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The Athena Press.
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ATHENA, ORE., JUNE 14, 1907

Passing resolutions terminating the relationship of the members of the furniture trust, the Northwest Furniture exchange has succumbed before the attacks of the government. Twenty firms entered a plea of guilty in the federal court at Portland. Fines of \$25 each were imposed, it being shown they were comparatively small fry and had been practically forced into the trust. The furniture trust is not the only octopus with which the government has to deal, and now that the anti-trust knife is sharpened, it may be that a long suffering public will dance with joy in a general pruning bee. It is to be hoped that the knife will be sunk to the hilt in the coal trust. Winter will be on apace, and up to this time but little fuel is being received in the Northwest. Railroad magnates, who control the coal fields, serve notice on officials to secure fuel for state institutions at once, but the public is given short notice that coal is not being mined for the reason that labor is scarce. Considering that the public is willing to pay any old price for coal, (being forced to) the coal barons do not see fit to raise the wage scale or improve mining appliances commensurate with the fuel demand, but continue to hold on to their developed and undeveloped possessions with a greed that is characteristic. The coal trust should be throttled, even though the government be compelled to confiscate and mine the coal fields.

A town of Athena's standing and commercial importance is entitled to a good school. The wealth of the school district is sufficient to afford teachers' salaries that will come up to the standard paid elsewhere to secure the experience and talent that insure good schools. A complete di-

gression from past methods in the supervision of the Athena public school is needed, and not until this is accomplished, will the school be placed in the rank to which it rightfully belongs.

The number of elegantly dressed show windows of Athena stores may be taken as an index of the splendid stocks of goods the merchants of this city are carrying this year. Always to the fore with the best the wholesale markets afford, it would seem that this year our merchants have gone the limit in the selection of goods to please their customers.

POLITICS AND POLITICIANS.

Louisville has been added to the list of applicants for the democratic national convention next year.

Secretary of the Interior James R. Garfield is expected to attend the republican state convention in Oklahoma next month.

Indiana is preparing to boom Felix T. Whirter of Indianapolis, for the presidential nomination on the prohibition ticket. Charles F. Holler, also an Indian, is mentioned for the second place on the ticket.

Former Assistant Postmaster General William M. Johnson has withdrawn his name from use in connection with the republican nomination for governor in New Jersey this fall.

Theodore E. Burton, who, as alleged, is favored by administration people at Washington for the speakership of the next congress in preference to Mr. Cannon, has represented a Cleveland district for several years in the national house of representatives and was chairman of the rivers and harbors committee in the 59th congress. He is a lawyer by profession and an authority on finance.

An interesting feature in the next republican national convention will be a reunion of the delegates to the national convention in Chicago in 1880, who, for 36 ballots, supported General U. S. Grant for the presidential nomination for a third term.

William J. Bryan has grown quite stout within the past few years. His present weight is 234 pounds, while at the time he entered the campaign in 1896 he tipped the beam at exactly 165. In 11 years he has gained 69 pounds in weight.

AN ABUSE OF LIBERTY.

Emma Goldman, anarchist, is zealously engaged in the vocation of sowing the seeds of dissension and disorder broadcast, or as far as her power can reach, throughout the land. Born in Germany, she drifted to this country nearly a quarter of a century ago. Without an endowment by nature that

would lead her to appreciate the blessings of individual liberty, she has steadily, for many years, abused its privileges and goes up and down the land proclaiming anarchistic doctrines unchallenged. Blowing with fiery breath the coal between capital and labor, and indorsing principles that lead to disorder, with its consequences of violence and murder, this woman exemplifies every time she makes a speech upon a public platform, the generous tolerance of the Government she coarsely reviles and impudently defies.

