East Oregonian

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Local notices, ten cents per line, each insertion.

THE DEMOCRATIC NEED.

It is becoming more and more apparent to all observers that republican victories in Oregon are entirely due to a lack of enthusiasm and interest among those who would vote against that party if they would just take the trouble to go to the polls.

It does appear that in the late election in this state fully 10,000, and possibly 15,000, voters staid away from the polls, and the great majority of these were men who, if they had voted, would have cast their ballots against the republican party and what it stands for. This lack of interest on the part of these voters is largely due to the need of a fair paper in Oregon of wide circulation, that will refute and contend against the political wisdom and otherwise of the Portland Oregonian. The fact that this paper has a free field to scatter the seeds of its doctrines and nostrums broadcast throughout the state, and to espouse republican policies at its own sweet will and in a most unfair way, has the effect of creating a strong current in favor of the republican party, which discourages and disorganizes the opposing forces, in that they have no stimulant of daily publicity or no well equipped methods of discussion and agitation.

The democratic organization was badly crippled in this regard in the late election, the voters lacking the spirit of interest, enthusiasm and cohesion, which a broadly circulated paper, favorable to their cause and at all times fair to the opposition, would give. The lack of such a publication in Oregon is the main cause of so-called republican victories in this state.

A strong and fair paper would, long ago, have driven the unscrupulous Simon, the ambitious and selfish Corbett out of politics, wrecked the machine they have maintained, and made sure that the governor's chair at Salem, would not have been filled with a puppet and the Oregon senatorial chairs at Washington, with a villain and a weakling.

WHAT VALUE HAVE THE PHILIPPINES?

It is daily becoming more evident that the natural resources and commercial possibilities of the Philippines have been greatly overestimated. Every trained observer who comes home and tells his story does something to dispel the illusion that in the far-distant China Sea we have wrested from the Spaniards a second El Dorado.

The unconscious testimony of an unwilling witness is always the best. Such testimony is offered by Mr. George F. Becker, United States geologist, who in the June Scribner's answers in the affirmative the question, Are the Philippines worth having? The facts he presents hardly justify his conclusion.

First, as to climate. The statistics of rainfall and temperature which Mr. Becker presents seem to show that white men ought to be as healthy in the Philippines as in our Southern states. But the reports of our army surgeons show conclusively that they are not, and the loads of dismal dead—few of whom have been killed in battle—brought home by each returning transport prove that the tropics are indeed the white man's grave.

For the unskilled white laborer the Philippines offer no advantages whatsoever. This is now generally recognized, and Mr. Becker grants this fact as "self evident." His contention that if this be a valid objection to holding the Philippines we should not hold the Gulf States either—this contention overlooks the consideration that you do not solve a complicated domestic problem by adding to it a complicated foreign problem; you merely make matters worse. The prosperity of the Gulf States depends upon negro labor, and the negro question is the most difficult and dangerous public question with which we have to deal today.

If not a trained sociologist, Mr. Becker is a trained geologist. His admissions as to the poverty of the Philippines in gold, iron, coal and forests have therefore a value which cannot be claimed for his political theories. Of gold he says: "I have been able to obtain no information warranting the belief that there is any highly important gold-field in the archipelago. * * * I consider the gold resources of the Philippines comparable with those of the Carolinas and Georgia rather than with those of Colorado or California." The so-called coal he declares to be "not a true coal, but a lignite of the eocene age. * * * Its heating effect is from two-thirds to three quarters that of Cardiff coal." Of iron ore all that Mr. Becker can say is that it "exists in Luzon." He hastens to add: "Without true coal, however, the iron industry cannot become a great one." The forest area he estimates at 40,000 square miles. The insignificance of this is brought out when we remember that the Pacific States alone contain 53,000,000 acres of forest land, the United States 500,000,000, in addition to 800,000,000 acres of waste or unoccupied land capable of timber production.

The Chinese are not in love with foreigners and would drive them from their country. A few years ago the Americans conceived a very decided dislike for the Chinese, who were considered a very undesirable class of foreigners, and made demonstrations of driving them from the country. The Chinese heart as well as his prejudices appear to be very much like those of the "Melican man."

