

### Building Up Party Responsibility

It 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 generations, 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

OKLAHOMA governors seem to have the capacity of raising more political hell than in any other state of the union. Measured by its size the state would get into the headlines about once every Tulsa gusher gushed; but due to the activities or sins of its governors Oklahoma gets almost as much publicity as Los Angeles has out of Aimee—or as Aimee has out of L. A.

Just now the periodical impeachment proceedings are 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.

Before Johnston, Jack Walton was the governor who 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 territory region, southerners and northerners who settled there in the land opening days at the beginning of the century, the later influx of oil men from all over the country. 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 competent leadership emerges.

Meantime Mrs. Hammonds has resigned. But over at Olympia Governor Hartley is firmly in the saddle and his lady secretary, subject of a "whispering campaign" in the last election, is still on the job.

### "Higher" Education

SO the state university is going to offer courses in aeronautics and the announcement says the move is regarded "as an experimental step into a field which henceforth will be of growing importance in the field of higher education." Well, it will be "higher" all right. We thought the life at the university was high enough and fast enough as it was, but aviation will make it still higher. Higher too probably for the taxpayers who have to foot the bill. One thing, the university can patronize "home industry" and buy its 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.

Our point is that there is no justification and at the present time for establishing courses in aeronautics other than general courses in connection with engineering, in either institution.

### 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 apart, powerful committees from both organizations have agreed upon merging of the denominations and time is probably 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 Methodist 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 pulpits; in short, bring about more rapidly a time when the ideals of all churches could be realized on earth.

### High Pressure Pete

PEANUTS  
GUESS I'M O.K. THEY LET ME GO  
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BEG LIKE THAT GUY  
GIVE 10¢ TO A POOR CRIPPLE, PLEASE  
CRIPPLE?? YOU DONT LOOK CRIPPLED!!  
CLANG CLANG  
NOT IN HECK AM I GONNA DO NOW! NO PEANUTS OR PUSHCART! NO MONEY TO PAY MY ROOM RENT, AND I'M AS HUNGRY AS A DOG  
WET PRINT  
YES I AM FINANCIALLY

The Portland Telegram has been broadcasting the appeal 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.

### Visiting Day In The Violent Ward

A cartoon by CARLIN showing a man in a suit talking to a woman in a dress. The man says "OH NO MADAM! MUCH WORSE - INCOME TAX BLANK!" and the woman says "IS THIS THE MAN WHO WENT CRAZY TRYING TO UNDERSTAND EINSTEIN'S DISCOVERY?"

### The Way of the World

### Who's Who & Timely Views

### South American Air Mail Service Discussed

By HARRY S. NEW  
Postmaster General

The human being appears to be behind in his evolution. He comes along but slowly. Bees and ants have gone further. Bees and ants have reached such a stage of perfection in their method of living that they are practically standardized. The human being is not so. He is still struggling along, stopping and starting, making many errors, trying to improve his methods. That's what makes the world so interesting. When evolution is completed—if such an idea is thinkable—the world will be a dull place. There will be no adventure.

SCIENCE AND ART  
It has been said that science is information about materials; art and literature are information about people. True education implies much familiarity with both materials and people. The most learned man in the laboratory, no matter how much he knows about chemistry, is uneducated if he is unmindful of the reactions of the human being.

THE KINDERGARTEN  
Kettering, genius of the General Motors, says we are just in the kindergarten of scientific invention. There was a man about 1840 who wanted to abolish the patent office, saying its work was done. Wonder what he would say today. No one asking what he would think—for evidently he didn't think.

A DEFINITION  
Speaking of education, here is a definition to pass on from Dr. Henry M. Winston, a college president. He says: "A few fundamentals mastered, a memory disciplined to retentiveness, a brain trained by an inquiring spirit, a character ennobled by Christian principles—these are the essentials of modern education."

AS TO AMERICANIZATION  
Those interested in Americanization work in the schools or elsewhere really ought to remember that the "foreigners" who have come to live among us come mostly from countries older than our own and equally civilized. Their ideas are frequently different. These ideas are not always inferior—perhaps not even usually. We think aliens—new citizens—have much to learn from us. We also have much to learn from them. The most valuable kind of Americanization work is partly a cooperative process.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays  
Town Talks From The Statesman Ours Fathers Read

February 9, 1904  
An increase of \$400 was allowed in the premium list of the state fair, by action of the state board of agriculture which has been in session here several days.

Salem Elks have found a valuable treasure among the ruins of the old buildings just torn down between the Statesman office and the "old Whiter corner." It is a poster announcing the appearance of Charles Vivian, the founder of the Elks' lodge in Salem, in 1876 as a vocalist. The poster has been framed.

