of the old regime of machine control. Leaving the primary law as it is for the nomination of candidates, state conventions composed of delegates chosen at regular county conventions could meet in Salem every two years and formulate the party platform. This would go far toward bringing some cohesion in the ranks of the parties of the state, make them live, going concerns instead of vestigial survivals of ancient political formulas. All the good (and all the evil) of the present primary nominating system would be preserved; but the party would have some real, substantial organization and not merely a state committee run by the Imperial hotel lobby. As it is now said lobby is the only "convention" the republicans of the state have between sessions of the legislature.

There is real humor in Cook's bill for more printing behind candidate's name. We thought the state had enough of slogan printing on its ballot; but Cook wants the sheep and the goats to separate themselves. Just how that plan would do it we cannot see. If the state democratic platform was an Al Smith sponge the candidates on the party ticket would declare themselves the same as Walter Pierce did the last election. Trust all the candidates to be "squarely on the platform" unless their count of noses indicates more votes to be won by repudiating the platform.

Oregon parties need to develop internal responsibility. A representative platform convention such as The Statesman proposes would be a move in the right direction. Cook's bill isn't.

Oklahoma's Political Circus

O KLAHOMA governors seem to have the capacity of rais-ing more political hell than in any other state of the union. Measured by its size the state would get into the



Predicts Dictatorship By CHARLES P. STEWART Is it a world-wide complex? Washington Correspondent for If so, should we not naturally entral Press and The Statesman begin to sense it in this country?

TASHINGTON, Feb. 8.-How about a dictator of the Unitd States? American dictatorship is

uggested. Predicted, in fact. By o crazy prophet, either. The forecaster is as reliable a public man as Senator Arthur Capper of Kan-

igned.

Senator Capper pre-visions day when ongress will be bolished; when our government will be run by he president and a board of ARTHUR CAPPER

directors, the same as Standard

But oh, how it works! Trains on time!-so the tourists tell us. Hotels up to snuff! Factories humming! Crime suppressed! A happy, contented people!-

or else they go to jail.

Are these tourists, back home. by any chance planting the seeds of Mussolini-ism in America? It would appear that Senator

Capper says so in writing; Capper believes so. "Looking far ahead to the distant future," he says, "I foresee

The thought is not exactly orig. our democratic form of governnal with Senator Capper, at that. ment functioning with the direct Some such inchoate idea has effectiveness of a dictatorship been afloat in the atmosphere for minus the tyranny." quite awhile, like static.

The senator simply grabbed it "Far ahead!" "Distant future!" out of the air and put it in words. How far? Why necessarily so dis-The language was his; the sen- tant?-with responsible statesmen iment existed before he expressed like Senator Capper, already makt. How long before, is hard to say. ing such predictions.

At any rate, unquestionably it is I decided to ask the senator. growing. Finally, through Senator Then I decided to ask some other Capper, it voiced itself. senator.

Senator Capper evidently can The opinion that democracy has conceive of a dictatorship "minus failed certainly is widespread. tyranny." First Italy passed under the

I wanted a senator who sees way of a dictator. Then Spain. Then Turkey. Also Poland and tyranny as an inevitable concom-Hungary, more or less. Very re- litant of any dictatorship. It seemcently, Jugo-Slavia. The other day ed to me that that kind of a senas noteworthy a Briton as Lord ator would be likely to answer my Rothermere prayed heaven for an questions more vigorously.

English Mussolini. I found one, and got an earful. A dictator of. England !- free Tomorrow I'll disclose , what I covernment's cradle heard.

Bits for Breakfast By R. J. Hendricks

They have worked hard-

It is to be hoped that Senator Smoot called the attention of Mr. ~ ~ ~ Hoover to all this, and no doubt And the YWCA campaign is not the ways and means committee hrough, though success is in sight, with further hard work. It section handling agricultural is a necessity; the \$7500 budget schedules in preparing our new must be raised, and a start ought tariff law know all abaut it. It 2. James A. Garfield, William by all means to be made on a is high time the United States

looked to self sufficiency in sugar. Reasonable protective "Everybody's doing it," in Eurtariff rates would bring this about-reasonable and honest ope. Belgium and Sweden are to rates. raise their sugar tariff duties.

