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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1900.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TICKET

FOR PRESIDENT,

William J. Bryan.

OF NEBRASKA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

Adlai E. Stevenson.

OF ILLINOIS.

FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

W. M. PIERCE, of Umatilla.
DELL STUART, of Multnomah.
J. WHITAKER, of Benton.
E. KRONER, of Multnomah.

IS THIS STATE LAZY?

Oregon's population is 413,532, an increase from 313,760, in 1890, ten years, of 99,775, or over 30 per cent. The population of the state of Washington is 517,622, an increase of 168,282, or close to 50 per cent, over that of 1890.

There is a lesson somewhere for someone in this discrepancy in Oregon's growth. The young state of Washington, admitted to statehood only eleven years ago, in 1889, has already outstripped Oregon in population, having both more people and a rapid rate of increase.

No one will ascribe it to superior natural wealth and resources. Oregon is, if anything, too wealthy in natural elements, minerals, timber, stone, grass and grain foods in the soils, for by providing here in Oregon such an abundance and such easy conditions, nature has perhaps made the state lazy. Scarcely in any state in the Union can a living be made with less exertion than in Oregon. The exceptions are found in the Southern states, where in certain localities absolute "good-fornothingness" exists because of the bounty of nature. Can it be that Oregonians have simply sat down in lazy self-complacency and permitted the people of a less favored state to outstrip us in inducing immigration?

THAT DITCH WATER EDITORIAL.

The most brutal, insulting editorial expression which has appeared in an Oregon newspaper for years was printed as a leader on the editorial page of the Portland Morning Oregonian of Tuesday, Oct. 30. It is not fit to be endorsed by any journal claiming more respectability than the Portland Mercury or the Spokane Sun. It is narrow, cold-blooded, partisan, misrepresentative, unfair, dishonest. Were a man to drop from the moon, learn the exact conditions and read that editorial, he would conclude that someone wrote it who had escaped from a prison designed for slanderers, and viewed by a newspaper manager whose sense of decency would not earn him a place in a well regulated jail.

How self-respecting journalists can pen such rot and so willfully misrepresent their fellow citizens is beyond understanding by ordinary mortals.

The editorial in question intimates that persons who oppose the McKinley scheme in the Philippines feel pleasure at the troubles and sufferings of the boys in blue who enlisted and went to the war. The language of the editorial is this:

Of course, if there is nothing better than ditch water in your veins you will not care to have the American troops in the Philippines supported at home. You will even take malicious pleasure in hearing of the difficulties they encounter and loss of life among them. You will feel glad that you have encouraged the insurgents to continue their warfare and will ensure the courts-martial that condemn brutal monsters like Captain Novicio, who murdered prisoners by burying them alive or by delivering them over to other savages who suck their blood.

If your own blood is ditch water, you will feel no indignation about these things, but will proceed with your cant about "liberty" and "consent of the governed," and will continue to hope that our flag will be expelled from the Philippines.

If opposition to the McKinley regime now be criminal, it was at least reprehensible nine days after the final news came of Dewey's Manila victory, which, so the Oregonian has since said, settled the whole question. But on May 12, the Oregonian said editorially: "When the war broke out, the Oregonian predicted that one of the first results of victory would be demand for EXTENSION OF EMPIRE. Evidence of the presence of this fever of conquest in the national blood already appears. Demand is freely voiced for permanent possession of Porto Rico and the entire Philippine archipelago, and it is clear that only the distinct promise contained in the joint resolution

of congress RESTRAINS THE COLONIAL advocates from insisting also upon the appropriation of Cuba itself.

Here is distinct anti-colonialism, anti-extension of empire. Was ditch water then flowing through the veins of the Oregonian man who wrote that May 12, 1898, editorial? And by what alchemy has the ditch water been turned to blood, with good strong corpuscles?

Any American citizen of common decency feels kindly towards the soldier boys, admires their bravery, loves their valor. The Second Oregon's magnificent charge at Malabon, in the face of a withering musketry, with a terrible enflaming fire coming from one side, thrills all alike, and gives Oregon's regiment the banner for highest bravery during the campaign. But, cannot one doubt the wisdom of that campaign, without losing sympathy with the boys? Cannot one believe (the political leaders are wrong and at the same time cannot he glory in the evidence that American soldiers fight as fight troops of no other nation on earth?

