



AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at Pendleton, Oregon, by the EAST OREGONIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Daily, one year by mail \$5.00. Daily, six months by mail 2.50. Daily, three months by mail 1.25. Daily, one month by mail .50. Daily, per month by carrier .65. Weekly, one year by mail 1.50. Weekly, six months by mail .75. Weekly, four months by mail .50. Semi-Weekly, one year by mail 2.00. Semi-Weekly, six months by mail 1.00. Semi-Weekly, three months by mail .50.

Member Scripps-McLain News Association.

The East Oregonian is on sale at B. H. Rich's News Stands at Hotel Portland and Hotel Perkins, Portland, Oregon.

San Francisco Bureau, 408 Fourth St. Chicago Bureau, 301 Dearborn Bldg. Washington, D. C. Bureau, 501 14th St. N. W.

Telephone, Main 11.

Entered at Pendleton postoffice as second-class matter.



They talk of short-lived pleasure—he it so— Pain dies as quickly: Stern, hard-featured pain Expires, and lets her weary prisoner go. The fiercest agonies have shortest reign: And after dreams of horror comes again The welcome morning with its rays of peace. Oblivion, softly wiping out the stain, Makes the strong secret pangs of shame to cease: Remorse is virtue's root; its fair increase Are fruits of innocence and blessedness; Thus, joy, o'erborne and bound, doth still release His young limbs from the chains that round him press. Weep not that the world changes—did it keep A stable changeless state, 'twere cause to weep. —William Cullen Bryant.

THE DEMOCRATIC OUTLOOK.

The Lewiston Tribune, an independent, conservative and influential paper, and one of the closest students of current politics in the entire Northwest, in speaking of the democratic outlook this year, says:

"The factional and fratricidal fights in the democratic party lead most people to think there is no chance for the party this year, and the approaching convention at St. Louis is therefore looked upon more with curiosity than as the deliberations of the great historical party of this country having as its object the adoption of a living creed and the selection of a national ticket designed to be more in sympathy with the ruling purposes of the people than those of the opposition party."

"While at this time there is nothing to greatly encourage the hope of success, it is well also to understand that under any circumstances the minority has tremendous odds to face that can scarcely be overcome until there is a general revulsion against the governing party."

"To begin with, most of the states are incorrigibly wedded to one or another of the political parties, like New England, the Northwest, Pennsylvania, etc., to the republican party and the southern states to the democratic party, leaving a very few that are the real battleground in the contest."

"These doubtful states, or enough of them, are where the work is centered and where, on reflection, any one can see that the party in power can scarcely be dislodged. Under the president's recent executive order, conferring pensions on all survivors of the civil war, the bureau is now working over time, at breakneck speed, distributing the treasury millions in New York, Indiana and Illinois."

"The other states, the solid states, are cut out until these doubtful states have been safely fixed in time for the good work to be shown at the height of the campaign."

"It is now generally conceded that the president's timely use of the treasury has saved these states to the party."

"There are 600,000 officeholders in this country, outside of the army and navy departments and the public school system."

"Of these, say one-fifth, are democrats in the solidly democratic states that are not affected by campaigns. This makes an army of half a million paid and trained men at work for the party in power, with money, prestige and influence, while their opponents have nothing but their democratic creed to work with and plead for."

"So in the doubtful states it is up hill work at best. The power of place and patronage, when developed as they have been within the last few years in this country, are enough to

swing the determining vote in close contests in the close states.

"Of course, such a vast power as is now centralized in the hands of the federal administration is subversive of republican institutions, especially when wielded by an erratic, impulsive and ambitious man with a meek and muzzled party behind him, but still there are enough free citizens left to determine elections whenever, as said, there is great dissatisfaction or revulsion against the governing power."

"Such revulsion may come at any time and may not come for an age. It is even possible that the St. Louis convention may present something more acceptable to the people at large than the strenuous man, if elected, would be, with the glory of election to inspire and assure him, relieved of all restraints and with fresh sensations to create and more records to break."

"There yet may be a way of presenting to the people the main ground, and apparently the only ground, upon which to defeat the nominee, and all the desperate plunging, courting of dangers, military heroics, international sensations and the feverish stress and storm the next four years may witness but the outlook is good and besides there are too many people who like that sort of thing as long as the gage is not picked up and the costly penalties have not yet been brought home."

GUARD PENDLETON HOMES.

The Portland papers some time ago exposed a plan of fiends in human form to collect hundreds of young girls throughout the West for purposes of shame at the St. Louis and Lewis and Clark fairs.

At the time, this exposition of horrible facts was thought to be a bit of "yellow" journalism, and was lightly passed by.

That such a plot does exist, and that active agents are now at work in the cities of the Northwest, with this nefarious purpose in view, is now known to be true. Within the past week, two brazen devils, in the shape of women, from Portland, have visited this city and it is positively known that they solicited young girls of Pendleton, to engage, at some future time in dance halls and beer joints in St. Louis, and also in Portland.

