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THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1908.

DAILY, WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY

East Oregonian Publishing Company, PENDLETON, OREGON.

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The Standard is the latest new paper in the Granite mining country. It is published at the new town of Easton, Grant county, by Frank G. Hull, who is also publisher of the Milton Engle...

It is now known that Helen Gould is contributing to the maintenance of nine or ten chaplains in the United States army in the Philippines. Helen Gould is never slow in performing a duty as she sees it.

If President McKinley don't keep a sharp watch Rough Rider Roosevelt may run for president in 1908 after all. Mr. McKinley's stand for protection just at this time is driving a great many sound money men out of the republican party. But Mr. McKinley knows they will not go to Bryan and he fears not.

General Otis is quoted as "pointing with pride" to the fact that he has but a trifle more than 1000 men—a full regiment—in hospitals in Manila, and claims for the climate of the Philippines many advantages from a health standpoint. But it is plain to be seen that General Otis is not remaining there for his health entirely.

Rev. Charles W. Sheldon, the man who made a failure trying to publish a paper as Jesus would, has been offered a salary of \$15,000 a year to become an editorial writer on the New York Journal, and refused it. It was to be expected that when Rev. Sheldon went into the sensational newspaper business he would become valuable to those who had been successful in that line of newspaper work.

It is somewhat of a relief to have the assurance from the Portland Telegram that "William Jennings Bryan will not receive one cent for his speeches in Portland." Of course, it has been published far and wide that Mr. Bryan has been paid for making political speeches, but nobody but a cross between a hot-temper and a public thief, or the hired man of some gold corrupted newspaper, was ever fool or knave enough to believe it for one moment.

The new financial law will admit of an increase in the circulation of national banks to the extent of \$250,000,000, and gives to the secretary of the treasury and the comptroller of the currency power to increase the present volume of circulation to the enormous sum of \$450,000,000, within ninety days from the time that they may consider it necessary. There was talk that "free coinage" would bring about an era of inflation, and, largely because of the reasonableness of this contention, "free coinage" was voted down, but free coinage would never have brought about any such inflation as is possible under this new law, that confers a power upon a few men, that confers a power upon a few men, that interests of the American people. If inflation was a bad thing in connection with free coinage of silver it is a bad thing in connection with almost a free issue of bank notes.

Since the money question was practically settled by the passage through congress of the financial bill the opposition to President McKinley's administration and his renomination and reelection has greatly increased and appears to be multiplying. On all sides the impression is gaining ground that Mr. McKinley stands for militarism and imperialism; which means "earth hunger" in its worse form; and, notwithstanding he has coined catchy phrases, such as "march of the flag," "duty and destiny," "benevolent assimilation," in stating his case to the people, the public conscience is not satisfied and is being aroused as he proclaims his intentions and carries

forward his policies. In short the people are beginning to feel in their hearts that Mr. McKinley is the leader in a movement to give to tyranny a new battle cry—instead of the old one of the "divine right of kings," the new one of the "divine right of the dollar."

Congressman McClellan, son of General George B. McClellan of the civil war, in discussing the necessity for the reorganization of the army in a speech a few days ago expressed himself as believing in the maintenance of a standing army in time of peace, large enough and no larger, than could be expanded in time of war to make a first line of defense, strong enough to hold off a foreign foe until the veterans can be organized to constitute the second line. This is the correct theory for all of those opposed to militarism. It is true that the demand for a large standing army in times of peace comes from the officers who would be benefited; from the privileged classes who see social preferment to their sons and daughters from a military environment; from organized capital which desires a large army maintained at the people's expense for its protection in times of discontent, that it may have every opportunity to exploit its greed and satisfy its desire.

Tom L. Johnson for chairman. Louis Post's paper, "The Public," says: "We endorsed the wisdom last week of the Verdict in nominating Congressman Tom L. Johnson of Ohio for chairman of the next democratic national committee."

At that time the nomination appeared to be no more than a suggestion of the Verdict, which, however, backed it up with characteristic force. Of Johnson it says: "He is aware of Hanna in every line of each political villainy by the black practice of which Hanna is wont to invade success. Johnson knows Hanna, and can checkmate him. Defeating Hanna would be no novelty to Johnson. He has met him before, both in politics and business, and beaten him as at a ball of turnips. And Johnson's only man who ever thus dined the Hanna jacket. Therefore, call Johnson to the campaign bridge of the democracy. He has brains, courage and an indomitable hope. He has the force of a storm; and he will not be rebuffed. There would be no 'state stealing' by Hanna with Johnson set opposite to play the game. Johnson has a genius for the executive, a prompt intelligence that comes in our time. If all democrats had been Johnsons, Ben Butler would have found no opportunity to say: 'The democracy is like a man riding backward in a carriage; it never sees a thing until it's by.' Pat Johnson in command. He is one of the few who, with a double power to rally men and money, would—wasting neither—find instant, complete, effective use for both. Johnson in control would mean 'half the battle.'"

Every word of that quotation we most heartily echo. But it now appears that the nomination of Johnson must have been well considered by leading democrats before the Verdict made it public. Either that, or else they have recognized it as an inspiration. For the suggestion has met with widespread approval among the democratic leaders at the national capital. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle, by all odds the best Washington correspondent for the Chicago press, writes that—"The report that Tom L. Johnson may become chairman of the democratic national committee has and has caused at the next campaign has caused a feeling of joy among democrats in Washington. Mr. Johnson is well known at the national capital and has many friends in both the senate and house. His specialty for work, his comprehensive grasp of details and his executive force are qualities that recommend him highly to the leadership of the party. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bryan are close friends. Mr. Johnson supported the ticket of 1904, and he was one of the delegates at the Coliseum convention who seconded the nomination of the Nebraskaan."

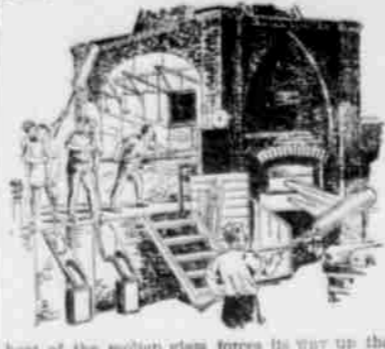
The mention of Johnson's name in this connection has, however, evoked expressions of opposition. Not inappropriately the opposition is led by ex-Gov. William J. Stone, of Missouri, a democratic politician of the class of the type. Gov. Stone hopes to be chairman himself, or, failing that, to be vice chairman, with an impassioned statement for his chief. When the subject of Johnson's chairmanship was mentioned to him, it was coupled with the statement that the movement originated with eastern democrats, and contemplated also the elimination of the silver plank from the national platform. Gov. Stone thereupon gave out this interview: "Some sort of a scheme is on foot, although I am not able yet to say exactly what it is. I infer that the end which the Palmer and Buckner democrats are trying to attain is the capture of the organization of the party. Their scheme seems to be to get into the convention as delegates, and by almost manipulation control as many delegations as possible, with the ultimate object of controlling the convention and capturing the national committee. They will be for Bryan, but they want to see the organization, speaking for myself, while I am very glad to see the Palmer and Buckner democrats, who deserted the party in 1896, come back to it, I

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