

Current Comment---Timely Topics

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Republican in Politics.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1904.

SENATOR PLATT ON POLITICAL PROSPECTS

New Year's senior senator at a recent Washington banquet discussed the outlook for the coming campaign. It forecasts somewhat the lines upon which the presidential contest will be fought.

"The Government under President Roosevelt has been strong and wise, but it often happens in politics that a political party, which has had a long lease of power, is never so much in danger as when nobody has anything in particular to complain of, for it is then that many people vote, not with regard to great political principles, but with regard to trivial events. We shall need, therefore, throughout the coming campaign, to keep constantly before the people the often proved incapacity of the Democratic party to conduct public affairs and the menace to business which proceeds from its very constitution.

"The newspapers relate that Mr. Bryan denies he is a Socialist, but the spirit of Socialism is rampant in his party, and its influence will appear at the moment when any Democrat sets foot in the White House. The tariff smashers and the currency debasers in the Democratic party may be for the moment quiescent, but their self-restraint will last no single minute longer than until the opportunity comes to give effect to their injurious principles.

"Our entrance into the world of politics has been received by the other nations in a spirit of hearty friendship. The construction of an isthmian canal transcends in importance any other act of legislation or diplomacy to which the Government can commit itself, and the people will look impatiently, in my opinion, at any individual or political party that seeks to embarrass this work with partisan outcries. If this session of Congress accomplishes nothing else than to render possible the immediate construction of the canal across the isthmus, it will have done enough to entitle it to a high place in the memorable session."

PRESBYTERIANISM PROSPERING IN THE COUNTY

The Tualatin Plains church, the "Scotch Presbyterian" as it is often called in allusion to the colony brought out by Rev. Geo. Ross, the first pastor, who over thirty years ago settled in that vicinity, observed last Sunday as Sacrament Sunday with an addition of eight to its already large membership. Ever since Rev. A. Robinson became pastor, four years ago, each communion occasion has seen a growth of from four to twelve, with one exception.

With the Tualatin Plains church as a centre Presbyterian work has

been carried on at Buxton with the result that it has now a neat little church building, seating 125, and a membership of about 30. Forest Dale, or Scoggins Valley, has a church with a seating capacity of 200, membership about 25. All the Presbyterian enterprises in Washington county are out of debt and prospering. At several points in the county Sunday schools are being held which eventually will grow into churches, at the Roy school-house near Greenville, at the old Baptist church at West Union, in the Arcade school-house at Pumpkin Ridge and at Redville. The larger towns so far have been neglected through an agreement between the Congregational and Presbyterian churches that in missionary fields their enterprises should not conflict but both Forest Grove and Hillsboro are growing fast enough to make it likely that the numerous Presbyterians, especially in the Grove, will have a church of their own faith before very long.

Mr. Wm. Adams Thursday celebrated his 84th birthday anniversary so active and hearty that a man a score of years his junior might envy his good health.

The Heywood school neighborhood, northwest of town, now has telephone connection with Hillsboro, ten subscribers being on the new line which has just been put up. Also there is talk of a line southwest of Cornelius in the vicinity of the Buchanan brothers. The Centerville line will probably soon be extended to Mountindale, while the Glencoe line has now 12 instruments attached.

On Tuesday evening, Dec. 29, Miss Kendall and Huston entertained a number of their friends at the home of the latter. Flinch was playing during the first part of the evening. The booby prize was won by Miss Blanche Kendall and R. F. Peter, and the first prize by Miss Hobbs. Those present were Misses Peter, Hobbs, Bolby, Cornelius, Blanche Kendall and Messrs. R. F. Peters, J. W. Peters, Hobbs, Kendall, Simon, Rasmussen and Huston.

By the end of next week Hillsboro's "central" will answer calls at night as well as in the daytime, the promised all-night service then going into effect in recognition of the 105 phones now connected with the exchange, five more than were necessary to gain this improvement. Three "hello girls" will be employed, two during the day and the present one, whose sex hardly warrants the designation commonly applied to central employees, will be night operator. The switchboard will in all likelihood be enlarged before long to save the delay now necessary at busy times.

Grass seeds of all kinds at W. P. Hicks.

Irwin L. Harlow, New York. E. K. Kibe, of the Portland Telegram, Geo. W. Claxton, M. Kirzmin, Portland, were among the New Year's guests at the Tualatin.

Salem is the headquarters of a movement for reviving the Populist party in Oregon and divorcing it from its unhappy union with the Democratic party. The leaders assert that their fusion has wiped out of existence a party pledged to the principles of reform in matters of land, labor, finance and transportation although when they fused it was the second in the state, and out of this has come offices for those hopelessly in the minority whose first statement when dealing out appointments is that democrats only need apply. So the resurrected party will add to its platform a fifth principle of no-fusion. In '94 the populist candidate for governor had 26,000 votes to 17000 for the democratic nominee, who was one of the most popular men in that party, Judge Galloway. If this revival finds many converts in Washington county it will change the political complexion of the next campaign, as the populists make up two thirds of the so-called democratic party in this county.

The Independent printery is now settled in the Masonic Temple, all its machinery and paraphernalia having been transferred with no greater mishap than the breaking of a belt wheel, a piled mailing galley, some polish on the rosewood furniture and a dent or two in the towel. Disadvantage under which the office has been working for the past two months but which were suffered to continue in anticipation of the coming removal will soon be remedied. The big press is mounted on a separate foundation where its vibration will not give an imitation of a sea voyage for the other occupants of the building, the faithful old steam engine which has grown so feeble that it had to stop to catch its breath between each paper printed, with a longer rest every half hour, has been succeeded by a noisy gasoline arrangement whose incessant explosions sound like a volley of pistol shots, and will add another misery to the unfortunate compelled to reside near by in the city's hotel, while the jet of sparks discharged through the wall from the exhaust pipe seems to the passerby to make more appropriate the common designation attached to the youngest printer on the force, who with special care the engine is. Altogether the printing office now has double its former room and greater convenience to handle its work, while the sanctum will shortly be ready to welcome visitors to a dictator's den equally handy.

Both Phones in The News Office. If you have any news call us up.

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