

THE EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD AN INDEPENDENT PAPER

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

As announced heretofore, the Guard of the first of October was compelled to withdraw the offer of the St. Louis Republic free with every cash in advance subscription. Owing to the raise in the price of paper the publishers were forced to advance their price to us to such an extent we can no longer give the paper away as a premium.

We are, however, offering the Oregon Agriculturist or the American Farmer (your choice) free with each cash in advance subscription. Or we will give the Semi-Weekly Oregon Journal, the best newspaper in Oregon, with the Weekly Guard for only 15 cents extra, or \$2.25 for both the Guard and Journal. We will send the Guard and the Weekly Oregonian for \$2.50.

Splendid Premiums. To those who do not wish to take advantage of these clubbing offers we offer the following splendid premium to Weekly Guard subscribers: FOR ONLY TWO DOLLARS we will send the Weekly Guard one year, and give as a premium a set of six silver spoons, butter knife and sugar shell (Rogers make).

A kitchen set consisting of one carving knife and fork, one bread knife, one cake knife, one paring knife (American Cutlery Co. make), one pan cake turner and one egg spoon, a very useful thing to have in any family. Or a pretty mantel clock that keeps good time.

These premiums we have in stock and are prepared to deliver them promptly. We know they will please you.

Any one of them costs you only 50 cents in addition to the regular subscription price of the paper.

Address GUARD PRINTING CO., Eugene, Oregon.

MAKE STATEMENT NO. 1 ISSUE AT PRIMARIES

There is nothing to all this discussion about statement No. 1 except this: Shall the people be allowed to vote their preference for United States senator?

Two years ago this plan of popular election was tried, and Mr. Bourne, a Republican, who received a majority of the votes polled over John M. Gearin, Democrat, was elected. Only one Democratic legislator refused to vote for the people's choice, and one or two Republican members, if we remember rightly, refused to recognize the right of popular suffrage.

Shall Oregon, having once gained the right to vote directly for their senators, acknowledge the failure of the plan because the people cannot be trusted, or are incapable of making a suitable choice of representative in the upper house of congress?

Why not settle the discussion in Lane county at least by making a plain issue in the coming primaries. Let Mr. Gilstrap and those other aspirants who do not believe in the popular election of senators go before the primaries on that principle, and measure strength with their party candidates who are willing to sign statement No. 1. If there are Democrats who favor the old plan they may also have the opportunity to gauge the sentiment of their party in the primaries in a similar manner.

Make the issue plain and clear and let the majority vote decide how the people of Lane county stand on this question.

OUTSIDE VIEW OF UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

The following forcible editorial from the Moscow, Idaho, Journal, gives a good outside view of the attempt to cripple the University of Oregon by defeating the University appropriation by a referendum vote at the coming election:

"Considerable interest is felt in Idaho concerning the proposed effort of some of the farmers of the Willamette valley of Oregon to invoke the referendum against the appropri-

ation made by the last legislature of the state in support of the State University at Eugene. The support of this educational institution has heretofore been fixed at \$47,000 per annum. The new act arises this sum to \$125,000 per year, and it is against this increase that the farmers are making their objection.

"It is to be hoped for the sake of higher education in Oregon, and for the good name of the farming community everywhere, that this plan, intended to at least defer this appropriation and possibly defeat it entirely, will not be carried out.

"Oregon needs the State University and her people are abundantly able to support it up to the point of effectiveness where it can accomplish something, and its services will be worth much more than what they cost. In these times when higher education is a prerequisite for a successful career, it would be a great mistake for any state to dispense with or cripple its chief educational institution of learning.

"Not only would such action work an injury to the people directly affected, but it would do incalculable harm to the state beyond its borders. Progressive American people who are looking for new homes in the Pacific Northwest would shun a state that has put such a blight upon its future.

"Not only will these farmers who propose to invoke the referendum in this instance harm the state in the estimation of the people outside of its borders, but they will cast odium upon farmers generally. Agriculture is reaping more benefits today from higher education than any of the trades, mechanics or commercial interests.

"If the farmers of Oregon don't know this they should study a little. They should keep abreast of the farmers of other states, and then they would be enthusiastic advocates of higher education and be willing to pay reasonably well to sustain it."