N N N and lower their excise taxes on When this happens, the Salem

under way. This time Governor Henry S. Johnston is the target. It seems the governor has a secretary, or had one, a woman, Mrs. O. O. Hammonds, and she was charged with governing the governor, which seems funny after looking at the picture of Johnston's wife and children. But the usual big. meaningless words of "malfeasance and misfeasance in office" are written out in Oklahoma for another impeachment trial.

had a similar experience and on farther back Governor Haskell got in bad with the state when he converted the university into a political campground.

Why Oklahoma is so conspicuous in this fashion we do not profess to know. It's a mixed blood country to be sure. There are the Indians and the breeds over in the old Indian There are the Indians and the breeds over in the old Indian information about materials; art excess of 30,territory region, southerners and northerners who settled and literature are information 000 miles daily. there in the land opening days at the beginning of the cen-tury, the later influx of oil men from all over the country. plies much familiarity with both p ard on able That may account for some of the unsettlement. Then the state is close to Texas where politics is a mighty serious business. Comparatively new, raw with an undeveloped state culture Oklahoma suffers, and will suffer until some of the human being. competent leadership emerges.

Meantime Mrs. Hammonds has resigned. But over at Olympia Governor Hartley is firmly in the saddle and his Kettering, genius of the Kettering, genius of the General lady secretary, subject of a "whispering campaign" in the Motors, says we are just in the kindergarten of scientific invenlast election, is still on the job. ion. There was a man about 1840

"Higher" Education

CO the state university is going to offer courses in aero- Wonder what he would say today. D nautics and the announcement says the move is regard-ed "as an experimental step into a field which henceforth will be of growing importance in the field of higher educa-

tion." Well, it will be "higher" all right. We thought the Speaking of education, here is life at the university was high enough and fast enough as it a definition to pass on from Dr. fair, by action of the state board was, but aviation will make it still higher. Higher too prob- Henry M. Winston, a college presably for the taxpayers who have to foot the bill. One thing, ident. He says: "A few fundamenthe university can patronize "home industry" and buy its tals mastered, a memory disciplined to retentiveness, a brain

planes from Frank Jenkins' airplane factory. One wonders how it came the state college didn't think of this one first. Shouldn't this be listed as one of the "basic sciences" even if it is up in the clouds most of the time? The college will surely have to add full courses in the science and practice of aviation; and of course if such stuff is to be taught at public expense at all it ought to be taught at the kind of institution the college is trained by an inquiring spirit, a lsewhere really ought to rememkind of institution the college is. her that the "foreigners" who

Our point is that there is no justification and at the have come to live among us come present time for establishing courses in aeronautics other mostly from countries older than than general courses in connection with engineering, in ei-our own and equally civilized Their ideas are frequently differ. ther institution. ent. These ideas are not always

Approved Consolidation of Churches MAY we surmise that the shades of Wesley and Calvin will gather in that other world and be happy that their band of followers are approaching union? Although the Presbyterian and Methodist churches of America are still Presbyterian and Methodist churches of America have

Presbyterian and Methodist churches of America are still apart, powerful committees from both organizations have agreed upon merging of the denominations and time is prob-ably the only element which will delay that union. Neither press nor pulpit have revealed a criticism of the merger. The denominations are nearly alike in all so-called fundamentals of faith; their objectives are so firmly established in a desire to do good and to make men better, that coordination and unity of effort is greatly desired.

Men and women outside the church will be influenced for good as denominational lines become less drawn. For, try as it will, the church is hard pressed to present its case of universal democracy and universal brotherhood, when scores and hundreds of faiths and sects are present in every state.

With a united front such denominations as the Methodists and the Presbyterians, as well as scores of others, could eliminate needless duplication of effort, obliterate apparent conflicts of purpose, provide stronger pastors for larger pul-pits: in short, bring about more rapidly a time when the portation.

hours a day. Twenty-three Before Johnston, Jack Walton was the governor who world so interesting. When evo- routes are flown within the bor-

be a dull place. There will be no an average of

seven and one-

February 9, 1904 An increase of \$400 was allow lief in yourself."-Carlyle. ed in the premium list of the state

of agriculture which has been in must fast till he is well .-- Thornsession here several days. bury.

