

The Independence Enterprise

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A DIFFERENT MEANING

There is a word which was originally innocent, but which of late years, has come to have a meaning so different and so tainted that the very sound of it is shrouded by honest men. It is the word "graft," which by an extension of application has come to mean almost every phase of public and private dishonesty outside of a statutory crime, and, in fact, often times, crime.

In the early days the use of the word was limited to the thrifty and useful science by which horticulturists modified and improved the fruit trees under their care, but today it means the draining of the substance from one source into another by the man who seeks to obtain profit, not out of his industry, but out of the thrift of some one else. Sometimes it might be characterized as blackmail, sometimes as bribery and sometimes as their veiled theft, but always it is predatory upon private and public sources.

It is quite possible that the thing itself has existed in some form or other, but of late years there has been an extension of practice, notwithstanding the fact that the voters of Oregon have a voice in the enactment of laws and the selection of representatives in the legislature and senate. In greater or less degree it is to be found in every country, but here in America, where we have free institutions that we prize and a pride in our national thrift, vigor and honesty that amounts to almost bragadocio, the offensive growth has waxed more steadily than in any other country which is blessed by western civilization.

The redeeming feature is that with the growth of the evil there seems to have come a corresponding growth of appreciation and realization. Today the forces of decency and honesty are besiring themselves as never before, to exterminate the vicious that are lumped together under the tainted title of "graft."

The ramification of the spirit of graft is manifold. They crop out as definitely in private enterprises as they do in public affairs. And we believe that the selfish desires of man—private graft—have developed into the widespread extension of systematic graft in the political world.

It is difficult to select men for representatives in the houses who will be devoted entirely to the public interests, since private interest is the foremost desire of man.

REMOVE THE CAUSE

An editorial in the Saturday evening Journal, referring to Governor West's policy, conveys the information that in eighteen states the Governors have expressed a desire for abolishment of the death penalty. In another article on the same page, the editor inquires "What good is it to send them to prison for a few years, leaving their families unsupported meanwhile, and then turn the 'grey wolves' out to destroy more children?"

If Governor West's policy is what the Journal represents it to be, reformation will take place in the course of a few years, and these "grey wolves" will become honorable citizens, but it is not.

The people are becoming aroused to the just indignation that should be visited upon the evildoers in both high and low places alike. The plan of making the penitentiary a side show—a place of rare entertainment at the expense of the taxpayers—does not seem to be in keeping with the real intention of the law, and the Journal knows too well that men reformed (?) under this policy, are not to be depended upon.

Men and women are sent to the penitentiary for punishment of crimes committed. The causes back of their crimes are manifold and will have to be removed, at least in part, before Governor West's desired reformation can be effected.

A BLANKET BALLOT

At the last general election in Oregon the electors felt somewhat burdened on account of the thirty-two or more amendments to the constitution which were placed on the ticket for their consideration. This year the ticket will contain at least twelve more proposed amendments than it did last year and no telling how many more. If the number continues to increase in the same proportion at each election the voter, in a few years, will be unable to carry his blanket ticket to the ballot box unassisted, say nothing of the intellectual aid he will require to comprehend the same.

Some ingenious Yankee ought to invent an electric ballot box for the future demand. But even this might meet with opposition by those who object to "machine politics."

The laws under which our present elections are governed are probably all right, but sometimes it seems as if the people misuse a good thing.

BEGIN AT HOME FIRST

A petition is being circulated by Rev. F. N. Sandifur, pastor of the M. E. church in this city, with a view of securing an order from the postal authorities to close the local post office all day Sundays, except to receive the mails. Here to fore, the postmaster has opened the office every Sunday at certain hours for the distribution of such mail as would come to the office and it has been a great convenience to citizens. If the Sunday mail service is abandoned as a result of this petition, it will be missed by a large number of people who did not sanction the movement and who will be hindered more or less by its removal.

I would seem that there are other reform measures that could be advanced in Independence to a better advantage. If it is necessary for the moral welfare of this people to abandon the Sunday mail service, it is just as necessary for the moral welfare of the people at large to abandon the Sunday train service; it is just as necessary to close all places of business in Independence—the pool halls, cigar stores, confectionery stores, drug stores, meat markets, livery stables and the garage. If it is the moral interests of the people that we desire to serve, why not petition the city council for an ordinance providing for the closing of such business houses?

