

The Herald

D. E. STITT, Editor.

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Monmouth, Oregon.

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PANAMA CANAL BLUFF.

The Panama Canal now comes in as a matter for contention because of its completion in the near future and the influence it will have upon foreign and domestic traffic.

It would seem that since the United States government had bought the canal and purchased the territory and the rights belonging thereto, that she should, according to the rights governing property ownership, have the right and privilege to exercise such authority over her possession as best suited her purposes, but it appears that other nations take a different stand in the premises and it is possible that trouble may arise from that which should prove a blessing to the world in general.

In the first place objection is made against the government fortifying the canal, and in the second instance objection is made because of the House of Representatives having passed a bill exempting coastwise trading vessels of toll in passing through the canal.

The United States government purchased her rights, and paid a big price for what the French had done, and secured the rights to the territory, then went to work to complete the task of opening a water-way for ships from one ocean to the other, and paid out hundreds of millions of dollars in prosecuting the work, and why should not her people have the benefits that will arise therefrom?

The Millennium is not here yet; nations have neither beaten nor consented to "beat their swords into plowshares" nor "their spears into pruning hooks;" neither have they learned to war no more, but on the other hand they believe that the more destructive their guns, warships, and other inventions, and the greater their preparations for attack and defence the greater is the prospects of peace.

Since this is the condition, not only of one nation, but of all of them, then, why should the United States invest her millions of wealth in the big ditch and leave it in a condition for the first nation, which may covet it, to seize and appropriate it to its own purposes, or to be seized by some power or powers in conflict with this nation, and in either case only to be regained at the cost of much bloodshed and money.

As to the other proposition, since this nation has collected millions of dollars from the people to pay for the canal, those who have borne the expense should have the benefit.

However, there are other interests, and it is charged that institutions in our own country, such as large railway companies, are influencing Great Britain

to protest against letting American vessels through free of toll, because of the competition in freight rates which must necessarily come with the opening of the canal.

Then, too, there are outside interests; Japan objects because of the fear of not being able to compete with American vessels which may pass through toll-free, and as there will be a toll of \$1.25 a ton difference it will amount to quite a sum when vessels, carrying many thousands of tons, pass through, and as avarice is a green-eyed monster there may serious conditions arise as, perhaps, it will have a tendency to ruin business of foreign nations in competing with American vessels for ocean traffic.

Times and conditions are changing; the question which Cain asked his Creator has a world-wide meaning today and national interests, local interests and foreign interests are so related that the welfare of all is more or less involved by radical departures from existing conditions.

The principle bound up in the golden rule should be adhered to, and only when men will do unto others as they would have others do unto them, will universal peace and prosperity ensue.

Nevertheless, national and individual rights, with the assumption, "It is mine and I will do as I please with it," is yet so strongly inculcated in the minds of the human family that it is only the most conservative that are willing to yield their position or that can see blessings in peace and prosperity to ensue by carrying out the principle of the Golden Rule, and generally speaking the motive is, "Hold your own and add to what you have," while often the purpose is much stronger and may be summed up in the sentence, "Do the other fellow before he does you," but peace and prosperity will not come to the world until righteousness covers the earth like a mantle.

ARE MAKING INQUIRY

One of the most prominent things discussed and held up for public inspection is the enormous expense attached to a campaign for a presidential nomination. If presidential candidates had to bear their own expenses there would be none to seek that office but the excessively wealthy class, and just suppose that J. Pierpont Morgan or John D. Rockefeller were to ask the nomination, or any other of their class and type of men, what would be the result? Why, they would be turned down very quickly; the people would be afraid to trust them because of their interest; they have shown that they will use the public to build up their own interests and, hence, there could be no safety with added power entrusted to them. Nobody would believe that they were spending their money for the good of the public. Well, it is pretty much the same as it is and the public is beginning to want to know who pays the campaign expenses; what the object is and what return is expected for the money expended.

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Many people were puzzled when England entered a protest against the United States' proposal to pass its ocean traffic free through the Panama Canal. They could not understand why England should interpose in a matter which after all seemed one of purely domestic concern. But they had their suspicions that something was back of it all and that the incentive for the protest came from the outside.

And it did, of course, it is now believed, through the Canadian Pacific interests because of financial pressure exerted from this side of the line. More than ever before we are beginning to learn the community of interests which welds together the financiers of the world.

In the matter of tariff for passing through the canal every nation will be put upon precisely the same basis; there will be no favorites and no favoritism; but that the country which poured out \$400,000,000 to build the great enterprise should not have the privilege of saying that its own vessels should pass through the canal without charge is ridiculous on the face of it.—Portland Telegram.

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BAPTIST CHURCH.

Preaching Service, 11:00 a. m.
Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.
B. Y. P. Union, at 6:30

W. C. T. U.

Local Union meets every second and fourth Friday in the Evangelical church at 2:30 p. m.

B. F. SWOPE,
Attorney at Law and Notary
Public.

Home Phone:
Office, No. 1320,
Residence, No. 3712.
Office in Cooper building,
Independence, - Oregon

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