

Bandon Recorder

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THURSDAY..... May 31, 1909

Should Extend City Limits

Tuesday, June 1st is the day set apart for the purpose of voting on whether or not the outlying platted districts will be annexed to the city of Bandon, and it is urgent that everyone interested get in and work.

That the city will vote them in goes without saying, but it remains with the voters of the proposed district to say whether or not they will come in. From what we can learn, the majority of them are in favor of coming in and the probabilities are that the proposition will carry, however, there should be every effort possible put forth to induce as many as possible to vote favorably.

We understand that there are some who do not want to come in because they do not like the present city charter, and some of them have even gone so far as to state their objections. The theory of some is that the council has too much authority in the matter of street improvement, changing of grades etc., and yet all must admit that unless there is some centralized head for this purpose, there will never be any street improvement or any other advancement. Then, too the charter provides for the power of remonstrance in the matter of street improvements, which make it impossible for the council to do anything in the way of street improvement if a majority of the property owners along such street are opposed to it. But if the city charter is not satisfactory to these people, then they should vote themselves in and proceed systematically to make suggestions wherein the charter might be improved and the matter of improving it would be comparatively easy. Everyone is desirous of having a city charter that will be fair to all the people and the best way to bring about such charter is for those who have suggestions to make for the bettering of the same to proceed in a systematic manner.

Another advantage that will come to the people of the proposed district is that on the fourth Monday in June which will be the 28th day thereof, they will have an opportunity with the rest of us to vote on city officers, and the opportunity will be afforded to elect such officers as will be agreeable to all.

There are some who will want to remain outside on account of the increased taxation, but this will be a small item, and will be nothing whatever in comparison with the advantages that will come to them as a result of being inside the city limits.

Taken all in all, the advantage of the proposition, if carried will be exceedingly great, and it behooves all interested therein to work for its successful culmination.

THREE and a half years in the penitentiary and a fine of \$1000 is the lot of J. F. Klein, a member of the city council of Pittsburg. Two years in the penitentiary and \$500 fine was the sentence of William Brand, another Pittsburg councilman. Sentenced with the two were four others, one of whom was a banker who bribed the councilmen to deposit city funds in his bank at a low rate of interest. The sentence of the banker was a fine of \$1000

and imprisonment for 18 months in the state penitentiary. This fall of men prominent in social, business and political circles, a fall in which the descent is from silk hat and immaculate shirt front to prison stripes, is another concrete evidence of the constant conflict between right and wrong that is going on in American municipal life. It is a conflict as old as the world and as fierce as the storm. Great centers of population make great opportunity for men to profit out of public concessions. In Pittsburg in this instance it happened to be the use of city funds by a banker. He paid councilmen a handsome price for the privilege. In San Francisco it was the franchise for a street railway, the franchise for a telephone corporation and franchises and concessions for other purposes. In Philadelphia and New York it was gas franchises, in the state of Pennsylvania the contracts for building and furnishing a state house. In other hundreds of cities, exposed and unexposed, it has been uncounted grafts of every character. Everywhere men get into office and immediately there begins to buzz in their ears the siren voice of the tempter. This tempter is the individual or corporation that wants a concession out of which to profit. Some men seek office in order to be reached by this tempter. Others who enticed public place with best purposes fall when the siren begins to sing. In most cities the boss rule system multiplies the opportunities and makes pilfering of the public comparatively easy. Politicians and greedy interests, as was notably the case in San Francisco enter into unholy alliances to hold up and loot cities and peoples. In these days of bribery and boodle it is a wise city that gets its municipal government into the hands of people and keeps it there.—Journal.

