

PORTLAND'S RECEPTION.

Polk County Farmer's Impression of Roosevelt.

TO THE EDITOR: Having become tired with a desire to see a president of these United States, I rode the train at Gaston, in Washington county, where I was staying with relatives. The weather was of that sort that would not give one with the belief that all serene in the region from hence the gentle rain emanates, before I had been aboard the train 30 minutes the pride of the Polk county farmer began to patter on the roof of my car. The train of coaches was literally packed with people bent on seeing the president, and on arriving at Portland we found that a heavy down-pour had preceded us, which rendered the streets slushy, and all more, more especially the residential population of Portland, wore a wistful smile.

I had no time in wending my way to the Hotel Perkins, where I intended to find lodgings during the reception of the president, but on my arrival there I was informed that every available space in the hotel had been engaged and the answer was made us at each place visited. I finally succeeded in securing lodging at a private residence.

The sight spread before my eyes in the vicinity of the Hotel Portland was one long to be remembered—a surging mass of humanity plodding the streets, which by this time had been transformed into a lake of mud and slush, but notwithstanding the inconveniences attendant under such circumstances one seemed to be good natured and happy. I retired at 10 o'clock, and the streets still packed with sight-seers, who seemed to be waiting for the light showers at intervals precipitated upon their heads. Arising early on the morning of the day on which the president was to arrive I found that the weather seemed going to be that one could desire, for the sky was clear, the sky blue and the sun to a degree of promise of a fine day. By 10 o'clock passage through the principal streets was an impossibility, so dense was the crowd. Profiles of the president were to be seen in profile from the tops of the tall structures to the curbs of the streets 120 feet below. Flags and banners of every nature adorned the thoroughfare, more especially lining the route along the route of the president was to be seen. Over the street in front of the Portland hotel and high in the air floated the flag which the Second Oregon Volunteers unfurled at Manila, that gave notice to the world of our successful conflict with Spain. For the unfurling of this flag foretold peace. This flag was a small affair, for as near as we could measure it, its dimensions were fifteen by twenty-five feet. It was evident that it had in time past been a victim of relic hunters, as its lower portion was somewhat mutilated; but notwithstanding its tattered condition we could see hidden down deep in its folds the Declaration of Independence, the constitution of the United States and the Monroe Doctrine. The excessive rains had greatly marred the beauty of outside decorations, but one adornment defied the elements and that consisted of the hundreds of electric lights that were scattered with profusion over both the Hotel Portland and the Oregonian building. These formed a most beautiful scene.

It was about one o'clock P. M. when the great mass of humanity began to move from all directions toward West Park, where the review was to take place. The president was to arrive at 2:10 and the intervening time was employed in putting everything in readiness for his coming. Every tree, telephone pole and house-top in the vicinity of the park had its occupants and the thousands of people who had collected in the street on either side of the park were struggling for positions of vantage. One scene at this point that eclipsed them all was the seating of the 12,000 school children in such a position that the president, as he was being driven by, could see at a glance that though Oregon may be derelict in some things she is none the less a foe to racial suicide. It was near 2:30 when the shout went up, "there he comes!" and all eyes were turned north on West Park street, and sure enough about two blocks distant from the north end of the park the head of the procession was seen slowly moving toward where we stood. The street at this point is quite sloping and the first view I got of the president only included the top of his silk hat, but as the procession moved up the hill more could be seen of Oregon's chief guest and as he came nearer his broad shoulders impressed me as that of a man of about 210 pounds weight. As he passed the point where I was immediately standing he doffed his hat and bowed to the cheering mass which crowded up as closely to his carriage as the guards would permit. Beyond were the school children in apparently countless numbers sitting on seats specially provided for them, and each carrying in his hand a small flag. When the president reached a point in front of this rising generation the cheering became deafening and Mr. Roosevelt seemed to greatly enjoy this part of the program as evidenced by that peculiar smile of his which we feel justified in saying would be hard to duplicate. Onward the procession continued, the noise all the while increasing until the roar incident to the moving of such a conglomerate mass sounded like a mixture of earthquakes and thunder. The president remained standing the entire distance, thus rendering it possible for one to get a perfect view of him as he moved along. He constantly tipped his tall silk hat and bowed frequently to the tens of thousands of patriotic citizens who had their eyes riveted upon him. The procession, on arriving at the end of the route mapped out, made the turn across West Park and slowly moved back along Park street

toward its destination. Arriving at the north end of the park the president's carriage was turned from the street onto the park grounds where a stop was made and the long procession filed by in plain view of the chief. The review having ended the start was made to City Park, where the laying of the corner stone of the Lewis and Clark monument by the president was to take place. About this time the rain began to make its appearance and umbrellas in countless numbers lined the streets. This state of affairs lasted until the park was reached and long thereafter, for with the lapse of time the rain increased in volume until it poured down in a perfect sheet. This lasted during the whole time required to complete the ceremonies. The president was clad in a robe of oilcloth to protect him from the storm. A hole having been made in the center he thrust his head through it and all that was visible of the nation's chief executive was his head adorned with his high silk hat.

