

SHERMAN COUNTY OBSERVER

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PAYNE ACT TOO LITTLE UNDERSTOOD

Critics of Administration Are Not Informed as to Its Provisions.

Someone said that when Roosevelt left the White House and went to Africa to shoot lions, he left a white elephant on the hands of President Taft's administration in the tariff. Someone said Roosevelt then predicted that the tariff would break the political back of his successor. This is presumably nothing more than false and folk lore.

Certain it is however, that the Taft administration has had a whole lot to contend with in carrying out the platform pledge to revise the existing tariff schedules. The administration has been abused for the Payne Tariff bill and it is safe to say that very few among the many who derided the passage of this bill in its final form, had any knowledge of the bill or its provisions.

Other administrations than that of President Taft have had trouble with the tariff; what one has not?

President Taft was sharply criticized for the Wilson speech when he declared the Payne Tariff bill was the best ever passed. Critics of the president were quick to use this against the administration, despite the fact that this speech was very hastily prepared and not given the consideration

it should have had before delivery. The president dictated this speech on a train between two stations and it was sent out by the press with correspondingly little care, and indeed, the papers received it in all kinds of shapes. President Taft admitted that had he had time to consider this speech before its delivery, as he said he should have done, he would have clarified several passages. He still believes, however, the Payne Act, although it has its shortcomings, contains less to be criticized than its predecessors, and it did, as a whole, revise the existing schedules downward, official tables showing an average lowering of rates of 5 per cent.

The Payne Tariff bill was responsible for most of the hostile criticism directed toward President Taft, since he has been in his office and yet, this measure was a substantial gain to the country. It created a Tariff Board and a Court of Customs Appeals. It levied a corporation tax, which produces an actual revenue of \$27,000,000, and at the same time affords the government access to the books of all corporations. It gave fair treatment to the Philippines, and encourages the importation of art objects for educational purposes, by removing the duty on such objects.

President Taft was compelled to work with a hostile house and he faced always an aggressive faction in his own party in forming tariff legislation. No one could deny his courage in calling a special session expressly for tariff legislation to redeem the platform pledge. No president since Cleveland has undertaken to do such a thing.

ROOSEVELT SAYS HE WILL ACCEPT

Colonel Answers Governors, and Will be in Fight "Until the Convention."

New York.—"I will accept the nomination for the presidency if it is tendered me and will adhere to this decision until the convention has expressed its preference," is Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's reply to the letter of seven Republican governors asking him to stand for a nomination.

The reply was as follows: "New York, Feb. 25, 1912.—Gentlemen: I deeply appreciate your letter and I realize to the full the heavy responsibility it puts upon me, expressing as it does the carefully considered convictions of the men elected by popular vote to stand as the heads of government in their respective states.

"I absolutely agree with you that this matter is not one to be decided with any reference to the personal preferences or interests of any man, but purely from the standpoint of the interests of the people as a whole. I will accept the nomination for President if it is tendered to me and I will adhere to this decision until the convention has expressed its preference. One of the chief principles for which I have stood and for which I now stand and which I have always endeavored and always shall endeavor to reduce to action, is the genuine rule of the people, and therefore I hope that so far as possible the people may be given the chance, through direct primaries, to express their preference as to who shall be the nominee of the Republican Presidential convention.

Very truly,
THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

LAW IS TO BE TESTED

Method of Electing Delegates is Basis of Suit.

Salem, Ore.—Through the institution of a friendly suit in the Marion County State Circuit Court, by John A. Carson, a Salem lawyer, the constitutionality of the initiative law governing the election of delegates to national political conventions and presidential electors, enacted by the people in the last general election, will be determined. The bringing of such a suit was indicated at a meeting of the Republican state central committee.

The initiative law involved permits an elector to vote for only one delegate and one elector although ten delegates and five electors are to be nominated and elected by each party.