OCCASION FOR PROTEST

The fish commissioners met in Salem a few days ago and the proposition to make a closed season for bass from December 1st to June 1st seemed to be favored. This is an outrageous plan to shut out bass fishing in the Willamette. Fishing during the hot months of the year is practically abandoned now on account of the condition of the river and the quality of the fish at that time of the year, is poor. To enact a law making a closed season from December 1st to June 1st practically means a closed season entirely.

There is certainly occasion for a grand protest.

We would like to exchange a half acre, or one large lot, 60 x 422 feet, all fenced, and run on a side. This property is located in Eugene on West 8th St., three blocks from shore, three blocks from school, two blocks from car line and nine blocks from Willamette St. Want to exchange business property or lots close in in Independence. Address M. E. Smith, 506 W. 8th St. Eugene, Oreg.

Everyone in Oregon is ready to admit that the tax system needs attention, and that as before the primaries April 19th express a desire to see a reform. It is about time that a cry went up in behalf of the people.

Congressman Sabath of Illinois deserves the credit of introducing the first bill in congress aiming at the solution of the "cost of living question." Will there come any good out of the "Sabath?"

The Republican party seems to be having hard work to find a man for the United States Senate, who is not a bolter. Ben Selling probably comes as near filling requirements as any one that has yet been named.

Ninety-one counties in Missouri still levy poll taxes. You have to "show 'em" in Missouri, and it is not surprising that the state is losing ground.

Gov. West is opposing the one-man system of politics, but he seems to be satisfied with one-man power in the construction of good roads.

There is considerable talk about the proposed bankers' trust. The bankers have a system of "trust" now, but not until well secured.

Falls City is just now turning out quite a large crop of political aspirants—and they're near enough to Dallas to succeed.

Shocking Sounds

In the earth are sometimes heard before a terrible earthquake, that warn of the coming peril. Nature's warnings are kind. That dull pain or ach in the back warns you the kidneys need attention if you would escape those dangerous maladies, Dropsy, Diabetes or Bright's disease. Take Electric Bitters at once and see backache fly and all your best feelings return. "My son received great benefit from their use for kidney and bladder trouble," writes Peter Bondy, South Rockwood, Mich. "It is certainly a great kidney medicine." Try it. 50 cents at all druggists.

Are You Going to Build?

Let us give you a price on your lumber and mill work. Everything furnished direct from mill to consumer. Write or telephone and we will call on you.

Dallas Lumber & Logging Company, Dallas, Oregon. 20-4.

Business Opportunity

We will start any reliable, energetic young man in the drayage business. Will buy new dray, horse, etc., and let party pay for them in work. Address with reference, Drayage Business, Care of Enterprise Office.

First La Grippe, Then Bronchitis That was the case with Mrs. W. S. Bailey, McCleary, Ky. "My wife was taken down with a severe attack of la grippe, which run into bronchitis. She coughed as tho' she had consumption and could not sleep at night. The first bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar Compound gave her so much relief that she continued using it until she was permanently cured." For sale by Williams Drug Co.

Springtime is Near and We are Here

To show you the latest in Spring Goods. Our line of Ladies' Wool Suiting are up to the moment in the color, style and quality, and in gingham, percales, galatias and wasn goods, say: we have one of the largest and best assorted patterns to be found anywhere and at prices that everyone can afford a new Spring Wash Dress.

Drop in and see our new line of men's Dress Shoes, Hats, and shirts: the late things for Spring Wear. When you want anything in the latest—come to us.

Conkey, Walker & Lehman

The Two Leading Stores of Independence.

We Are Now Open at Our New Place

If you want BARGAINS do not fail to call on us. We have more bargains than ever before. Our prices are lower than others BECAUSE we buy for less BECAUSE our expenses are lower, BECAUSE we sell for cash only, BECAUSE we buy for cash only

Our 5, 10 and 15 Cent Counters are better than ever. Do not fail to call on us.

The Normal Variety Store

P. E. CHASE, Manager.

The Peoples' Popular Trading Place

MONMOUTH, OREGON

IMPROVE YOUR LAND RAISE MORE CROPS

DO THIS BY USING DRAIN
TILE AND LAND PLASTER
PROCURE THESE FROM

C. K. SPAULDING LOGGING CO.

Both Phones

Independence, Oregon

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for backache, rheumatism, kidney or bladder trouble, and urinary irregularities. Foley Kidney Pills are tonic in action, quick in results. Refuse substitutes. WILLIAMS DRUG COMPANY.

SAN FRANCISCO SCENE OF THE PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION 1915