I want to say here that there was at this stage of the proceedings apparently only one man who was able to wear a smile and that was Roosevelt. The ceremonies being terminated a grand rush was made by the myriads of people for the street cars that were in waiting at the foot of the hill. Water was rolling down the hillside in quantities and at a velocity that beggars description. Where the cars were to assemble to receive the people a lake of thick muddy water had formed which forced the cars to move farther up the hill to dry ground where the people could get to them without wading. It was here the funniest incident of the day happened. People in their rush to get to shelter failed to look just where they were stepping, and a young lady dressed in the height of fashion and having every appearance of belonging to the upper ten in society, accompanied by a young man of equal station in life stepped off into a chuck hole filled to the brim with slush and mud. It is needless to say she measured its depths for I heard a splash, saw her flounder and all was over. The thought flashed through my mind that a five dollar shoe and a silk stocking had fallen a victim to Portland's reception.

The street cars were unable to carry the people away as fast as they wished to go and thousands started on foot to places of shelter. The procession being broken to pieces the president was driven direct to the Hotel Portland, where an immense crowd had collected to see him arrive. My impression of Roosevelt was such as to cause me to believe him to be a hale good fellow, one of the boys, as the saying goes. He stands about five feet ten inches high and is heavily built, weighing in the vicinity of 200 pounds. He is lacking in those magnetic qualities of Blaine and the polished manners of McKinley, and would impress one with the belief that he prefers athletic sports to being tied to modern etiquette. As he was being driven through the streets in a carriage literally smothered in flowers, he looked as though he would have preferred to walk so as to be able to mingle with those who were there to do him homage. He supports a sandy mustache, has a very florid complexion, and

ception of the president. No expense nor pains had been spared to make his brief stay in Portland a pleasant one. Oregon will derive much benefit from the visit, as such occurrences tend to widen the acquaintanceship of the East with her boundless possibilities.

X. X.

AIRLIE.

The picnic at Ridders grove last Thursday was a decided success.

A bear feasted on one of Asa Staats' goats one night last week.

A. R. Lewis has opened up his butcher shop for the coming season.

James Hiltibrand has sown about twenty acres to timothy this spring.

Erastus McTimmonds has sold and is delivering his oats at Falls City.

Dr. R. E. Golden, of Portland, was visiting relatives here last week.

Claude Lewis was buying beef cattle at this place during the week.

Deputy Assessor Walter Butler was interviewing the property owners in this vicinity last week.

C. E. Staats and wife have returned from attendance at a meeting of the State Grange at Oregon City.

A. J. Hannum, road supervisor, has a surplus of business on hand at present and will ask the court for a deputy.

Tracy Staats, secretary of the Farmers' Telephone Company, was making collections through here last Wednesday.

H. L. Fenton was receiving wool here Monday. It being election day the town was full of teams and assumed quite a business air.

**NO CHAIN
IS STRONGER
THAN ITS
WEAKEST
LINK
NO MAN
IS STRONGER
THAN HIS
STOMACH
DR. PIERCE'S
GOLDEN
MEDICAL
DISCOVERY
MAKES WEAK
STOMACHS
STRONG**

when a small boy his face no doubt was profusely decorated with freckles. There is nothing about the man bordering on the beautiful, but this should not detract from his ability to administer the affairs of the presidential office.

Portland deserves praise for all Oregon for the manner of her re-

TENTH

Correspondents' Contest

On April 1st, we commenced our Tenth Correspondents' Contest and on Friday, July 31, 1903, at 6:00 P. M. we will close it. We offer as premiums the following articles, selected by the Correspondents' themselves:

- FIRST PRIZE..... A handsome, well-upholstered, velvet Couch
- SECOND PRIZE..... A lovely Picture
- THIRD PRIZE..... A fine Students' Lamp
- FOURTH PRIZE..... A good set of Ping Pong.
- FIFTH PRIZE..... A Copyrighted Book
- SIXTH PRIZE..... Ladies Home Journal
- SEVENTH PRIZE..... INDEPENDENCE ENTERPRISE to any address for one year

CONDITIONS.

We want all the news that happens in Polk county and we want the ENTERPRISE to visit every family in the county. We want to help you and we want you to help us. Our interests are mutual. We will give points as follows:

One point for every item of news worthy of publication. 25 points for every article worthy of a separate head. If an article be specially meritorious or startling in the sight of the manager of this department an extra 15 points will be given. For every new yearly subscription 85 points. For every yearly renewal 75 points. For a subscription three months 25 points; six months and less than a year 35 points. For every dollar's worth Advertisement or Job Work we give 50 points, and we will gladly furnish you prices on any kind of Ad. or Job. We are going to make a campaign for some new correspondents, and we will announce at times the places in this column. Watch for them, as we will make it to your interest to secure representatives in the sections we want represented. Other features will be announced along.

HOW YOU STAND.

Each week we will announce in this column your points. No article is credited until after it appears in the paper, although subscriptions and points secured in other ways will be announced as they come in. We want to keep everything fair and straight and if you think an error has occurred in your points write us within the week following and we will make thorough investigation.

Buena Vista, H.	1475
Airlie, P.	751
Monmouth, H.	829
Parker.	815
Saver	381
Antioch	216
Monmouth, B.	106
Lewisville	120
Rickreall, C.	96
Highlands, D.	92
Falls City	72
Monmouth, A.	60
Sunny Slope.	49
Ballston.	39

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