Eighty-six now in Political Race. Salem, Ore.—All signs now point toward the list of candidates for the primaries of 1912 as being in excess in point of numbers to that of 1910. With still more than a month to go, there are 86 candidates who have so far filed in the office of secretary of state for the primaries of April 19.

AMERICAN TROOPS MAY CROSS BORDER

El Paso.—Four troops of United States cavalry are patrolling the Rio Grande with orders to cross into Ciudad Juarez, if necessary, to protect American life and property.

In case of fighting across the border line in the future, the American commanders have been instructed by the war department to send the usual notice that American lives and property shall not be endangered. If this notice is not heeded and a zone of safety respected, the American troops are directed not to hesitate to go into Mexican territory to enforce a proper degree of protection for American citizens.

Decrying President Francisco I. Madero as a "gringo lover," and one who has profaned the banners of Mexico with the scurrilous hand of the Yankee, and declaring that American capital has backed him, a manifesto purported to have been signed by General Pascual Orozco, Emilio Vasquez Gomez and others, proclaiming General Geronimo Trevino, provisional president of Mexico, was widely circulated in northern Mexico.

Two Lost Lives in Hotel Fire. Portland, Ore.—Costing directly and indirectly, the lives of two men, deadly danger to 100 persons and a property loss roughly estimated at \$50,000, the old Gilman House, at First Alder street, once the city's leading hotel and landmark, was gutted by fire Monday.

Taft's Manager Is Certain He'll Win. Chicago.—That President Taft will be renominated by the Republicans at the national convention in June, in spite of the open candidacy of Theodore Alder street, once the city's leading hotel and landmark, was gutted by fire Monday.

CONGRESSMAN M'KINLEY



Photo by American Press Association.

Congressman McKinley of Illinois, manager of President Taft's campaign for renomination, also chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee.

ITALIANS SHELL BEIRUT

Many Killed and Injured When Warships Bombard Town.

London.—Sixty persons were killed and scores injured in an Italian bombardment of Beirut. The custom house and several harbor buildings were damaged during the half hour in which shot and shell rained into the city, and several small Turkish gunboats were sunk during the bombardment. The populace of the city fled. No mention is made of any Americans or Europeans being injured.

The gravest fear is felt here for the safety of many foreigners in Beirut, where most of the tourists en route to Jerusalem stop on their trip. The city has a population of twenty thousand.

Tacoma Crime Speedily Fixed.

Tacoma.—Eight hours after the discovery of the bodies of Mrs. Willis Brown, aged 23, and John Alden, aged 38, on a county highway near East Larchmont, and 14 hours after they had been killed by blows on the head from a club, Willis Brown, aged 54, the dead woman's husband, pleaded guilty in the Superior court to murder in the second degree.

CRISIS IS DUE IN TEXTILE STRIKE

Lawrence, Mass.—A crisis is due in the strike of the 25,000 men, women and children of the textile mills. Following an attack by the police and militia upon the children, who were to have left the city to be cared for by citizens of Philadelphia and Providence, the strikers feel that now something must be done from the outside, probably the federal government, must come to rescue them from state and civil out-laws.

The city officials have given back to the parents most of the children who were taken in charge as they were about to be placed on a train en route for Philadelphia.

The strike leaders and some of the parents declare that they have a legal right to send their children away for a vacation. At the poor farm, on the other hand, the officials said that when the parents called for their children they said they had surrendered them under misapprehension.

Trial of Detective Is On.

Los Angeles.—The trial of Bert H. Franklin, the McNamara detective, who is charged with having bribed members of the McNamara jury, began Tuesday. This is the case in which an indictment charging a similar offense has been returned against Clarence Darrow, the attorney for the McNamaras.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.
Wheat—Track prices: Club 87c; bluestem, 90c; red Russian, 85c.
Barley—Feed, \$39 per ton.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$33 per ton.
Hay—Timothy, valley, \$18; alfalfa, \$13.