THE DECAY OF CHINA.

It is little less than amusing to see the reasons recently given for a belief that China is in decline and decay. In the first place, is is said that the Celestial empire is falling into pieces because the Chinese object to the presence of Americans and other foreigners among them. Long columns of high wisdom on this text are being written and published in the United States and Germany. To object to foreigners of a different race, coming among them to save their souls or do anything more or less material, is regarded as a reason for the immediate partition of China, of the occupancy of the territory by allies, who are allies only because they cannot trust each other. But while in this country and in Germany the writers write of this sign of decay in China, we are casting about for more rigid means to make good and enforce our own objection to the presence here of foreigners from China. If that be a sign of decay we have been decaying for the last twenty years. We have not only mildly forced China into treaties to exclude her people from this country but we have passed all sorts of laws, local and federal, to the same end. In vacation time, when we have not been inventing and setting up legal traps and tricks to keep out these objectionable foreigners, we have been killing them in California, Colorado and Wyoming, and in that way, by mob violence, we have killed twenty Chinese foreigners to one white foreigner killed by mobs in China. It is laughable that, with all this so recent in our history, and much of it current, contemporary and every-day matter, we should be uttering wisdom on the decay of China as proved by the objection of that unenlightened people to the presence of foreigners!

* * *

The next reason given for the decay of China is the reported persecution of native Chinese for religion's sake. It is even said that our government has protested against this because the victims are Christians. We beg to respectfully submit that our government is not a protector of the Christian religion in any of its forms. Indeed, ours is not a Christian government at all. It is a peculiar government and not the protector of any form of religion, Christian or otherwise. We are seldom without some form of religious persecution at home. Not long ago a Jew mayor of Savanah had to stand between Catholics and A. P. A. Protestants to keep them from slitting each others throats. Within a year Mormon missionaries have been hunted out of several American States, glad to escape the vengeance of their pursuers and in some cases clad in neat-fitting but uncomfortable suits of tar and feathers.

If China is occasionally spitting a native Christian on a bamboo skewer, why is that any more a sign of her decay than our Mormon chasing is a sign of our decay? A Christian is just as offensive to China as Mormon is to our orthodox Christian taste.

Professional hypocracy is doing a large business in the world at this time. One of its manifestations is this outbreak of holy horror about the internal condition of China. In this country we exclude Chinese and mob Mormons, an in Germany the weather has not washed out the tracks of the Poles, expelled and marched out by Bismarck as objectionable foreigners, and yet we are astonished and pained to learn that poor, old, broken China objects to foreigners and in her decay indulges in religious persecution as a pastime!

* * *

The Western world has made other mistakes about China and Japan. The late Marquis Tseng, in commenting on the opposition everywhere to Chinese as objectionable foreigners, said: "China voluntarily isolated herself and desired to remain isolated. She did not force herself upon the West. But the Western nations used force to open China to the world, without seeming to reflect that they also opened the world to China." A little more of the "look before you leap" statesmanship would be a good thing. The United States sent Commodore Perry to open Japan to the world, and he did it. Japan is just now returning the favor by considering that Commodore Perry's can-opener worked both ways, and opened the United States to Jaan. We did not think of that forty years ago, when we ordered Japan to open her door or we would shoot a hole through it. But we are reminded of it now, when we find it necessary to close our own door to Japan. We were under the glamor of the great trade we hoped to get from Japan, but it is now shown to be probable that the invasion of this country by Japanese in large numbers will take from us in five years more than all the profit on our Japanese trade from the beginning.

But not many here and in Europe seem to be impressed by the fact that China is actuated against foreigners by exactly the same motives that impel the Western nations to exclude Chinese and will soon make them exclude Japanese also.

It is self-preservation, and a natural feeling that the different races would better stay in the place where nature panted them. But when we act upon that principle it is statesmanship when China does the same it is a sign of decay!—San Francisco Call.

OREGON ELECTION COMMENT.

La Grande Chronicle: The voice of the people as expressed in the state election speaks in no uncertain tones in condemnation of republican practices and methods in Oregon. To the average voter the situation was as plain as handwriting on the wall and the inner conscience of the people was tried to a point of emphatic resentment. It was a result easily to be foreseen, except possibly by those who have been accustomed to dominate the politics of the state with a high hand and who felt secure in the superiority of numbers and the use of money to continue to hold sway.

