

Eastern Clackamas News

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PARTY GOVERNMENT

"It is becoming more and more evident," says the London Daily News, "that representative government is in very serious danger. It has been destroyed to all intents and purposes in Italy, in Spain, in Russian and in Greece; both in France and Germany its future cannot be regarded entirely confidently; and even in this country and the United States anti-democratic forces have manifestly increased and multiplied since the war."

There is food for serious thought in this paragraph. Almost every month now a new dictator takes over the reins in some European country; first it was Italy, then Spain and Greece, then Portugal, and lastly Poland. And it is equally true that in the United States the enemies of representative government were never more active than at present.

One of the greatest dangers to representative government is the bloc system. It is in the countries infected with the bloc that popular government is in the greatest danger. In the United States and in Great Britain, too, to a lesser de-

gree, there has been more regular party government. It is our political parties which help save to us what we have left of representative government, because representative government, as designed in our Constitution, can only flourish through great political parties which gather into their membership people from all walks of life.

Where blocs of conflicting interests take the place of great political parties we are apt to get one of two things when popular government crumbles—the dictatorship of the autocrat, like Mussolini, or the dictatorship of communism as exemplified in Russia.

We want neither kind of dictatorship in the United States and the best way to prevent such a state of affairs is to preserve our representative government, by keeping our two great political parties clean and effective. Everything which tends to destroy party government in the United States and substitute the rule of the demagogue or the minority bloc, is a menace to our system of government.

Portland and its citizens were honored in various ways at the recent convention in San Francisco of the Pacific Coast Advertising Clubs' Association. Marshall N. Dana was made president, and this city was given the pleasure of entertaining the next convention. Henry R. Hayek was given an award for the excellence of his work in typography, and the address of W. F. G. Thatcher of Eugene was adjudged the best made before a departmental group.—Spectator.

Seattle to Los Angeles, a distance of 1,075 miles, in less than twelve hours including two stops totaling one hour. That is going some, and indicative of the improved means of transportation we are rapidly approaching.

COUNTRY VS. CITY LIFE

We think we should not be classed as an idle minded pessimist when we express the belief that birth and continuous living in great cities has a tendency to produce an inferior quality and worth as compared with those born of the soil and who at least spend the years up to their majority in the same environment. City life gives an artificial polish, contrary to that acquired by association with the things of nature, more rough, and producing a hardier citizen. If there is any argument about this, it is only necessary for us to refer to history, and there find plenty of confirmation of the position taken. All the great men of the past and those up to the present time will be found to have been born on the farm and later have come into such prominence as they possess. But the city born and reared men who have ever distinguished themselves in any manner except it be in the matter of politics or trade, are very scarce and may be easily counted.

In our own country we may take the life of Abraham Lincoln, who was born of the very lowly. Chances are that had he been born and reared to city life he would never perhaps have amounted to anything other than a struggling law practitioner. But his rough early life, mingling with the common people, the true yeomen of this country, knowing their wants and needs and desires, and being one of them, possessed of an ambition to educate himself and better his condition, supplied the very energy that was to make him one of the greatest and noblest of all history. The same is true in but little lesser degree of all our presidents who all sprang from humble beginnings. And so it is with nearly all our great men in arts, letters, inventions, the professions and every walk of life where sterling worth has been demonstrated. It would therefore appear that the closer we keep to nature the nearer we approach to that perfection which must be the ultimate destiny of the human race.

Arguing from this standpoint we have the explanation of why even the city man at times feels the urge to get away from the falsities of his surroundings and seek out those places where he may best commune with the plainer and more natural side of life. He likes to get out in the hills, by the streams, to eat coarse food and sleep beneath the skies, to breathe uncontaminated air and see it stir to life the branches of the forest. He wants to visit unfrequented places, either in company or by himself and feel his feet tread the soft earth from which he sprang, where he may be away from and forget the worries of business, society and everything but the glorious things about him not made by the hand of man. From such scenes a man returns a better one, he has witnessed the reality, life exactly as it was created and is, and which has produced our greatest and distinguished men. If he be of a studious and observant mind he will return with a full realization of the wisdom of a Creator who provided so many wonderful things to incline him to greater things and nobler deeds, and a determination to profit by it.

In this connection it might be added that in Oregon is offered some of the finest places for an outing of this nature to be found. There are vast forests, rugged mountains, peaceful valleys and myriads of streams abounding with trout, and all accessible by highway or trail. But one should get as far away from the beaten path as possible, for it is only there that nature fully expresses herself. She is very fascinating at this season and bids the tired and bored and disconsolate a warm welcome within her ever and many changing scenes.—Sutherland Sun.

PACIFIC STATES DROP BEHIND

In figures given out on the growth and development of co-operation in the United States, California, Oregon and Washington show the smallest percentage of increases in the country. The east north-central states show the greatest gains, 430 per cent, while the Pacific coast states show but 112 per cent. One of the reasons given for this slow development is that so many different products are grown on each farm that it is very difficult to embrace them into selling organizations. In states where two or three staple crops are grown, like wheat, cotton, tobacco, etc., it is not difficult to control the products, but in diversified farming states one would have to become a member of several different organizations to cover the products.

News Ads bring results.

Notes and Comment

By CHAD ALTON

Henry Ford's contributions to charity are few and far between. His idea is to provide work at good wages and leave the individual free and independent to attend to their own charities. His theory is the proper one, for many times in distributing charity the unworthy and shiftless are only encouraged to continue. Work is a panacea for all our ills.

