THE BEND BULLETIN

"For every man a square deal, no less and no more."

CHARLES D. ROWE.....EDITOR

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1908.

THE PARAMOUNT ISSUE.

There is evidently going to be a wonderful stirring of dead bones in the United States senate. And a few of those honored senators who have been representing everything but the people, are going to be retired to the joys of the simple life; they are going to be sent home to stay. In fact, this movement is already under way. Joseph L. Bristow has defeated Senator Chester I. Long of Kansas. Bristow is the man who unearthed the postal frauds a few years ago in the post-office department. He stands steadfastly for good government. Long is known as a corporation senator. Senator Allison of Iowa has just closed his long public career in answer to the call of death. While the senator has always had a clean reputation and has kept himself free from the suspicious and dirty tricks of the average politician, yet he has been one of the most pronounced standpatters and has invariably stood with that faction of his party which sided with the privileged interests. The senator belonged to the old school. Apparently he was not in sympathy with the late movement in political life led by Roosevelt, LaFollette, Hughes and Folk. Senator Allison will be succeeded undoubtedly by Gov. Cummins, a stalwart man, a progressive reformer, and one who stands for just laws. It is hoped that able men will be chosen to represent New York in the place of the senile, corrupt and disgusting Platt and Depew.

And one of the most pleasing features of this apparent house-cleaning of the senate is the fact that it is very probable Governor Folk of Missouri will succeed Senator William J. Stone. The nation is acquainted with Folk. He was one of the first to take up the fight of recent years against corruption and graft in public life. And he has always won. Governor Folk is one of the men to whom the nation can point with pride. It is to be sincerely hoped that Missouri will send him to the senate and will retire Stone, who has the reputation of being one of those senators who were elected simply to represent the corporations.

Yes, there is going to be a house-cleaning in the senate. The voters are disgusted with the tactics and records of many of the men who now occupy seats in that body. It is a hopeful sign, an indication that there is enough virile strength and energy in the nation to purge itself of a clique of corrupt lawmakers, even when those same corruptionists have succeeded in getting control of the lawmaking branch of the government. Let the good work go on, and let other honest men be elected to succeed such as Aldrich, Elkins, Paine, Fairbanks, Foraker, and others of that ilk.

* * *

Should a republican state elect a democrat to the senate? That is a question that is mightily worrying a large number of editors and politicians of Oregon. They are making a mountain out of a mole hill. Should a republican state elect a democrat to the senate? That depends. If by so doing a state can secure a man of proper calibre, one of undoubted integrity, and one who will always stand for the best interests of the nation, then any state will do well to elect such a man to the senate. If the republican incumbent is known as a corruptionist, if he stands brazenly and openly for those moneyed interests that are constantly seeking special privileges to the harm of the nation, if in short he misrepresents the people, then any state will do well to retire such a man and elect an honest democrat in his place.

The old-time clinging to party is dead. The voters of the nation will no longer respond to the cry, "Stand by your party." "Don't be a deserter," "Do not betray the grand old party," and such trash. What they demand now are clean and upright men to represent them. If they can not find them in their own party they will turn to some other party if that party is so fortunate as to have such a candidate. And the result will be that the nation will be better governed.

What true American would not rather have such men in the senate as Folk of Missouri, Johnson of Minnesota, and Chamberlain of Oregon—all democrats—in the place of Elkins, Aldrich, Foraker, Platt, Depew and others of that stripe. Folk, Johnson and Chamberlain would represent the people. The others are notorious for the records they have made in representing the corporations. And yet according to the wailings of some republican papers, it would be a sin and a crime to elect a good democrat in the place of a corrupt republican. Why, you know, the democrat's party principles are not sound. The corrupt republican's party principles may be sound enough but he forgets them so easily when it comes to voting in congress.

* * *

There is one issue before the nation today that is paramount to all others. It is not the question of protective tariff or free trade; it is not whether we shall retain the Philippines or give them their independence; it is not the question of free coinage of silver at the sacred ratio of 16 to 1; nor is it the wisdom or unwisdom of a large navy. The one issue of paramount importance is whether the nation shall continue to stand by the reforms inaugurated by Roosevelt: whether it shall demand honest and just laws; whether it shall be ruled by the people or whether it shall fall into the hands of a plutocracy; whether it shall be a government for and by the people, or for and by a favored few. That is the issue in which the American people are most interested and on that issue they will elect their lawmakers. If the republican party can not produce a candidate in sympathy with this issue, then a democrat will be elected. The question will not be what is a man's party, but rather what sort of a man is he.