IT HAS been given out as a matter of special political information from Washington that in the event the tariff bill passes in its present form, or approximately so, it will be vetoed by the President himself. Had it been last year, or the year before that, or any of the past seven years, we might have expected such announcement. But Mr. Taft has a different way—just how different remains to be seen. From views expressed freely and frequently by Mr. Taft before he became President, the country is made aware of the sort of revision which Mr. Taft desires—a revision downward rather than upward. It is clear that downward revision is not considered seriously by those who are running tariff matters in the House and Senate. That "reasonable profit" clause in the platform has grown big since convention time, and the Congressional disposition is not toward revision that the people want. So palpable is this that no one takes the trouble to deny it. How will it affect Mr. Taft when the bill is finally in his hands? Expediency cuts some figure in the present adjustment of the tariff. That is to say, with a clear manifestation that Congress is not in temper for the sort of revising the people want, and such revision not being likely to come about by the

usual ways-and-means committee route; with the business interests of the country slackened, it not suffering from the uncertainty of the situation; with the possible prospect of creating tariff-tinkering machinery that will do the right sort of a job when once put to work; with the possible conviction that the people of the country will elect a Congress committed to real tariff reform—the consumer's type; with all these matters which have a bearing on the present tariff, the bill may pass President Taft, though it be far from satisfactory. If such shall prove to be the case, the country will not be at all disposed to doubt the sincerity of Mr. Taft, or to question that he will labor with final success to get a tariff arrangement which will bring sufficient revenue, weaken trust control of industry, and relieve the consumer of the burden of high prices, under which he now staggers.—Telegram.

THE Oregon Journal in a recent editorial extols the greatness of Senator Borah, placing him almost at the head of the Senate, and giving him really more praise than he is entitled to. The Journal says Mr. Borah is a non-partisan, which is true to a certain extent, and we wish all Senators were non-partisan, in so far that they will follow the right path, no matter what party may be the originator of the idea. We have no objection to that part of the Journal's editorial, but when that paper says Mr. Borah is the superior of LaFollette or Cummins, then we say the Journal is wrong. Mr. Borah has not proved himself as such in a single instance. The recent speech of Mr. Cummins in the senate, when he warned that body that the people would demand of them a consistent tariff bill, and of the kind they had asked for, was far superior to anything Borah has yet done, and Mr. Cummins shows a greater knowledge of the law in the case than Mr. Borah displayed in any of his speeches or acts. As to LaFollette there is nothing that need be said for his career has been before the public long enough, that everyone is familiar with it. But another man not mentioned in the Journal's editorial is Johnathan P. Dolliver who is as fearless as any of them in the fray and will probably have more influence, from the fact that he is probably more evenly balanced, and has greater ability, such as will be recognized by his colleagues. In fact we have a number of good men in the senate who will stand for the right and all of them are working for a common end. The days of Boss Aldrich and his gang are about numbered, and the sooner they are, the better it will be for the country.

THEY have what is called a Nineteenth Century Club back in Chicago. It is a woman's affair organized when the term "Nineteenth Century" was in the present tense; organized evidently for the good of all humanity. At any rate it engages in reform, and its latest movement is against the comic supplement with which we are familiar in Sunday and other weekly editions of the press. These women have no specially malignant charge to lay at the door of the funny sheet, on the contrary they do not go any further than to say that it is mildly demoralizing to the boys of the time. But the demoralization, such as it is, they insist upon. The tricks and pranks of these fancifully colored creations of the artist's mind teach the real boy to be devious—such at least, is the theory and the actual complaint of the

Nineteenth Century Club. Yet, if the good women of this club would only stop to think of the mischievous boys whom they knew in their frocks and pinafore days; and of the preceding generations of equally assertive, fun-making and fun-loving boyhood that evidently began before we heard anything of the fratricidal difficulty between Cain and Abel,—if as we say, there should be something of retrospection, there would follow more misgivings as to whether the burden of censure against the comic paper is not heavier than deserved.—Telegram.

THE Boston Herald of April 19th contains the announcement of a movement for a Tercentennial Exposition in that city in 1920. The event is to be in commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. There certainly could be no more logical reason for holding a world's fair than the one mentioned. Perhaps to the Pilgrim Fathers, more than any other sect or colony ever established does the United States owe a debt of gratitude for the successful settling and consequent advancement of this great nation. The whole country will surely take a hand and help to make such an exposition one of the greatest ever held in this or any other country.

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