Miss Ruby Phelps, the popular dramatic reader, will appear at the Grand Opera house this week. She has had charge of the department of oratory at Sacred Heart Academy the past year.

The fire department was called out to extinguish a fire in the floor of the barn of Postmaster Hirsch.

### WORDS OF THE WISE

Peace is always beautiful.—Whitman.

"The fearful unbelief is unbelief in yourself."—Carlyle.

The fool that eats till he is sick must fast till he is well.—Thornbury.

No man is justified in doing evil on the ground of expediency.—Roosevelt.

"All human things hang on a slender thread; the strongest fall 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 you, sor!

Fisk—I never knew such a fellow as Peasley. He is always looking for trouble.  
Risk—Then why doesn't he get married?—Pathfinder.

### The Grab Bag

February 9, 1930

Who am I? What position do I hold in the army? What parade am I soon to lead?

Which presidents of the United States have died in office since 1875?

Who invented the motion picture machine?

Where is the imperial residence formerly occupied by the Hohenzollerns located?

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." Where is this passage found in the Bible?

Today in the Past  
—Oh this day, in 1870, the U. S. weather bureau was established.

Today's Horoscope  
Persons born on this day are impractical. They do little calculating, before entering upon tremendous tasks, thereby courting failure.

A Daily Thought  
"Dearly poisons are concealed under sweet honey."—Ovid.

Answers to Foregoing Questions  
1. Major General Charles P. Summerall; chief of staff; the inaugural parade in Washington.  
2. James A. Garfield, William McKinley and Warren G. Harding.  
3. Thomas A. Edison.  
4. Potsdam, Germany.  
5. Romans, xiv., 17.

THE ONE MINUTE PULPIT  
Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.  
As the firing pot for silver, and the furnace for gold; so is a man his praise.—Proverbs, xviii, 21.

### Predicts Dictatorship

By CHARLES P. STEWART  
Washington Correspondent for Central Press and The Statesman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—How about a dictator of the United States? An American dictatorship is suggested. Predicted, in fact, by no crazy prophet, either. The forecaster is as reliable a public man as Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas.

Senator Capper predicts a day when congress will be abolished; when our government will be run by the president and a board of directors, the same as Standard Oil.

Capper says so in writing: "The thought is not exactly original with Senator Capper, at that. Some such inchoate idea has been afloat in the atmosphere for quite awhile, like static. The senator simply grabbed it out of the air and put it in words. The language was his; the sentiment existed before he expressed it. How long before, is hard to say. At any rate, unquestionably it is growing. Finally, through Senator Capper, it voiced itself.

The opinion that democracy has failed certainly is widespread. First Italy passed under the sway of a dictator. Then Spain, then Turkey. Also Poland and Hungary, more or less. Very recently, Yugoslavia. The other day as noteworthy a Briton as Lord Rothermere prayed heaven for an English Mussolini.

A dictator of England!—free government's cradle.

Is it a world-wide complex? If so, should we not naturally begin to sense it in this country? Italy's is the best advertised of the new dictatorships. Maybe Benito Mussolini is the ablest of the dictators.

Every steamship into New York brings a cabinful of returning American tourists, overflowing with stories of the wonders of Italian governmental efficiency, under Mussolini.

It may not be freedom. They admit that.

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 believes so.

"Looking far ahead to the distant future," he says, "I foresee our democratic form of government functioning with the direct effectiveness of a dictatorship minus the tyranny."

"Far ahead!" "Distant future!" How far? Why necessarily so distant?—with responsible statesmen like Senator Capper, already making such predictions.

I decided to ask the senator. Then I decided to ask some other senator.

Senator Capper evidently can conceive of a dictatorship "minus tyranny."

I wanted a senator who sees tyranny as an inevitable concomitant of any dictatorship. It seemed to me that that kind of a senator would be likely to answer my questions more vigorously.

I found one, and got an earful. Tomorrow I'll disclose what I heard.

### Just Among Us Girls

### Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. Hendricks

They have worked hard—  
And the YWCA campaign is not through, though success is in sight, with further hard work. It is a necessity, the \$7500 budget must be raised, and a start ought by all means to be made on a building fund.

"Everybody's doing it." In Europe, Belgium and Sweden are to raise their sugar tariff duties, and lower their excise taxes on home manufactured sugar, so as not to hit the consumers. Those countries have already higher rates than the United States. So have most other European countries, and in England the combined tariff rate and the subsidy amount to about the average wholesale price of sugar in the "primary markets" of the United States.

When this happens, the Salem district will get beet sugar factories, and major irrigation projects, too. And we will begin an enormous growth in this valley.

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

There was a raise in the Cuban duty on raw sugar in 1921. Result: the consumer paid the same as before for his supply; a 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 W. 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 there 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.

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