AN EDITOR HESITATES TO SERVE THE PUBLIC

Of course we are now all very sorry that the direct primary law was enacted. None of us for a moment thought of the dire consequences of the act when we voted for a law that would enable the people to choose public officials without the assistance of a political machine. We had no idea that it might deprive the country of the brilliant services of the editor of the Register, who is now resolutely repulsing the importunities of his friends that he become a candidate for the legislature. He is closing his ears to the pleadings of the rank and file of his party who believe his peerless ability in the halls of legislation essential to the salvation of the country at this critical period of its career, because he cannot subscribe to the infamous direct primary law, which so brazenly disregards the time-honored right of the politicians as to ask a candidate to pledge himself, through statement No. 1, to vote for a United States senator who is the choice of a majority of the voters, instead of the party machine or the corporations, if not both. Thus have the fool people, as Tom Lawson characterizes them, in their anxiety to run the government in their own interests awhile, placed on the statute books a law that may force the erudite editor of the morning paper to refrain from immolating himself on the altar of public duty because of deep-seated conscientious scruples. He cannot, as a partisan of the old school, lend his aid to or countenance this brazen assumption of the right of the "plain people" to govern themselves; it is little short of an outrage upon the self-sacrificing politician, although it has been justified by some of the old fogies like Abe Lincoln, who had exaggerated or abnormal notions regarding such obsolete things as popular rights.

MOUNTAIN WATER CAUSE OF CORVALLIS' GROWTH

Eugene has voted bonds for a municipal water supply, but legal technicalities are holding up active operations in that direction. This, however, should discourage no advocate of the principle that such public utilities should be the property of the people, since there is no doubt that in a few months all legal obstacles will have been brushed aside by the courts, when work can be proceeded with as outlined by the present city administration.

On this subject the following editorial from the Corvallis Times is of especial interest to people, as tending to prove that they are proceeding on the right track. The Times says:

"With much satisfaction the Times publishes the annual report of the water commission. It recalls the calamity howled by those who fought mountain water for Corvallis, when the Times was fighting for it. It recalls Little Billy Investigator, the straits resorted to in the effort to keep pure water out of Corvallis.

"The report of the commission shows the annual revenue from consumption of water to have been for the year \$10,242.61, a sum fully \$2250 more than the friends of pure water claimed for the enterprise when the campaign for it was on. It shows that the system after \$1000 had been paid on the purchase price of the Farra plant, earned a balance of nearly \$4000 during the year.

"In the meantime, while the system was demonstrating its earning power, Corvallis was manifesting a splendid growth. Fifty-five residences last year and above eighty the year before are the figures. That the pure, crystal water from the mountain gorges of Mary's Peak was a large factor in this growth is unquestionable and undeniable. Her unequalled water is the best of all the good assets Corvallis has to offer in bidding for home-seekers, and it has for two years counted heavily in the town's favor."

STATEMENT NO. 1 MUST BE RESPECTED

The morning paper attacks statement No. 1 in an editorial today on the startling assumption that a majority vote of the people at a general election does not represent the will of the people. This kind of argument may appeal to politicians of the old machine school, but it falls flat before the people who have long desired to express their untrammelled choice for United States senator. Every party platform in Oregon for years has declared in favor of the election of senators by direct vote of the people, yet when this is virtually accomplished by means of statement No. 1 of the direct primary law, party organs, spurred on by the defeated and desperate leaders of the old machine, denounce the law on the most frivolous and inconsistent grounds.

Who will contend that statement No. 1 was not a success as applied at

the last session of the legislature? Instead of the usual wrangle and deadlock for weeks, two United States senators were chosen in fifteen minutes. Not all of us are admirers of the men elected, but as they were the choice of a majority of the voters, the result was accepted with general good feeling. If bad men are sent to the senate now the voters themselves must be held responsible for them and they cannot be charged up to machine manipulations or the bribery of legislators.

Oregon is Republican by a large majority—no doubt about that. Still the better and more independent of the party's voters will not stand for corruption in the United States senate if they can prevent it by sending a Democrat there who has a clean record. Let a clean, capable man be chosen by the Republicans at their primaries and he will defeat any Democratic candidate that may be named. Statement No. 1 stands only in the way of the machine gang who would continue the program of forcing unfit and corrupt candidates upon the honest voters of the Republican party. It is not a menace to the aspirations of any clean and worthy Republican candidate, and cannot be so construed by any process of editorial reasoning.

The candidate for the legislature who subscribes to statement No. 1 simply pledges himself to respect the will and wishes of a majority of the voters, and if he declines to do this he should be snowed under at the primary election so deeply that he will never appear on the surface again. This is the only effective weapon against machine rule left in the hands of the people and they will be unworthy of honest representation in the halls of legislation if they fail on any occasion to wield it effectively.