Butter—Creamery, 36c.
Eggs—Ranch, 20c.
Hops—1911 crop, 38c; contracts, 26c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 9@16c; Willamette Valley, 15@17c.
Mohair—35c.

Seattle.
Wheat—Bluestem, 86c; club, 85c; red Russian, 83c.
Barley—\$40 per ton.
Oats—\$30 per ton.
Butter—Creamery, 37c.
Eggs, 21c.
Hay—Timothy, \$19 per ton.

NEWS FROM OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL

President Not Convinced Government Could Make Telegrams Cheaper.

Washington.—President Taft informed congress in a message that he did not approve of Postmaster-General Hitchcock's suggestion that the government buy and operate all telegraph lines as an adjunct of the postal system. Mr. Taft said that if it could be shown that the public would benefit by receiving service at a less price than is now paid he might think differently of the plan, but that he was not convinced that would be the effect.

Mr. Taft approved the adoption of a parcels post, recommended by Mr. Hitchcock; said the placing of assistant postmasters in the civil service should be followed by the placing under the classified service of postmasters, and commended the postal savings system. Preparations are being made, he said, to establish this system at about 40,000 fourth-class offices.

President Taft also approved and forwarded to congress the report of the commission on second-class mail matter, recommending that the postal rate on magazines and newspapers be raised from one cent to two cents a pound. Postmaster-General Hitchcock originally recommended a four-cent rate, but later changed this to two.

Senate Tariff Plans Unsettled. The tariff programme in the senate will be framed at conferences which the Democrats, the "progressive" Republicans and the regular Republicans are planning to hold soon after the finance committee concludes its hearings on the house steel revision bill. That will be early in March.

Democratic leaders virtually have decided to make a first stand for the house measure, with perhaps a modification that would not interfere with party solidarity in congress, and then, having gone on record for the straight Democratic bill, to endeavor to reach some common ground with the "progressive" Republicans.

"Progressive" Republican senators have talked over the situation informally, and while no conclusion has been reached, the plan of those not active is to make some concessions to the Democrats. The "progressive" Democrat is for reduction of duties, but not such a reduction as will carry the tariff below the protective point.

Taft Pleads For Two Battleships.

President Taft, speaking at the peace meeting of the Navy League, declared that the time had not come for this country to be economical at the expense of an adequate naval establishment; expressed the hope that the present congress would authorize the construction of two battleships, and said that:

"In order to keep up with other nations, I don't think two battleships are too many, and I am partly responsible for the government and I am entirely willing to meet the responsibility by signing a bill for two battleships."

River Appropriation Bill Is Completed.

The river and harbor bill carries the following items for the Northwest: Mouth of Columbia River, \$1,000,000; Cello canal, \$600,000; Columbia and Willamette below Portland, \$150,000; Willamette, above Portland and Yamhill, \$20,000; Tillamook Bay, \$200,000; Willamette, Portland to Oregon City, \$10,000, and \$250,000 additional for maintenance; Columbia, Cello to mouth of Snake, \$80,000; Snake River, \$25,000; Shuslaw, \$50,000; Coos River, \$30,000; Tillamook, maintenance old project, \$50,000; Clatskanie, \$100,000; Columbia, Bridgeport to Kettle Falls, \$25,000; Lewis River, \$5,000; Skagit River, \$15,000; Puget Sound and tributaries, \$25,000; Hoquiam River, \$12,000.

National Capital Revivies.

Hearings will be held by the house interstate commerce committee on March 7 on the Sulzer apple box bill, which is very similar to the Lafane bill of the last congress.

With the passage of the chemical revision bill by the house another Democratic tariff measure was added to the senate calendar.

The house has passed the Taylor bill, which provides that no qualified entryman, who prior to June 25, 1910, made bona fide entry upon land in any government irrigation project and who established residence in good faith, shall be subject to contest for failure to maintain residence or make improvements prior to the time when water is available for the irrigation of his entry.