Salem Elks have found a valuable treasure among the ruins of on the ground of expediency. the old buildings just torn down Roosevelt. between the Statesman office and the "old Whiter corner." It is a poster announcing the appearance slender thread; the strongest fall of Charles Vivian, the founder of

the Elks' lodge in Salem, in 1876 as a vocalist. The poster has been

ramatic reader, will appear at the Grand Opera house this week. She has had charge of the departinferior-perhaps not even usual.

out to extinguish a fire in the

us and thereby closely cementing their friendship and sharing their commerce, trade and industry through this medium of fast trans-

An air service that shall carry our mails down the Pacific coast satisfied. to all the South American coun-

Assuredly t's work already ione has extensively contributed to the progress of our conference. welfare and happiness. It has demonstrated the practicability and far-reaching possibilities of commercial aviation. It has established the industry on a permanent and prosperous footing in the United States and has placed it in the orefront of the accomplishments of the 20th century. The possibilities of future development cannot be foreseen, but they are great and we must prepare to avail ourselves of them.

WORDS OF

THE WISE

Peace is always beautiful.

"The fearful unbelief is unbe

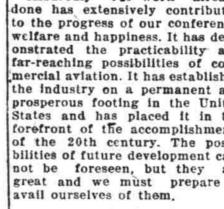
ONE MINUTE PULPIT

Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never

tries is being arranged for and 1 the furnace for gold; so is a man believe will be consummated in his praise .- Proverbs, xxvii, 20,21. Lates.

As the fining pot for silver, and

Paul Robinson-



the very near future.

manufactured sugar, so as to not hit the consumers. Those countries have already higher tories, and major irrigation prorates than the United States. So jects, too. And we will begin an

Just Among Us Girls

wonder why men never go in for TOE dancing?"

"Plenty do-six of them have danced on mine tonight"

have most other European coun- enormous growth in this valley. tries, and in England the combined tariff rate and the subsidy mount to about the average "mary markets of? the United

N N N The sales volume of manufactured articles in the United wholesale price of sugar in the States using sugar is ten billion dollars annually, including sugar

district will get beet sugar fac-

itself. That much money all kept at home would solve the farm problem, and a lot of others.

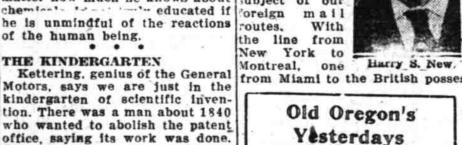
"Facts About Sugar." New York, the leading magazine of the industry, puts the kibosh on the sugar trust lobbyists who have been telling the ways and means committee that an increase in tariff rates would cost the consumers of this country many millions annually.

N N

There was a raise in the Cuban duty on raw sugar in 1921. Result, the consumer paid the same as before for his supply; the domestic producer of sugar got a little less, and the sugar trust was set back the full amount of the increased rate on the raw sugar imported from Cuba. The sugar trust lobbyists are just plain liars. And getting paid for their lies.

Senator Edward F. Bailey, of Lane county, is quoted at Salem. as saying this: "I am a good democrat, but if I voted 'no' on a bill to increase the tariff on poultry products I should be afraid that my constituents who are poultry raisers would pelt me with eggs on my return home. And that illustrates a point stated by this newspaper several times during the recent campaign, which is that there is no longer a party issue of tariff versus free trade in this country. The principle of protection is accepted by both parties and there are merely questions as to how and where and to what extent tariff shall be applied. This is not to say that chere are not many people who still believe in free trade, but only that there is no longer a free trade party. Three of the four democratic members of the present legislature have voted for memorials to congress asking for increase of the tariff on farm products .- Eugene Register.





Yesterdays Town Talks from The States. Whitman man Ouf Fathers Read

The fool that eats till he is sick No man is justified in doing evil

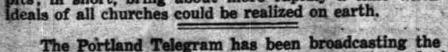
"All human things hang on a with a sudden crash."-Ovid,

"By union the smallest states thrive, by discord the greatest are destroyed."-Sallust.

Boss-Mike, I'm going to make you a present of this pig. Mike-Sure, an' 'tis just like

Fisk-I never knew such a felow as Peasley. He is always look ng for trouble. Risk-Then why doesn't he get P married? -Pathfinder.

framed. Miss Ruby Phelps, the popular ment of oratory at Sacred Heart you, sor!



The Portland Telegram has been broadcasting the ap-peal of an orphanage near Portland for a radio, and night before last ran a banner line "Orphan tots praying for radio." We expect the kids will get their radio all right, but we can't imagine the Telegram dividing the credit with the Almighty.