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Let us see—Was not Editor Fisher a rock-ribbed, double-distilled, 100-proof, all-wood and a yard wide Democrat during his sojourn in Idaho while connected with the Boise Capital News, and now in so brief a time has he not flopped and since his arrival in Eugene become a political independent, a man without a party. There is nothing like keeping in stock a miscellaneous supply of politics made to order to suit the convenience of one's surroundings.—Register.

While the personal views and personality of the editor of The Guard are of no particular public interest, since we long ago smothered whatever of ambition to hold public office we may have cherished, as most American citizens do at some stage of their career, we want to here and now plead guilty to the charge of being a political free lance, a mugsump or whatever other name one cares to designate a man by who has become disgusted with so-called party politics. In our younger days democracy meant to us all that was good and pure and patriotic in government and republicanism was its antithesis. We couldn't help it because we had been raised and educated that way, and even now cannot but respect certain time-honored principles of democracy that have too frequently been disregarded by the Democratic party when in power. Many years of fusion and confusion in Oregon and Idaho, dur-

ing which the party has catered to populists, socialists, anarchists, prohibitionists and every other organization that promised an additional vote, regardless of the issues involved, gradually weakened our faith in underlying party principles and finally destroyed them altogether.

As to our Idaho political record, referred to by the morning paper, the Evening Capital News had the distinction, and we might say the honor, of being formally read out of the Democratic party by resolutions passed by the state central committee, under domination of Senator Dubois, who himself has been in turn Republican, silver Republican and Democrat. Holding to the time-honored principle of democracy, that religious questions should not be made an issue in politics, we refused to join in the political crusade against the citizenship rights of the Mormons, and thereby incurred the enmity of Dubois, who was attempting the get back into the senate on the strength of his anti-Mormon campaign to the exclusion of the advocacy of any other Democratic principle.

The Capital News accordingly supported and helped to elect Governor Gooding and the entire Republican state ticket. We do not seek to apologize for this act, or to boast of it, but mention it simply because the morning paper has brought the question up; it was a conscientious performance of a duty from our viewpoint—the placing of principle and independent citizenship above blind partisanship, and we have resolved in the future to follow that course. For that reason any paper managed by the editor and publisher of The Guard will brook no domination from party or politician, and accept no dictation from any source except our own firm conviction of what is right or wrong, in strict adherence of the principle embodied in "the greatest good to the greatest number."

While it is true that there will always be political parties, and they are no doubt a necessity to a republican form of government, blind adherence to the organization and name, regardless of the principles involved, is sure to result in the building up of personal machines and corrupt practices, having for their object the spoilation of the people. This can only be prevented by independent thought and action on the part of the voters and the press. Today there is no great party issue, a majority of the Democrats, as evidenced by action of the party's representatives in congress, being staunch supporters of a Republican president. A great struggle between predatory wealth and the people, who demand the opportunity to do business without danger of being throttled by the great trust combinations, and the privilege of being governed by laws not wholly in the interests of the money barons, has fairly begun, and a new alignment of parties seems close at hand. The old names, "Democrat" and "Republican," have little of the significance now that was attached to them at one time, and it is this fact that is wiping out party lines in Oregon and elsewhere, instead of direct primary laws, as some of the partisan state papers would have the people believe. Direct primary laws are simply evidence of a desire of the people to take the reins of government into their own hands. They are tired of having party politicians do the driving all the while, and those who are doing most of the kicking against the new order of things are the de-throned politicians, their henchmen, or that other class too prejudiced, ignorant or subservient to realize the great responsibility and splendid opportunities of independent citizenship.

If this personal statement of the views of the editor of The Guard is of any value to the morning paper, or of any interest to the public, it is cheerfully donated and the space it occupies will not be wholly wasted. We only hope that we have made plain the fact that The Guard will, under its present management, be absolutely and fearlessly independent (not neutral); that the political friends it seeks to reward will be only the friends of good government; the only foes it would condemn to everlasting punishment the enemies of equal popular rights and privileges.

"In God We Trust" will soon again be inscribed on the gold coin of the realm. President Roosevelt, it is understood, will yield in the matter. Representative Wood of New Jersey, to whom the controversy between the artistic friends of the president and the patriotic and religious people was intrusted for solution, offers what is believed to be the bill that will save congressional action. It provides simply that "In God We Trust" shall go back on the gold coin and that the change be made within thirty days after the passage of the act.