Can anything be more horrifying to mothers than this thought?

Can anything more arouse the righteous indignation of a city than to think that such fiends are being sheltered?

Such vipers should be hunted down and shot without ceremony. Such debased criminals should receive no mercy at the hands of courts nor juries. In spite of all the loving care bestowed upon children, in spite of all the sacred safeguards thrown around the family altar, and in spite of all the heartbreaking toil and pains in rearing daughters in decency and honor, yet these murderous vipers creep into homes, unawares.

The associations of young daughters cannot be too closely scrutinized. The vigilance of the household cannot be relaxed. The stranger cannot be too rigidly studied before being admitted to the home circle.

The East Oregonian is reliably informed that a list of young girls that will be available for future use is now in the hands of Portland procurers. As the time ripens to make use of them in beer gardens and dance halls in the cities, they will be quietly sent on.

It is a horrifying thought to parents with growing daughters. It is something that cannot be lightly passed by. Every true man and woman is interested and must be on the alert.

WHAT IS DEMOCRACY.

Pendleton, June 30.—Orators will soon thunder forth that great slogan of democracy, "A government of the people, by the people, and for the people," on Fourth of July platforms throughout the country.

But have we a government by the people? A government is democratic in the proportion to which it responds to the will of the people. Is our's responsive?

If it were, two attempts to make our constitution democratic would have been successful. First in the senate—to lessen the term and elect by direct vote. Second—for direct vote for president.

Any one, to understand a constitution, should understand the purpose for which it was adopted. When we understand this we will find that our constitution is not democratic.

The constitution embodies the dominative views of the eighteenth century. And yet we look upon it as the embodiment of democracy. It was framed to defeat the majority vote. We are attempting to use it to accomplish a majority vote.

Is the instrument through which we are trying to reach a democracy a good one? The evidence of the Philadelphia convention shows that the aim of the fathers was not to secure more democracy, but less. They did not believe in the people. It does not follow that these men were not public spirited. They represented the conservative business men, those of property, and had little sympathy with the new ideas of popular rule.

The members of this convention

were earnest in the cause of liberty. All the prominent democratic leaders were absent except Franklin, who was in his dotage.

The spirit and intent of the convention must not be gathered from the public utterances, but from the minutes of the secret sessions. Hamilton believed that the autocratic English constitution the best model government. Give the rich and well born class the power in the government and they will not be profited by a change, hence will give a good government. Madison said: "Landed interests are not secure in the hands of a democracy. The minority must be protected against the majority."

These two men largely controlled the convention. Governor Randolph said that "the government must be protected from the turbulence of democracy." Thus we see the spirit in which our constitution was drafted. Our government is not democratic by the spirit of the framers of the constitution, but by its interpretation and public opinion.—Progress.

THE COST OF WAR.

Ruskin, in one of his eloquent passages, declares that war would quickly vanish from among the civilized nations if the great body of women could once appreciate its enormity and unite in effort against it. The same thing may be said of the Christian church and its ministers. With a common high resolve upon their part to be true to the principles of the church's great founder, the Prince of Peace, war and the military system could not endure for a decade as a regular feature in the life of the commonwealth of nations.

There is nothing so melancholy, nothing so discouraging to the worker for the peace and order of the world, as the easy readiness of multitudes of Christian churches and ministers to follow the multitude to do evil; to abdicate their ideals and high functions when their nation is once embarked or once bent on unjust war, and turn with the crowd from the harp and organ to the drum and life. The hard, severe and unpopular but ennobling and commanding duties of moral leadership are forgotten, and the selfish motives and passions of the people are condoned and white-washed, and mild prayer and song the worse is made to seem the better reason.

We have spent \$300,000,000 in the war with Spain about Cuba. We have spent more than that in the conquest of the Philippines. We are in the outer circle of the maelstrom of a policy which larger armies, larger navies, costlier toris, and more of them, and all the paraphernalia of the Old World militarism which we have prided ourselves on being free from—with the corresponding burdens of taxation, the devotion to waste and destruction of the immense resources which might otherwise go to development and forebodings, is not a student of history. Is this way of spending money a wise way? Is it protective, is it good business, is it common sense, does it pave a good road into the future, is it the economical and promising way to secure the results we claim to aim at, will it make us a truer and safer democracy, and will it help the world? Was Sumner right, was Longfellow right, or were they not in claiming that, if half the wealth bestowed on camps, given to maintain armies and navies, were given to redeem the human race, there would soon be no need of armies and navies?—Edwin D. Mead.

The traveler's tree of Madagascar resembles a huge fan with an unwieldy handle. In the dry season the traveler or domiciled native has but to pierce one of these trees just at the point where the fan-like crest has its beginning and out will flow copiously pure, fresh water.

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