Spokesman-Review: Oregon has fired the "opening gun" of the campaign of 1900. But no battle was ever lost or won on the "opening gun." The November verdict is as much a riddle today as it was on Monday morning.

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From the returns we can only conclude that the republicans are stronger in Oregon than they were in 1896, but weaker than they were in 1898. McKinley carried that state in 1896 by the narrow marign of 2040, but in 1898 Geer, republican candidate for governor, swept the state by 10,551 plurality; all the other state officials were elected by pluralities ranging from 6000 to 10,000 and the republicans carried the legislature by overwhelming majority, having 65 members on joint ballot to 24 members by the opposition. Two years ago Tongue, republican for congress, carried his district by 2037 plurality, and Moody, republican, carried his district by a plurality of 6557.

Weighing the republican losses of the past two years, and considering the fact that the issue of expansion appeals more strongly to the voters of the Pacific coast states than to the voters of the interior and the Atlantic seaboard, it is a fair conclusion that the vote in Oregon betokens no especial strength in the issues of the republican party as they will be presented this year to the country in general.

* * *

The expansion issue was pressed with great vigor, and manifestly with much effect, by the republican press and speakers. Day after day the Portland Oregonian hammered on that line with black-letter editorials (and without any opposing expression on the part of any widely circulated daily paper in Oregon). Here are two specimen paragraphs:

"You can vote for a great future for the Pacific coast, or you can vote for it to stand where it is today while Europe divides among its powers the trade of an awakened Orient. You have two choices, but no third."

"Every man that votes the fusion ticket today votes to tie a millstone about the neck of Oregon industry, to throttle trans-Pacific trade, to continue the subserviency of this coast to the influences that have hitherto held back its progress. Every man that votes the fusion ticket today votes to kill business in every Pacific coast city and saddle hardships on the children he will leave behind him."

* * *

That line of argument would be especially persuasive with the voters of Portland, the people along the lower Columbia river, and the producers of the Willamette valley. It would appeal also to the voters of Western Washington. But its potency would diminish toward the interior.

Must Walk to North Pole.

For years have we struggled to reach the north pole by ship. Through hardship and danger brave explorers have endeavored to reach the coveted spot. The fact that the pole is still a mystery points to the conclusion that our method was wrong, and lends credence to the recent utterance of a learned scientist, that we must abandon ship, copy the Esquimo's customs and walk to the pole. The same common sense reasons should be applied to health. There is only one road to recovery for sufferers from stomach disorders, and that is through Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. If you have tried to cure indigestion, constipation, dyspepsia, liver or kidney trouble without it, you have simply been on the wrong track. The Bitters will cure you.

IN POUND—THE FOLLOWING ANImals have been taken up by the City Marshal and will be sold at the expiration of ten days for costs and expenses.

One roan horse branded Y L (connected) on left shoulder, weight about 1100 pounds.

One bay horse branded half-circle F on right thigh, weight about 1200 pounds.

One bay horse branded T E on left thigh, weight about 1150 pounds.

One black mare branded D E on left shoulder, weight about 1150 pounds.

One bay horse branded W on left hip, weight about 1150 pounds.

Dated June 4, 1900.

J. M. HEATHMAN, City Marshal.

STATE TREASURER'S THIRD NOTICE.

State of Oregon, Treasury Department,
Salem, June 2, 1900.

Notice is hereby given that there are funds on hand with which to redeem all outstanding state warrants drawn on the general fund and endorsed "Presented and not paid for want of funds," prior to this date, except those drawn for conveying insane for the years 1899 and 1900; also to pay all warrants drawn on the state scalp bounty fund and endorsed "presented and not paid for want of funds," prior to May 20, 1899, and that all such warrants properly endorsed will be paid upon presentation at this office, interest thereon ceasing from and after this date. CHAS. S. MOORE, State Treasurer.

The East Oregonian is Eastern Oregon's representative paper. It leads, and the people appreciate it and show it by their liberal patronage. It is the advertising medium of this section.