After all, a great many good newspapers are inconsistent and unreasonable at times. Here is the Portland Telegram demanding that the unemployed workmen of the city be put to work on the streets, regarding which the party has catered to populists, socialists, anarchists, prohibitionists and every other organization that promised an additional vote, regardless of the issues involved, gradually weakened our faith in underlying party principles and finally destroyed them altogether.

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

President Roosevelt sent to congress today a message dealing with labor problems and corporation questions. He makes a strong plea for a constitutional employers' liability law, as well as a modification of the power of injunction in labor troubles. He also reiterates his position on questions affecting the control of public service corporations, advocating certain modifications of the Sherman anti-trust laws as applied to railroad combinations.

The message is one of the strongest and clearest ever written by the president and is worthy of perusal by all readers of the Guard today.

SOMEWHAT PERSONAL AND POLITICAL, ALSO

Let us see—Was not Editor Fisher a rock-ribbed, double-distilled, 100-proof, all-wood and a yard wide Democrat during his sojourn in Idaho while connected with the Boise Capital News, and now in so brief a time has he not flopped and since his arrival in Eugene become a political independent, a man without a party. There is nothing like keeping in stock a miscellaneous supply of politics made to order to suit the convenience of one's surroundings.—Register.

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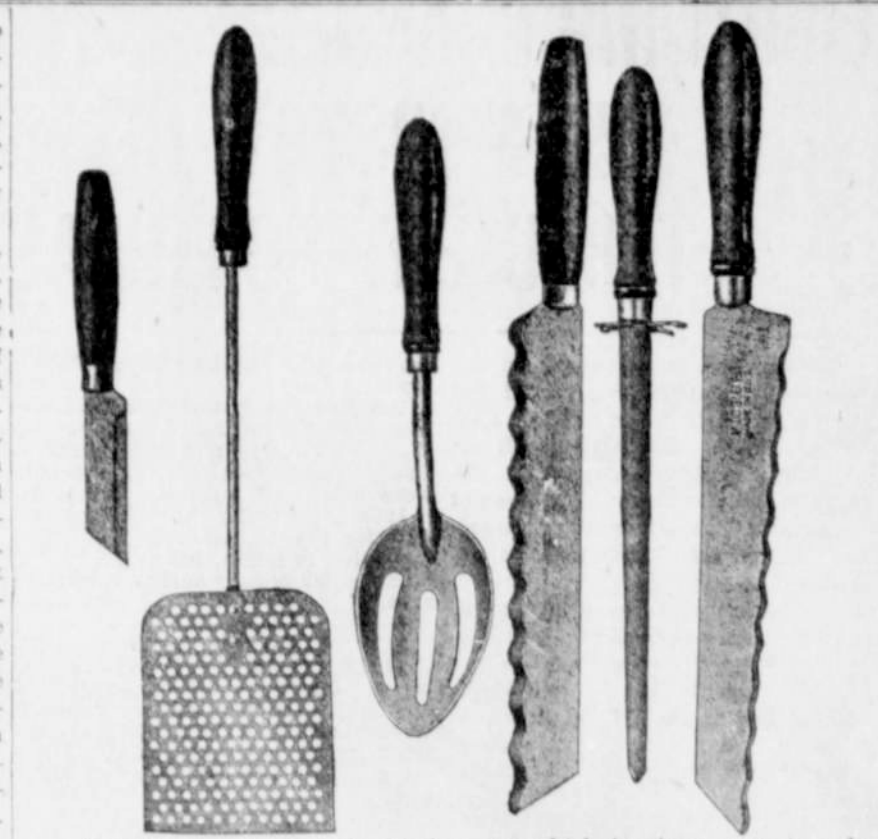
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Above is a picture of the kitchen set which is given away to subscribers of The Weekly Guard who pay \$2.00 a year for the paper in advance. It is a very useful present for the housekeeper.

less of civil service rules or qualifications. And not so many months ago the same paper was criticizing and denouncing the mayor and other city officials for the lax enforcement of civil service requirements. It's pretty hard to please some newspapers, to say the least.

The Springfield News takes the right view when it says: "According to all reports Eugene is to hold annual county fairs, commencing this fall. We understand that the fair grounds have been secured and arrangements about completed for the erection of most of the buildings. The citizens of Eugene are doing the best thing they could have possibly undertaken. Nearly every county in the state, and in all other states, hold their annual and county fairs with big success. Let us have good, well-equipped grounds and we will wager that the farmers and stock raisers will do their part toward making it a great success. The people in Eugene are working along the right line. Let the good work go on."