And how about some of the returning volunteers who fought like demons in Luzon and yet who condemn the maintenance of the war? By the Oregonian's logic, those returning volunteers have ditch water in their veins.

THE NIGHT OR THE RIGHT OF IT.

Every law and every policy, which enters into the welfare of a nation, stands upon one of two foundations—either upon its right, or its right.

There can be no intermediate ground. No evasion; no excuses, no deviation. It is either right, or it is wrong. There are no half way stations in this question. There is just a narrow line between these two points,—not wide enough even, for the shadow of an excuse to rest upon, and not distinctly clear just when this line divides the great issues of human government, is the nice task of true citizenship, and the sole purpose of all enlightenment.

If it required no effort on the part of the citizen to discern this narrow line, parties, and platforms, and arguments would be futile. It would be useless to educate, to circulate truth, to widen and uplift the views of men. Fate would have done the whole duty of education, in giving to humanity an eye and judgment so keen and subtle of penetration.

But Fate, or Nature, or God or whatever it is, that fixes the mental calibre of men, has not given them this degree of excellence. And so that better angel, Enlightenment, has been sent to complete the work began. Its mission is to open the closed gateways in the Empire of Mind.

To raise up the darkened windows in the temple of human life, to admit the sunlight into the soul and to make man, indeed, only a little lower than the angels.

All of our best education is based upon experiment and experience. We get the thrilling touch of a reality from this kind. We feel its electric impulses awakening our understanding, and we know and realize its result and fruition. It is tangible to our touch. We can ask why, and be answered with a fact. We can go into details and sift the golden fragments into our melting pot. The best laws, the best doctrines, the best customs and facts and policies and practices which permeate and vitalize human government, are founded upon experience. They stand, imperishable and unshakable, because they have been tested truly, and found to be in perfect relations to the greatest good of mankind.

After the test of time has been given to the doctrine, in question, after the justice and logic and wisdom of it have been tried, it should be easy to choose between the good and the bad. The work of education is almost completed, by the alchemy of Time. It seems that a wise choice would be the inexorable result, in the light of so much

experience. No honest man will choose against the best interest of himself and those concerned. His understanding, aside from his prejudices, will direct him.

Where Might ends and Right begins, is the delicate task of education to define. Where love ends, in service and loyalty, and fear begins, where justice ceases, and force sits enthroned,—this, is the duty of the intelligent man to determine.

Many old traditions have towered above the human pathway for ages, many fears have reigned in the faltering, feeble hearts of mankind, so long and so strong and so great in authority, that we have quite sinking if they are right. They live by virtue of their ancient aspect. They are clothed in a sinister, venerable robe, and we who still cling to them, do not know if the heart beneath the robe be true or false. Humanity is one vast trembling lover giant. Whatever it loves, loves with all its raving faiths. With all its halting grief, its scarred face, or its masked features.

The dream of empire, of vast armies, of gleaming banners and ebullient heroes, is one of these old idols of mankind. It has been upon the throne so long, it has been our god, our guide, our king, our guardian, for ages, this Prince of Empires, that we are loth to say farewell. Its mind and heart and soul are imprinted upon our own so deeply and so deftly that our strength cannot prevail over it without an herculean effort.

The glamor of the old Spanish armies, her adventures, her heroes, her conquerors, her graces, in her grandeur and glory and Imperial Britain, so loved, so bated upon every sea and continent,—the history and splendor of all these is so entrancing, that we cling fondly to it.

But back of the splendor of that golden picture, so bright with its colors and grand in its lineaments,—back of her armed hosts, the gallant warriors and the queenly navies, stands the saddened and dismayed throng of humanity. Upon this patient and proud form the burden falls heaviest. It is the mass of mankind which is never seen in the panorama of empire, which suffers in silence, the dignified guests of this system. Might can reign so long and so successfully that its surface is deceiving. It can build up an empire and crush a million hearts and snuff out a million lives, unquestioned. Humanity, and not a dozen kings or queens, must test the righteousness of law.

Is it Might or is it Right?
BERT HUFFMAN.

Largest Armor Plate.

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