

Eastern Clackamas News

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Editor and Manager.

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The Editorial Convention

The State Editorial Association had the honor last week of entertaining the National Association. As the daily papers contained full accounts of the proceedings, it will not be necessary to give an additional report. Suffice it to say, that the visiting editors were given a royal good time which they will not soon forget, and as the clerk of the weather was propitious, the beauties of Oregon were well set off in the golden sunshine.

But the visitors did not only receive, they also gave. Their presence and words added much to the occasion and they left an impress which will profoundly help in stimulating the effectiveness of the state press.

As we are a neophyte in the profession, this was our first attendance at such a gathering. We have attended many church conventions and were curious to see how the two compared. We found that there was a strong similarity, both in procedure and topics discussed, indicating that both press and pulpit have much in common, in moulding thought and inculcating higher ideals, and thus influencing powerfully public conduct. The fact is, that both press and pulpit have the same obligation to maintain righteousness and are subject to the same temptation to temporize when threatened with intimidation.

We were profoundly stirred when B. F. Irvine, editor of the Portland Journal, rose to speak eloquently and at times impassionately, on the subject, "Our Calling." That he is blind added to the impressiveness of his words. As we watched him, we thought what an object lesson it afforded of rising superior to impediments which some would consider insuperable. We thought of Henry Fawcett, the blind Postmaster General of England some years ago. When he lost his sight through an accidental discharge of a fowling piece, on the eve of his graduation at Cambridge, he said that it would make no difference.

And it did not, unless it was to stimulate him to yet greater efforts.

At this time when many young men have returned home from the war in a badly crippled condition, such examples are especially needed and valuable, that they "seeing, may take heart again" and not abandon themselves to despair.

A Mere Bugaboo

The opponents of the league of nations make much ado over article X, and the special pact with France, claiming that by these the U. S. would be forced into war at the dictate of other nations, whether the cause were approved of by this country or not. The objection is groundless. The U. S. will be the sole judge to determine whether sufficient and just cause exists for giving support to France or any other under the terms of the pact or covenant. This has been shown by the action of Italy. That nation was one of the triple alliance with Germany and Austria and when Emperor William demanded her help under the terms of the triple alliance, Italy refused, claiming that only in the event of Germany being wantonly attacked was she to render aid, and that in this instance Germany was the aggressor without sufficient cause. Italy judged the case herself and acted accordingly. So it will be with us. Congress will judge the question should it ever arise.

Owing to exceptional pressure on our space this week, our country correspondence has to be left over to the next issue.

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Building

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