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DRUGGISTS - PENDLETON



MONDAY, June 16, 1902.

PENDLETON SCHOOLS.

The enrollment of the public and private schools of Pendleton is about 1300 children, divided as follows: Public schools 900; Pendleton Academy 225; St. Joseph's Academy 175. The per capita expense of education in the public schools is about \$25 per annum for the actual attendance and \$20 for the total enrollment. In the Pendleton Academy the expense per capita per annum is about \$22.50 for the total enrollment and \$19 for the actual attendance. In other words, the expense of operation of the Pendleton Academy, a private institution that is if anything a little less than that of the public schools. This is an excellent showing for the management of the Pendleton academy, which has proved itself a worthy and deserving institution under the principalship of Mr. F. L. Forbes.

It may not be generally known that the Pendleton Academy saves to the taxpayers of school district No. 16 something like \$5000 a year, about the amount that it costs to conduct this private institution. Were it not for its operation, provision would have to be made in the public schools for at least 200 more pupils. New buildings would have to be provided and at least five more teachers engaged. In any event the additional expense of conduct of the public schools of Pendleton, if there were no Pendleton Academy, would be at least \$4,500 to the general taxpayers.

The East Oregonian desires to call the attention of the taxpayers to this fact, with the view of showing them that private schools lessen the burden of public schools, and, at the same time through competition, increase the advantages and improve the system of instruction of both institutions. In other words, the one is a stimulus to the other and both should be resolutely maintained. The fact of the matter is, good schools are necessary to the continued progress of Pendleton. And the proposition before Pendleton people to contribute about \$10,000, to \$15,000 to be obtained from outside sources, for a new Pendleton Academy building on a site on the north side of the river, is a most excellent one. The general taxpayer of this school district can well afford to contribute to this worthy cause liberally, when the result will be a lessening of the burden which otherwise would be imposed upon him for additions to the cost of maintaining the public schools.

A VOLCANO IS WANTED.

If some one could be found just now to take the contract to start up a volcano some where near the route of the Nicaragua canal, he could make a pot of money. Those who oppose Uncle Sam's enterprise in building the canal are looking for such a man, ready to put millions into his clutches.

The transcontinental railroads would gladly pay a few millions for a volcano down there, for if they do not succeed in announcing an active volcano for that section shortly, their Uncle Sam may proceed to dig the ditch. In lieu of an active volcano on the right spot Senator Mark Hanna is engaged by the railroads to do some all-fired spouting in the senate against the Nicaragua route for the canal. A certain class of newspapers are assisting Mr. Hanna in his good work for the transportation companies and together they

have hopes of defeating this great national measure, delaying the work of construction of the canal for years to come.

This is the game that Senator Hanna is the leader in, in and out of congress, and in spite of his attitude against measures promising benefit to the people and toward measures favoring special and individual interests, he is favorably mentioned as the republican party candidate for the presidency in 1904. In countenancing this man longer as a leader of the republican party, the voters of that party have surely lost their senses or are determined on a policy of turning the country over to the chosen spirits of money and combination, for them to do with as they please.

If the Nicaraguan canal measure is defeated, Senator Hanna is the responsible party, and the republicans may expect to witness the spectacular efforts of the railroad interests trying to make a presidential candidate out of him to succeed President Roosevelt.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

Washington politicians have begun giving out estimates of the probable result of the congressional elections. It is conceded that the democrats will have a good chance to win by reason of the tendency of the administration party to break away at elections in off years. Since Grant's second inauguration the house elected at the middle of a presidential term has been opposed to the administration in every case except the first terms of Cleveland and McKinley. Basing their hopes upon an expectation of a repetition of the course of politics in the past, the democratic leaders assert that as their party is now free from the blight of Bryanism it will gain accessions from all who are discontented with the administration and control the next house by a good majority.

While admitting that the democrats have a good fighting chance by reason of the ebb and flow in the strength of parties, republican leaders maintain that the party will continue its control of the house. Their argument is that there is nothing in the present situation to render the supporters of the party in 1900 discontented either with the government or with congress, and consequently there will be no such gain to the democratic ranks as sanguine democrats expect.

