

Eastern Clackamas News

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UPTON H. GIBBS
Editor and Manager.

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A Man of Ideals

In the death of Henry L. Pittock, publisher of the Oregonian, Portland has lost a citizen who was connected with it for sixty-five years, and who had much to do with its larger growth and development. The record of his career reads like a romance, and is typical of that of the city itself. Both had small beginnings and both attained enviable distinction. Who, when Henry Pittock arrived in Portland, then consisting of a straggling street along the Willamette front, would have visioned the present fair city of roses spreading out over territory which was at that time virgin forest. Did Henry Pittock, as he worked in the little frame one storied office, ever have a glimmering of the stately structure which now houses The Oregonian in its maturity? Possibly not, but in those early days, he formed the ideals which were to bring him such enviable results. For he was a man with ideals which he steadfastly pursued and maintained thro good and ill report. These are well expressed in the character sketch given in his paper.

"The road of right and duty and good faith might be beset with real perils, but he took it always because it was for him the only way which men of conscience and institutions of character could travel. He faced in such circumstances the penalty of material disaster with calmness and even with serenity. Few know, for illustration, the cost to The Oregonian of its fight for sound money in the '90s, made under the Mr. Scott as editor of The Oregonian with the active encouragement and unfaltering support of Mr. Pittock. It was very great; but it was, nevertheless, made because honest men, under the driving impulse of an honest conviction, were conducting an honest journal for an honest cause."

The lesson to be learned from this, of which the life of Henry L. Pittock furnishes a striking concrete example, is that the path

of right and duty, tho at the start rough, arduous and beset with difficulty, is the path to success in its truest sense and of a character which is permanent.

Two Notable Anniversaries.

February is the month in which fall the birthday anniversaries of our two most notable presidents, those of Washington and Lincoln. It is not possible to decide which of the two was the greater. From chronological reasons, Washington has always been placed first, but the question is one that can hardly be decided on its merits, and always will remain an open one. For years there was no dispute concerning who had the precedence, but of late years Lincoln's worth and greatness have been more and more increasingly perceived and estimated. But fortunately it is an immaterial question, both men were great, and for the same reason, that of great service to their country. Both faced great crises and both rose to the opportunity at the cost of heroic self sacrifice. It would be difficult to find two men presenting greater outward contrasts to each other, who were yet inwardly alike in those qualities of soul, which make a man truly great. On Wednesday next Lincoln the former railsplitter will be commemorated, while ten days later, Washington the aristocratic, landed gentleman. That which differentiated them was only accidental and ephemeral, while that which unified them was inherent and lasting.

The strike situation at Seattle is ominous, and it is to be hoped that Governor Lister will be firm in handling it. We do not wish to play the role of an alarmist, yet it is our conviction that these strikes contain the germs of rebellion and anarchy, which may bring about civil war. In the words of the ancient Litany: "From all sedition, privy conspiracy and rebellion, Good Lord deliver us."

We agree with the Oregonian that the State senate was hasty in voting for the elimination of German from all the state aided schools. It is all very well to eliminate it from the public schools but in the university and colleges, such action would be foolish. A knowledge of German is just as valuable now as ever it was, and in our opinion, it will become more so in the future as a scientific and business asset.

SPECIAL THIS WEEK
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