A congressional investigation of the strike of textile workers at Lawrence, Mass., where men, women and children are being beaten and arrested by militia and police, and their constitutional guarantees disregarded, is certain.

President Taft and the German ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, are both said to be heartily in favor of the early consummation of an arbitration treaty with Germany.

Political News Bits

Leroy T. Vernon, Washington correspondent for the Chicago Daily News, has been appointed chief of the publicity bureau of the Taft Washington headquarters.

Flat denial of charges that he had said that the American people are unfitted for self government was made by President Taft in an official statement issued from the White House.

"My hat has been in the ring a long time and my head has been in it," said Governor Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, when his attention was called to Roosevelt's reported statement that "my hat is in the ring."

Belief in the political doctrines of the "progressive" was reiterated by Theodore Roosevelt, who made four speeches in Ohio. It was his first trip of the kind since the series of journeys shortly after his return from Africa in 1910.

An interesting feature of the Seattle primary election in addition to the large vote for ex-Mayor Gill, was the defeat of the two council candidates who were endorsed by the labor union, and the success of two who were nominated by the Socialists.

LOUIS W. HILL



Louis W. Hill Great Northern Railroad president, who may resign to colonize 800,000 acres of Central Oregon land recently acquired.

Brief News of the Week

Houston, Texas, was scorched by a \$7,000,000 fire.

Absolute sovereignty over Tripoli has been declared by Italy.

Men and women textile strikers whose only offense was the attempted sending of their children out of Lawrence, Mass., were brutally clubbed by two companies of militiamen and 50 police.

Thirty indictments charging conspiracy to obstruct and monopolize the cash register business were returned against officials and sales agents of the National Cash Register company at Cincinnati.

So numerous and insistent are the demands upon the navy department for relics of the battleship Maine that it has been found necessary to send for another shipload in addition to the collection brought to Washington recently on the collier Leonidas.

Accusing the Western Union Telegraph company of unlawful practices and the exaction of unreasonable joint rates, the Postal Telegraph Cable company has instituted a proceeding before the interstate commerce commission, demanding an adjustment on an equitable basis of all interchange rates.

People in the News

Premier Asquith is expected to introduce the bill granting home rule to Ireland in the house of commons on March 20.

John Morg, 124 years old, and probably the oldest man in the United States, died Friday at his home on Indian Creek, Kentucky.

Edward Hines, the millionaire lumberman, was expelled from the Chicago Union League Club, as the result of his connection with the Lorimer case.

A new champion was born to pugilism when Johnny Kilbane, of Cleveland, decisively outfought, out-gamed and outpunched Abe Attell in their 20 round contest at Vernon, Cal., and was awarded the featherweight title.

While motoring in his car at Washington, Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, retired, observed a man crumpled up in a heap on the sidewalk. Going to his assistance, General Miles found the man to be his brother, who had suddenly died of heart disease.

A Woman's Answer.

The barber who when shaving you or cutting your hair tries to sell you an innumerable lot of tonics and pomades you do not need hasn't anything over his sister, the talkative lady in the hairdressing emporium.

"And now, madam, will you have anything on your head when I am finished?" asked the artist as she concluded a vigorous shampoo.

"I am sure I don't know," was madam's unsmiling reply. "I was in hope you would leave enough hair to pin my hat to."—New York Tribune.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Events Occurring Throughout the State During the Past Week.

Austrians Freed on Charge of Rioting. The Dalles.—The 38 Austrians charged with rioting at Orley and who were held in the county jail here were discharged by the justice of the peace after he had heard the evidence for the state. While the Austrians had been somewhat boisterous in their demonstrations during an attempted adjustment of accounts between them and the Hood River Orchard Land company, it was not shown that they were dangerous.

Work On Natron Cut-off To Cease. Klamath Falls.—The announcement that Erickson & Peterson, contractors who finished the Natron cut-off of the Southern Pacific railroad north of here to the Williamson river, are packing preparatory to moving all of their construction equipment away, gives rise to the belief here that the work on this end of the cut-off will not be pushed this year.

