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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1900.

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East Oregonian Publishing Company,

PENDLETON, OREGON.

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OREGON'S SYSTEM OF TAXATION.

The iniquitous system of taxation in vogue in Oregon is driving each county, through its assessors, to "skin" the other by under assessment of property. This practice has been indulged in by the Western and Southern counties for a number of years, and recently it was adopted by the assessor of Multnomah county, and several of the assessors of Eastern Oregon counties have followed suit.

A dispatch from Salem to the Portland Oregonian, in this connection, is of interest, as follows:

The hardest lick struck at valuations for purposes of state taxation this year was by Umatilla county, the summary of whose roll has arrived at the secretary of state's office, and shows a reduction in the net valuation for last year of \$1,500,000, or nearly 20 per cent. The gross valuation for 1899 was \$7,355,662, while this year it is \$6,027,849; the exemptions last year were \$466,624, and this year \$442,848; the net valuation last year was \$6,889,038, and this year, \$5,585,000. Umatilla county's summary has also arrived, and is not quite so bad in its tumble from last year, being only \$203,543, or about 8 per cent below the net valuation of last year. Several of the county assessors seem determined to take a reprisal upon Multnomah county and upon the state in general on account of what is termed the rotten work of Assessor Greenleaf, of Multnomah last year.

The proper way to remedy the workings of this iniquitous and unjust system is to give each county local option in taxation, and raise the revenues needed by the state, through a corporation tax, to be paid to the state direct, or by each county contributing to the state a per capita tax, the population to be determined by the census of the state and nation. In this way there would be no incentive to under value and under-assess with the view of escaping too large a share of state taxation, as is the case now, and, each county having local option in taxation, property could be assessed at its full cash value, or revenue raised as the voters and taxpayers saw fit, without the acts of one county concerning those of another, but with the full liberties of local self-government to everyone, and the greatest benefit to all.

RAILROAD AND NEWSPAPER.

The Portland Oregonian is showing signs of being a little bit dissatisfied with the management of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company, because the company does not do more for Portland in adopting a more friendly attitude toward the Northern Pacific railroad, by keeping it out of the Portland territory to a considerable extent.

The Portland paper even intimates that the O. R. & N. company is maintaining a monopoly of the traffic to the detriment of Portland and Oregon. This may or may not be so, but the Oregonian is in no position to cry "stop thief!" at the railroad company at this time and in this connection.

The fact of the matter is the Oregonian is doing a similar thing to the injury of Portland and Oregon. It is also maintaining a monopoly, that of the franchise of the Associated Press for both the morning and evening fields, thus preventing a rival paper from being started there, which would benefit Portland in a hundred different ways, and the only injury it would do, it might decrease the Oregonian's profits.

The railroad company has as much right to maintain the control of its field as has the Oregonian the control of its field, and if the Oregonian contends otherwise it will, to that extent, break down its own newspaper monopoly and Portland may have another first-class daily paper that would re-

store to Portland much of her lost prestige, by presentation to the public "the other side" of all matters of controversy, while now only the one side is ever discussed, and stagnation is the result.

THE KENTUCKY V. THE OREGON.

The battleship Kentucky is now said to be the queen of the navy, but this claim is open to doubt, and to the battleship Oregon still belongs the broom. The Kentucky is said to have made the voyage from New York to Gibraltar in exactly 12 days, at the average speed of 14 knots. The distance is given at 4000 knots, but the San Francisco Call contends that the distance the ship traversed was only 3186 knots, or an actual average speed for the Kentucky of 11.97 knots, which is quite creditable to say the least for a new ship with new machinery.

Now comes the famous record run of the Oregon, that heard no sound but her own dashings, as she sped from Puget Sound to Jupiter Inlet, Florida, on a "hurry call," covering a distance of 14,310 miles at an average speed of 11.17 knots per hour. It was a wonderful run and in accomplishing it the Oregon earned a record that will not be taken away for many a day to come, and she still remains "the queen of the navy."

BRIBED BY THEIR OWN POCKETS.

Many a man is called incorruptible who is bribed every day of his life. Many a nation, including our own just at present, has been bribed without realizing it.

The man who would rage justifiably at the suggestion of a bribe, the man who would spurn an offer of any amount from another, can be easily bribed by the money in his own pocket.

This writer has in mind a man of great ability who illustrates singularly well the corrupting power that lies in a man's own money. When the man mentioned was young he was enthusiastic in the cause of the people. His ideas were sound, his ambitions lofty. He had nothing, and his sympathies went out to others who were as poor as he. Today his fondest feelings and ideas are the same as of yore. But his financial condition has changed. There used to be nothing in his pockets. Now his bank account, safe deposit vault and real estate foot up twenty millions of dollars.

The man's daily life is at variance with the good instincts that were planted in him originally. He used earnestly to sympathize with every effort to increase wages, when he worked for wages. Now he pays wages, and the money in his pockets corrupts him and impels him to cut down where he can, and to grudge where he might well be liberal. To a friendly critic he will say in perfect good faith:

"Money brings responsibility. Consistency is all very well, but financial matters often change the early nifty views," etc.