Setting aside these assertions of the different parties as equally unreliable, some experts have begun close figuring on the prospects of the campaign. There will be 386 representatives elected and of course 194 members will be required to have a bare majority. At the present time the democrats have 168 members, of whom 118 are from the southern states and 50 from the north and west. To get control of the next house they must gain 26 members. The question is where the needed seats are to be gained is that which is now occupying the attention of campaign committees of both parties.

At the present time the republicans have two members from Missouri, two from North Carolina, two from Tennessee, three from Kentucky and six from Maryland. It is not believed that they can hold all these seats in the next house. Probably of the fifteen the democrats may capture as many as ten. There would remain sixteen additional members to be gained. Where will they come from?

Hardly any gain could be expected in New England. New York promises little. In fact, some of the seats now held by democrats in that state may be lost to the democracy. On the other hand Pennsylvania politics is in such a shape that there is a showing for one or two democratic gains in that state, and it is believed that one or more may be gained in Indiana.

To offset those gains, however, the republicans expect to win seats now occupied by democrats in Illinois, Ohio and New York. Their chances of making such gains are as good, to say the least of them, as are the

democratic chances of winning in Pennsylvania or Indiana.

The gerrymandering of districts is not expected to cut much figure in the contest. One of the most careful calculators of the outlook says: "It is a notable fact that not since the war had so many northern legislatures been in democratic hands as when the apportionments were made under the census of 1890, and yet in no decade since the war have the republicans carried such a series of congresses as in the present one. This looks as if gerrymandering reacted upon their makers, and, while this is not exactly true, it may be recalled that issues often come on so unexpectedly as to upset all calculations and to render of no effect plans of this sort. The republicans are now in control of nearly every northern legislature and have in most instances cut up the states to suit themselves. It remains to be seen what the democrats can do in these new lines of battle."

While each side will of course assert a sanguine expectation of a sweeping victory, it is clear the contest is going to be a close one. It is to be a battle over new issues, and no one can foresee how the people will divide upon them.

JEFFERSONIAN PLEBEIANISM

Mrs. Atherton, apropos to a novel of hers, in which Alexander Hamilton is the hero, complains, in an open letter that Jeffersonian plebeianized the country.

Jefferson was, by nature, philosophic. We assume, without effort, that his ghost forgives this lady, and though he has not deputed us to correct her error we assume with equal ease that he will not mind it if we attempt to.

Jefferson was simple and frugal in taste. He was opposed to oligarchy, to the pseudo-aristocracy which Hamilton represented, and held, as fundamental truth that power should be vested in the people.

These principles may perhaps be regarded as plebeian. But in that case their effect is not obvious. We see no trace of them in the corners and monopolies which predatory trusts are suffered to create. In combines for higher rates, harmonized traffic interests and a tax exempt class we see less.

In the u loading on the public of water logged stock there is humor of course. In the toll of hundreds of millions of dollars which greed annually extracts from want there is irony. But in these things, in others, too, on which it would be fastidious to dwell, yet all of them dominated by triumphant plutocracy, plebeianizing there may be. Yet just where outside of Mrs. Atherton's pleasant prose, it would take a microscope to detect.

To us the entire spectacle has a rather imperial and equally impertinent smirk.

But the smirk is natural. As a nation we labor under a curious affliction. We have everything to make us prosperous and happy except two things—common sense and an appreciation of values. Our esteem for ourselves is delicious. So far from being plebeianized, we have developed an idolatry of the most amusing kind. We have developed the worship of self.

Therein is a source of satisfaction. Therein is a source of stupefaction, too. The union with which we besmear ourselves is so thick in its flattery that through it we fail to see how stupid we look.

We fail to see that we have all the forms of liberty and not a shred of the substance. We fail to see that the most gracious and indulgent sentiment which we can have for ourselves is not esteem but contempt.

When we do see it we may be plebeianized, but we won't be robbed.—Edgar Saltus in American and Journalist.

Jesse Eaton, a pioneer of Sherman county, died at the home of his son at University Park, Portland, Friday night, of erysipelas, aged 76 years.

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