ROAD LAW IS EFFECTIVE

Amendment to Let Counties Vote on Issuing Bonds Sufficient.

Salem.—That amended section 10 of Article II of the state constitution as passed by the people of the state at the last general election in 1910, is sufficient in itself to allow counties to vote on the question of bonding for good roads and that the only place that Jackson county failed in bonding for \$1,500,000 was the form of procedure, rather than from the necessity of further legislation, are some discoveries that have been made in connection with the opinion of the supreme court in the famous Andrews vs. Neil case.

Tacked at the end of Justice Burnett's extensive opinion in that case were three very brief specially concurring opinions from Justices Bean and McBride and Chief Justice Eakin, or the majority of the court.

In these specially concurring opinions they express the opinion that the county can, by a local law submitted at a regular election, provide for creating an indebtedness and the issuance of bonds for the purpose of building permanent roads.

Men Injured in Collapse of Bridge. Lafayette.—Fred Landman and Newton Livingston, workmen employed on a county bridge in course of construction, were dangerously and probably fatally injured when the one bent of an old bridge, which the new one is to replace fell, the heavy beams striking down the two men.

County Official Selsed. Pendleton.—Arrested in this city by Sheriff Taylor upon notification from Pasco authorities, Commissioner Geo. Roe, of Franklin county, Washington, was taken back to Pasco to face charges of bribery and perjury following his indictment on three counts.

TRACT TO BE OPENED

Oregon & Western Colonization Company's Holdings Purchased.

Portland.—Control of 800,000 acres of agricultural and timber land in the heart of central Oregon now held by the Oregon & Western Colonization Company, a \$18,000,000 corporation, of Portland and St. Paul, has passed into the hands of Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern railway, who proposes to throw it open for immediate settlement.

Mr. Hill's retirement from the presidency of the Great Northern and his succession by Carl R. Gray, president of the North Bank road and the Hill lines in Oregon, are expected as an early consequence of this transaction.

Associated with Mr. Hill in his new colonization enterprise is W. P. Davidson, a St. Paul capitalist, who has been actively connected with the Oregon & Western Colonization Company since its organization.

Flower Fleets Planned.

Florence.—A meeting of citizens was held for preliminary steps for the fourth annual Rhododendron Carnival here. The carnival will be held during the latter part of May and it is planned to make it a greater success than any preceding carnival.

Accused Shooter Gone.

Baker.—Escaping from smallpox quarantine in his home at Halfway, R. Alexander, who is wanted as a witness in a shooting scrape with his son-in-law, William Anderson, in the main street, has disappeared. It is believed he went to Florida.

City May Purify Sewage.

Pendleton.—Sewage of this city is to be purified by a system of septic tanks or some similar process before it is allowed to flow into the Umatilla river, if a movement just started here is successful.

The Grain Growers Conveniences

Are not alone confined to Rural Free Delivery of mail and the Telephone. There is another convenience which all farmers should have — and many do have — a checking account with a good bank. The possessor of such an account avoids the risk of having his money on his person or about his home where it is in danger of fire and thieves.

His bills paid by check are not only a valid receipt, but also a convenience in his home transactions where very often the necessary change for concluding settlement is not at hand. Don't stop to think this over, but start an account now with

The Wasco Warehouse Milling Co.
Bank, of Moro.

COLONIST FARES

DAILY

March 1st to April 15th, 1912.

From the Middle and Eastern portions of the United States and Canada to all points in the northwest on

Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation Company

From CHICAGO	\$33.00
" ST. LOUIS	32.00
" OMAHA	25.00
" KANSAS CITY	25.00
" ST. PAUL	25.00

Proportionately low fares from all other points. Direct connections from Chicago, St. Paul, Omaha, and Kansas City over the C. & N. W., Union Pacific, Oregon Short Line and O-W R & N.

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