The money in his pockets corrupts him; he is bribed by his own fortune to violate his conviction. No other man's money could tempt him to go against that which he knows to be right. His own fortune tempts for him, acts for him, and changes him.

Do not believe that a man must own twenty millions to be controlled by the money in his purse.

How many men of small fortune, how many men of practically no fortune, were bribed by their pockets for their future financial hopes in the late elections?

The republican party managed to create the impression that with them lay financial prosperity.

If a voter said:

"Trusts are dangerous, vicious and illegal."

The republican party replied:

"If you destroy trusts you will frighten rich men, rich men will look up their money and you will not be able to get any of it."

The country, bribed by its pockets, voted to continue the trusts in power.

An extremely intelligent politician, Mr. Steckler, said to this writer long before election:

"The savings bank depositors decide elections. If the republicans once succeed in frightening them, they are sure to win."

The republican party with ingenious

falsehood, and plausible talk, did succeed in frightening the savings bank depositors.

It was no great sum of money that bribed the average savings bank depositor.

Seventy dollars, two hundred dollars, perhaps five hundred dollars sufficed in tens of thousands of cases to dwarf all noble considerations in the mind of the voter.

Imagine the average hard working man saying to the republican party: "Why do you ignore the Declaration of Independence? What excuse have you to offer for changing our system of government without the people's consent?"

The republican party replied: "Never mind. The Declaration of Independence, and as to your other question, we don't want any excuse. Listen to this: You have two hundred dollars in the savings bank, haven't you? Very well. Vote for the democrats and that money will shrink to one hundred dollars."

The statement is false, and the voter feels that it is false. Yet he has some slight dread that there may be something in it. He knows all about his two hundred dollars. He has and loves the greasy brown bank book. About other things he can only speculate.

Compared to his real two hundred dollars the Declaration of Independence itself is of speculative importance.

He looks at his brown bank book with the entries so slowly and laboriously made and votes for the republican party, bribed by his own money.

There has been much talk of corruption in election, much talk of bribery and of a vast fund for buying voters. Such a fund existed and was used, of course.

But the real corruption fund to be dreaded lies in the voters' own pockets.

The party which can use that fund apparently can win in this country.

The democrats must bear that in mind and be prepared to add to those arguments which appeal to the mind and to patriotic influences others that shall appeal also to the pocket.

A Chicago clockmaker, Heilel or Beistein, said in a public speech before election:

"The real issue is yourself."

When the shameless speech was made, this newspaper as in duty bound denounced it. But there is only too much indignation in the statement of the clockmaker, Heilel or Beistein.

He felt no shame in saying that in a land which had made him rich, the issue with him was still "Self," as it had been when he was poor.

There are many Beisteins among us; they must and should vote, and since their pockets think for them, plans must be made to reach those pockets and through the pockets to reach the brain.

It will not be time wasted for democrats to think of this during the next four years.—Hearst's Chicago American.

The Fad

Of the modern woman is health by exercise. It's an excellent fad, provided that it is always remembered that exercise cannot cure womanly diseases.

Indeed, where such diseases exist exercise is apt to aggravate the condition rather than to help it.

The first step toward establishing the general health is to establish the local womanly health.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures womanly diseases which undermine the general health.

It establishes regularity, dries encumbering drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness.

When these are cured, headache, dizziness and nervousness are things of the past. The universal testimony of weak and sickly women cured by "Favorite Prescription," is this: "It has made me feel like a new woman."

"My wife has used three bottles of Dr. Pierce's medicine, and I never saw such results." writes B. H. Sawyer, of Aurora, Lawrence, Kan. "It was wonderful in its work. We had used lots of medicine, and had one of the best physicians in Aurora, but my wife got no better; we heard one pitiful groan after another, day and night. A friend handed me a copy of Dr. Pierce's book, the Common Sense Medical Adviser, and after reading the testimonials of Dr. Pierce's successful treatment, and seeing that the cases described were similar to my wife's, I bought for her a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Before she had taken all of the medicine she was up and helping to do the work. She has taken three bottles and is now about well. Has better health than she has had for years."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation.

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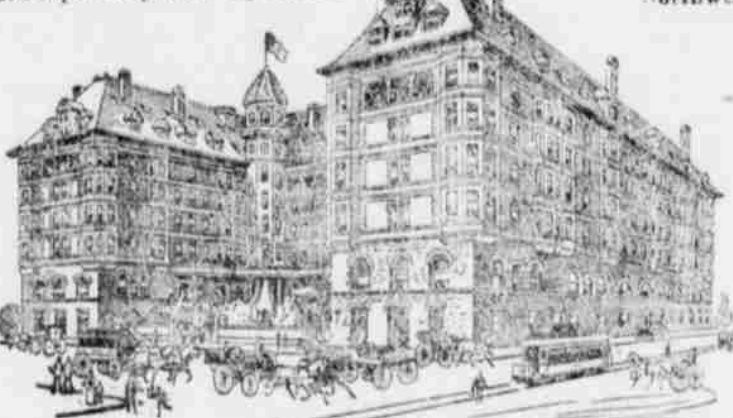
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