If the railways of the country were really in the hands of far-seeing men, the latter would promptly get together in an attempt to urge through congress laws making complete the president's policies affecting the steam roads. For the sooner this legislation can be enacted, the sooner will public confidence in the roads return and the companies be enabled to market the stock necessary and bonds for the construction of extensions and the purchase of rolling stock that are so sorely needed, and without which the roads cannot hope to meet the business that will be offered them after a few weeks of returning prosperity.

As long as a man agrees with you, you think him a good fellow. When he antagonizes your ideas and doctrines, you don't like him so well. As long as the farmer went about plowing, hoeing and harvesting, and let the professional politician run the politics, and the monopolies run the business, nobody called him a crank or an ignoramus. But when he took a hand in the politics and began to question the right of others to rob him, the dogs of war were let loose on him.

Beginning next Friday, the Guard will print a new serial story, "The Woman in the Alcove," by Anna Katherine Green. It is one of this author's masterpieces, and those who have read "The Filigree Ball" and other productions from her pen will watch for the opening chapters with unusual interest.

If any European power is hankering after hearing an old-fashioned wild screech from the eagle, it has only to carry out the rumor sent from Havana and make a protest against the withdrawal of the United States forces from Cuba.

A French woman who makes a specialty of male corsets, and claims King Edward for a customer, is over here, presumably looking for business. For all we know, she may have come to measure one of the "Big Bills"—Taft or Bryan; the figures of either might be improved by corsets. It's certain she'll get no patronage from either Fairbanks or Cannon, unless she also handles pads.

Talk about quick action. Prohibition isn't a month old in Atlanta, yet one of its advocates is out with the claim that its residents already see better than ever before. However, let us be just. Perhaps he means they see cabalistic signs indicating where booze may be had by the initiated.

Well, suppose the president should discipline the naval officers who have been openly criticizing the navy? It

wouldn't be any more than any private manager would do to employes caught "knocking" his business, would it? The first duty of a subordinate is to keep his mouth shut.

No use for North Carolina to be putting out those alluring stories of travelers being attacked by ferocious wolves and panthers—Teddy has all the hunting he can attend to for some time right at home. The senatorial jungle gets more dangerous every day.

Seems like turning back to the campaign of 1876 to read a proclamation signed by William S. Chandler and William Pitt Kellogg, urging the negroes of the south to send un-instructed delegates to the Chicago convention.

Another court—the Pennsylvania supreme—has taken a swat at a 2-cent railroad fare state law, using the constitution as a club; and at that it was only an affirmation of the decision of a Philadelphia court.

A gang of the meanest thieves on earth have been working the Brooklyn churches—they dropped counterfeit half dollars in the contribution baskets, asked for and got good quarters in change.

This "why-I-failed" magazine talk of Tom Lawson's offers a pointer to the bunch of presidential candidates on how to get a little coin after the other fellow walks off with the nomination.

From the vote of 102 to 5, by which the lower house of the Mississippi legislature passed a drastic anti-bucket shop bill, it might be inferred that this form of gambling is not popular in the land of Vardaman.

On general principles, founded on experience, these Maryland farmers reported to be hopeful of sharing in an English fortune of \$90,000,000, would be likely to share in more real money by sticking to their plows.

Though we had understood that the magazine in which it was all printed carries no free list, Tom Lawson says he will give the public no more advice. He'll just continue to sell it, we presume.

With an Indian paying his wife alimony by an order of a court, even the most skeptical should be convinced that the race is capable of taking on the highest polish of civilization.

Oh, yes; German courts are absolutely without bias. It is merely a coincidence that the judge who presides over one does not decide as the kaiser thinks he ought soon loses his job.

Another author gone wrong. Owen Wister, the novelist, has announced his candidacy—no, not for the presidency, but for councilman from one of the Philadelphia wards.

Some of those who are confidence of his failure to pull down that nomination are already speaking cynically of the Hughes of the rainbow.

Oh, no; this Spanish diplomat who says we are bound to have war with Japan and also bound to be licked, is not prejudiced—only ignorant.

A disgusted Georgia jugologist has discovered that all the jokes about prohibition are made in communities that haven't yet gone "dry."

Why should the lack of a practical rudder for airships be worrying car-nots at this time, when there are no practical airships?

Every Republican politician on-the-fence is now holding a stop-watch on the Hughes boom, to get a line on its speed.