At the present the nation needs men of integrity. Whether they are republicans or democrats is of secondary importance.

Farmers in the Bend country should begin to fight the weeds. Taken in time they can be easily controlled, and now is the time for this section. There are several species of weeds that grow amazingly well here. One of these is the common pig weed. It multiplies with great rapidity and, when given a chance through carelessness or indifference, soon becomes a pest. There is one field not far from Bend that has been poorly tended in which the pig weeds have taken entire possession. A resident farmer who is acquainted with summer fallow methods in Washington says that field will never be cleaned of the weeds until it is thoroughly summer fallowed for a season. One manner in which the weeds steal a march on the average farmer is the fact that they cast their seed much sooner than is generally supposed. Hence they should be fought with vigor, cleaned out when young and not allowed to go to seed. The weed nuisance is quite a serious problem in some sections of the West. Farmers in the Bend country should be on the alert and not let them get a footing here. Keep the fence corners and unused land free from weeds.

The national forest officials should be highly commended for the manner in which they have been fighting the forest fires of the past two weeks. Not only have they fought the fires that were burning in government timber, but they have done all in their power, and have employed men and spent much money to conquer the fires that were burning in private timber. They have shown a commendable spirit, have saved much valuable property, and have done good work. The forest service is a good thing.

Cured Hay Fever and Summer Cold

A. S. Nusbaum, Batesville, Indiana, writes: "Last year I suffered for three months with a summer cold so distressing that it interfered with my business. I had many of the symptoms of hay fever and a doctor's prescription did not reach my case, and I took several medicines which seemed only to aggravate it. Fortunately I insisted upon having Foley's Honey and Tar. It quickly cured me. My wife has since used Foley's Honey and Tar with the same success." C. W. Merrill, Druggist.

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COMMENT BY OTHER PAPERS

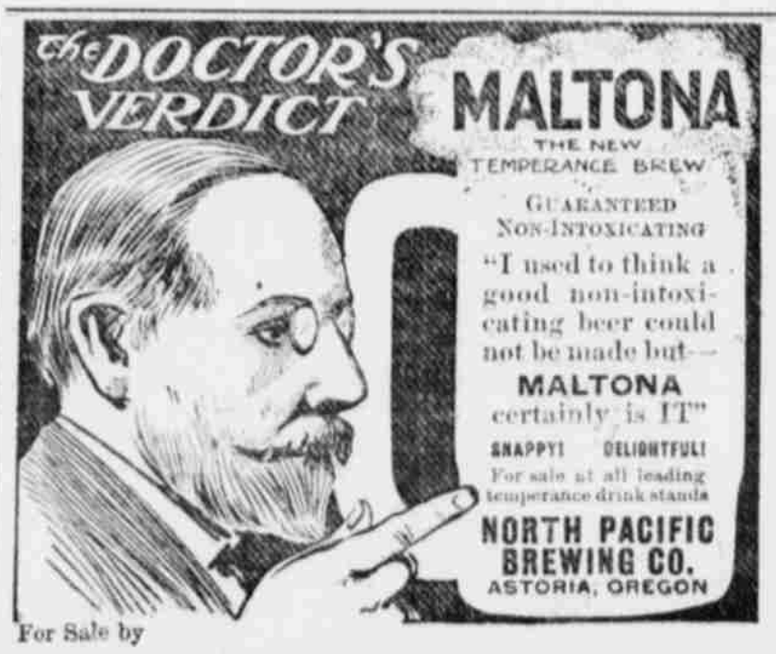
"Marching Behind."

The Dalles Optimist.

It is just as The Optimist has always said, the opinion being taken from "The Old Man's" experience—the democratic party always gets right on all questions after the republicans have proven them correct and have marched on and taken up other issues and questions.

The democratic party of today practically stands where the republican party stood 50 years ago, as witness the plank in the late platform promulgated at Denver. We refer to the one seeking to commemorate the tooth anniversary of Lincoln's death! Lincoln, the man killed, murdered by that party, the man who received more abuse from the democrats than any man who ever lived! During the war he was a "butcher," a "tyrant," a "knave," he "trampled the constitution under his feet" and was "leading his country on to anarchy, disaster, ruin and oblivion!" And now the same old party, and some of the very same men, are praising him as one of the great men of the world!

Is it possible that such cheap claptrap, such absolute contempt and abandonment of their old views, will catch votes? We very much doubt that voters will be fooled by such cheap trickery.



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