

The Bribers and Bribed.

The exposure of the twin corruption of business and politics in Pittsburg would not have been half so extensive and far reaching had not six special bank examiners been hurried to that city by President Roosevelt as soon as he had been informed of what might be disclosed by prompt and simultaneous investigation.

We do not know whether the report is true that he took that step with this proviso:

"Be sure to get the bribe givers as well as the bribe takers. One can't exist without the other.

But if those were his words he spoke a truth which must be the basis of every similar investigation if we ever are to have in this country a purification of our civic affairs.

There has been too much cursing of the grafting politician, as if he were the chief if not the sole offender. There has been tolerance of and sympathy with the respectable banker, manufacturer, merchant and corporation official who submitted to the politicians' blackmail when the favor of a city deposit, a switch to a factory, a contract for supplies or a new or amended franchise was wanted.

We have no pity for the footpad in office. But he is not the worst grafter. Usually he has entered a false atmosphere when a youth working in his ward. He has heard only the code that "everybody grafts." His idol and his model has been the boss who has fattened upon the fear and avarice of the "respectable" business man. He thieves because that is all he has been taught to do. He is a criminal. But there are others far worse than he.

These are the solid, substantial, church going, eminently respectable bribers of the political "blackmailers." They cry out against such extortion. But the corruption is made possible only by their cowardice or their greed.

If their requests were not for improper or illegal privilege, they had only to make public the demands upon them and appeal to the people to put an end to the grafting and the grafters.

But in every city it is as it has been in San Francisco. Heney was praised to the skies as long as he attacked the petty recipients of bribes. But when he sought "the men higher up," the greater, the "respectable" criminals—the corporation heads and their kinds—he was ostracized and assailed and finally resort was made to attempted assassination.

And it was because the investigation of the land and timber and postal thievery did not halt at the minor offenders that the efficiency of the secret service was crippled as it was by congress last spring.

It would be better if every Pittsburg offender received full measure of punishment. But if the choice lay between the boodling councilmen and that of the "respectable" gentlemen who bought them, we should prefer to see the bribed men go free.—Philadelphia North American.

Hunting Tragedies.

There is earnest belief that the senate erred when it refused to legislate against the slaughter of men in hunting accident. Senator Abraham's bill provided that the accidental shooting of a man for a deer should be manslaughter, and proposed a proper penalty. The measure was rejected in the senate by the close vote of 15 to 14.

The Journal believes that a mistake was made, and above all,

regards as unwarranted Senator Hart's characterization of the measure as "freak legislation." Scores of graves in Oregon are eloquent in their contradiction of Senator Hart's statement. In these graves lie the remains of men cut off in the moment of their vigor and usefulness and upon scores of homes that were happy there is the blight of the cruel hunting tragedy. He who was the means of family support has been shot down and those dependent left in helplessness. In not one case where these untimely deaths have happened was there reason or excuse for it. There is not the slightest defense nor mitigating circumstance in any hunting accident in which a human being is shot down through mere mistake. When a man is at large with a gun he should be certain that the object upon which he fires is not a human being. If he is not willing to delay long enough to determine what he is shooting at and if the object turns out to be a human being, he is guilty in the sight of God and man and the law should make him suffer the consequences. A penalty for manslaughter, such as the Abraham bill proposed, would put a new care in the minds of careless hunters and lessen the reckless death toll on Oregon life.

Carelessness, if it costs a human life in a hunting accident, is criminal. It is so regarded in Michigan, where the hunter who shoots another for a deer goes to the penitentiary for 10 years. It ought to be a crime in Oregon, and if it were the death record from hunting accidents would be speedily reduced. —Portland Journal.

A man wants to walk from Portland, Or., to Portland, Maine. Let him start, the sooner the better.

Halley's comet will appear next month. But it will try in vain to take Roosevelt's place in the public eye.

Attention students! Leave your laundry at D. M. Hampton's and have it laundried right. We know how. Dallas Steam Laundry. D. M. Hampton, agent. 2-t

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Notice to School Teachers.

Would you like to take a trip to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition next summer at no expense to yourself? If you would we have a proposition to make to you that will give you a chance to go. It will only require a little exertion and you can do all there is to do during your spare time. Write to the Herald and get full particulars.

Notice to Stockholders.

Notice is hereby given to stockholders of the Monmouth Creamery, that preference will be given them to purchase stock in the ice plant until March 1. After which time the same will be open to the general public.

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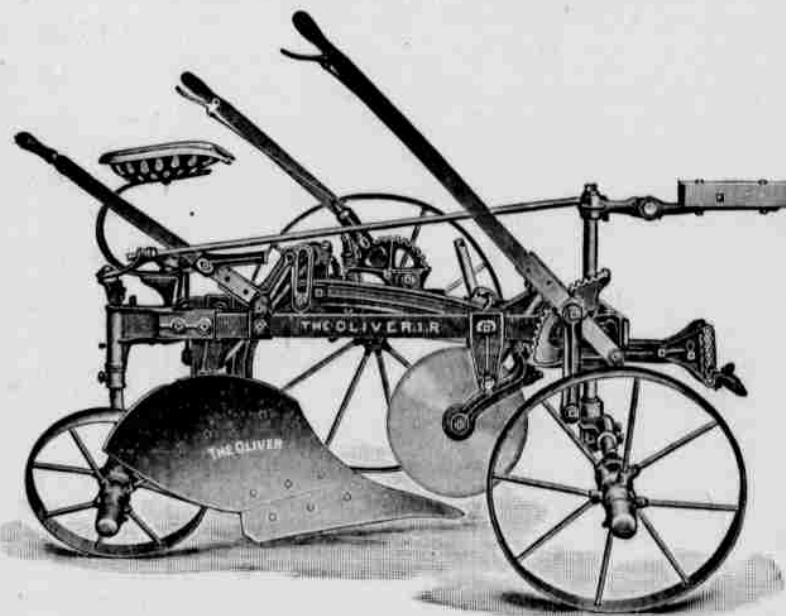
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