The idea of schools for parents where they may be taught many things about children that newlywed are ignorant of, may be laughed at, but just such a thing is going to be tried out in California. Much of the delinquencies blamed on the child rightfully are chargeable to the parent, and there seems to be good reasons for classes to teach the parent how to handle the many problems which arise in rearing their offspring.

Kansas City Star has been sold for eleven million dollars. My, oh my. There are so many readers who think that a newspaper does not amount to anything, it is good to see that others consider their worth. The proceeds of the sale of the Star go to the city to establish an art foundation, and that is a good thing for all the people.

The fact that officers sworn to uphold the law violate their oaths, affords no ground for argument against prohibition. It only proves man's degeneracy and his willingness to barter his honor for money. So long as they do this so long will the great law-abiding majority insist that truth and justice shall prevail.

Said that German waiters must know how to fold a napkin 47 ways. It would take all of that to find clean spot on the ordinary restaurant napkin.

Continued violations of the law, no matter which law it may be, is more of a menace to this country than any danger from foreign sources. The citizen who is so short-sighted as to see this has but little thinking capacity, and cares less for his future welfare.

A "director finder" is the latest device to be used by the coast guard to locate rum-runners. Those who drink moonshine on land have a breath on them that can be detected for blocks.

Publications which carry the advertising of fake concerns and the many "cures" and nostrums are to be proceeded against by the Federal Trade Commission. A newspaper must not impose upon its readers matters that are not legitimate and should use the utmost care to protect its patrons.

And now the government proposes to add gasoline to denatured alcohol to prevent the bootleggers from selling it as a drinkable beverage. Can it be that John D. has given away another ten-cent piece?

Many men lay their failure to succeed to financial difficulties. Where ability is present there are no elements of failure, financial or otherwise. At the beginning Henry Ford's capital could easily have been carried in the vest pocket. And so with the captains of all our big industries. Ability is what counts.

The ex-kaiser, through a series of syndicated letters, is trying to tell the world why Germany lost the war. Will he be able to satisfy the German people that he is not a traitor?

Of interest to the ladies is the report that the queen of Spain has adopted the vogue of the long skirt, not shorter than four inches above the ankle. But her highness will find there is a greater queen than she, Queen Fashion, and if she ways only to the knee, only to the knee the skirt will go.

The number of cases of violation of the narcotic law has increased from 1040 in 1917 to 10,297 in 1925. This shows an alarming increase in the number of people willing to embrace them in other ways than by moonshine whiskey.

Simmered down to the truth, most men who engage and marry a woman do so under false pretenses and deceit. He holds himself up to her in their lover days as a person of sweet temper and undying devotion, and there is nothing too good for

you attitude. The female, of an honest and trusting nature, places her faith in his blandishing ways and then, when the scales drop from her eyes, learns she has gathered a crop of Dead Sea fruit.

It would lessen the possibility of early divorce if every young woman contemplating marriage would inquire into the character of the man seeking her hand. This blind love stuff, marrying after a brief season of billing and cooing, and then experiencing the true character of the man is what is filling our divorce courts and wrecking the happiness of many lives of a too trusting nature.

An attempt was made in the state of Louisiana to ban petting parties in autos, but the legislature refused to pass such a law. Huh! Why try to stop what we, or you, rather, did in the days of the buggy? Might as well try to stop the flow of Niagara.

The son of the Greek dictator was banished to an island to keep him from marrying a girl. But the young man escaped, sought out and again his sweetheart and they were duly wed. That is a very nice and romantic story. Someday parents will learn that their children laugh at locksmiths, or even waters separating them from the mainland.

With much and pardonable pride and patriotism many thousands of young men took up arms and went overseas in defense of humanity. And yet many of these same men at home, where greater menace to themselves and all humanity exists in the shape of law violation, laugh at efforts of those enlisted in the cause to preserve a nation, the pride of the earth.

Unearned fortunes have proved the undoing of many young men who, if left to their own resources, probably would have made a better mark in the world. Parents who toil their lives out to leave fortunes to their children, not knowing how

they will spend it, do so through a love that is misdirected and would cause them much sorrow could they look back and see the result.

France and other European countries to whom we have loaned many millions when they were at war and in need, have turned our generosity into a bitter hatred of us. It is the same with individuals. If you wish to retain the respect and good will of your friends, be careful how you loan money to them.

The Irish Free State allows no liquor in any street cars. Never mind. Trust Pat to know where a drop of potheen is to be found.

In addition to what already seems to be an ample number of theatres the city of Seattle is to have more added this season to the amount of our million dollars to construct. Which is an indication of the prosperity of the Pacific Northwest, the rapid growth of all of our cities, and that the public is determined to enjoy itself.

President Coolidge is so busy attending to public business and enjoying what little leisure he can get that Senator Cummins' prediction that he will not be nominated in 1928, has no effect upon him nor causes no worry. Cummins lost out, so is sore.

The Pacific Northwest has been quite free up to the present time of the usual haze of smoke obscuring everything but nearby objects. When we shall arrive at that time when every person uses care in the matter of fires our forests will be preserved and tourists may enjoy to the full our unexcelled scenery.

In divorce cases where community property in the way of an auto enters and is awarded to the woman, the license for the machine is also voided and she must acquire a new one. At last that is the opinion of the attorney general of the state of Washington, and he ought to know.

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