The weak place in a Republican form of government is disclosed by the freedom that is allowed to anarchists whose boldly proclaimed mission it is to encourage men and women to defy the law under which they live and the protection of which they claim. Boasting what she calls the "philosophy of anarchism," this woman goes up and down the country sowing broadcast with her breath and by means of anarchistic pamphlets the doctrine of violence as a panacea for the ills of poverty, the equalization of property ownership and the necessity for labor. These utterances, falling upon the ears of the unthinking, arouse untutored minds to pernicious activity; falling upon the ears of the vicious, they tempt to crime; upon the ears of labor, already attuned to the whimpers of self-pity, they take the form of a just protest against conditions that compel men to work for a living. To the extent that they find a receptive soil, they germinate as evil seed, take root and bear fruitage of their kind.

Perhaps there is no way under our institutions to prevent the broadcast sowing of this evil seed, though the crop that springs from it is plainly a menace to society and a wanton abuse of freedom of speech which is guaranteed to its citizens by a magnanimous Government.—Oregonian.

FRANCHISE NOT IRREVOCABLE.

The right to do business is neither a franchise nor a contract. Neither is the right to breathe or to eat. Such things are included under the fundamental declaration of the inalienable rights of man. A public franchise is no more necessary to the use of a telephone than to the manufacture of gas or the running of a department store. Only when a public power is included, like the use of public streets or the exercise of the right of eminent domain, does a franchise become necessary. All such powers are governmental and their exercise by private corporations is a terminable grant.

A franchise is not and cannot become an inviolable contract, because the state constitution, article 8, section 1, specifically provides that "all general laws and special acts" by virtue of which corporations are created "may be altered from time to time or repealed." Therefore every corporation takes its franchise powers subject to their alteration or repeal at any time. Whether this is equitable or just expedient, it is the law, and the Legislature under the constitution has the power. It is as much a violation of a lease at will for the landlord to terminate the tenancy as for the Legislature to terminate or to regulate a franchise. The constitutional limitation is automatically accepted with the Legislative grant. No business or manufacturing corporation would claim that the Legislature must guarantee its profits by refraining from any act that would diminish them. Public improvements may compel the removal of a factory or a store to a less profitable location. No court would therefore enjoin a new park or the opening of a new street. All that could be recovered would be damages for the land and buildings taken for public use.

A franchise is a permit, a revocable grant, not a contract or private property. It is not either "irrevocable" or "inviolable," for the simple reason that the people in making their constitution prohibited that very thing.—New York World.

Following the Flag.

When our soldiers went to Cuba and the Philippines, health was the most important consideration. Willis T. Morgan, retired Commissary Sergeant U. S. A., of Rural Route 1, Concord, N. H., says: "I was two years in Cuba and two years in the Philippines, and being subject to colds, I took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, which kept me in perfect health. And now, in New Hampshire, we find it the best medicine in the world for coughs, colds, bronchial troubles and all lung diseases. Guaranteed at Wm. McBride's, druggist. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

An Alarming Situation frequently results from neglect of clogged bowels and torpid liver, until constipation becomes chronic. This condition is unknown to those who use Dr. King's New Life Pills; the best and gentlest regulators of Stomach and Bowels. Guaranteed by Wm. McBride druggist. Price 25c.

Piles are dangerous but do not submit to an operation until you have first tried Man Zan the Great Pile Remedy it is put up in collapsible tubes with a nozzle that allows it to be applied exactly where it is needed. If you have itching, bleeding or protruding piles and Man Zan does not relieve, money refunded. Soothes and cools. Relieves at once. Pioneer Drug Store.

Don't be fooled and made to believe that rheumatism can be cured with local applications. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea is the only positive cure for rheumatism. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Pioneer Drug Store.

Carrie Nation certainly smashed a hole in the bar-rooms of Kansas, but Ballard's Horehound Syrup has smashed all records as a cure for coughs, Bronchitis, Influenza and all Pulmonary diseases. T. C. H—, Horton, Kansas, writes: "I have never found a medicine that would cure a cough so quickly as Ballard's Horehound Syrup. I have used it for years."

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All the World is a stage, and Ballard's Snow Liniment plays a most prominent part. It has no superior for Rheumatism, stiff joints, cuts, sprains, and all pains. Buy it, try it and you will always use it. Anybody who has used Ballard's Snow Liniment is a living proof of what it does. Buy a trial bottle. 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by W. McBride.

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