The Santiam News.

POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT.

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T. L. DUGGER

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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REFORMS LONG OVERDUE.

"Are we a nation of grafters?" is a question that one seriously proposes to himself, when he reads of the peculations of officials, in almost every department of our state and national government. In our national government, our sensesses were first regaled with accounts of the peculations in all departments of the war office, during the Spanish war days; then the post office officials came in for a spell, a few of which grafters are now doing time in the penitentiary for their misdeeds; then the land department occupied the attention of the public and is still occupying the attention of our courts. Lately the government printing office has come before the public for notariety, with the statement that graft honeycombs its ramifications from top to bottom. In nearly all of our states and large and small cities, we hear of boodlers and grafters, high and low, a very few of which are now undergoing punishment for their crimes against the public.

To what does all this boodling and grafting lead? What will be the end? The most pessimistic will answer with a word of four letters "Ruin," while the optimist will argue the world is not as black as it is painted and that a day of better things is at hand. A change for the better is a long time overdue and, let us hope, that the optimistic forecast will prove to be the truer one.

What is vitally necessary for the life of our nation, is a right-about-face from the way we have been drifting. We must displace the boodling or grafting officials throughout our entire political system, with men of what ex President Cleveland denominates "Old fashioned honesty," or of "Common honesty" as suggested by Secretary Bonapart. We must seek out the root or basis of our political disease and by heroic treatment eradicate it from our political system.

With congress rests the chief responsibility of applying the knife. At the session of next winter, some heroic remedial legislation must be had. The people will endure dilly-dallying no longer. The tariff, railroad rate legislation and the emigration question, the people demand, must be given attention. The people have been put off with promises just about as long as they will bear with them. They now demand acts and at the hands of the Republican party. That party having a large working majority in congress, will be held to strict accountability if it fails to preform the duty the people demand at its hands. Failure to give the remedial legislation, now long over due, will dethrone that party from power in the ballot of congress, as surely as darkness follows daylight.

How can a Republican congress refuse to enact this required legislation? President Roosevelt will demand this duty of the congressional majority and in this demand, he will be supported by the entire Democratic congressmen. Will the Republicans dare allow the Democrats the glory and honor of the enactment of the reforms demanded by the people, especially when the Republican president joins them in their demand? Most certainly not.

Of course the Republican party has long been under the domination of the money power and many people believe that it will continue to be so dominated. But the News thinks that a great many Republicans are beginning to see that there is a power, greater then the money power, that now demands to be heard. We say "demands" advisedly, for the day of supplication and prayer has passed. The people know their power when fully arroused and that day seems about at hand.

With proper legislation upon these leading reform measures, and a continuation of the war upon grafters, boodlers and thievery in general, surely a better day for common humanity will soon dawn.

WILL HERMANN AGAIN BE A CANDIDATE?

If certain Republican papers are to be believed, Binger Hermann is to be a candidate next spring for renomination for congress, provided only that he is not convicted meantime of complicity in the land frauds. No doubt the story is true. No doubt the Honorable Binger will be stopped by nothing short of a conviction from trying again to get into public office. For more than 30 years he has been a professional officeseeker and he has never been deterred during all of that time by the persistent reports reflecting on his public career.

The excuse given for Hermann's proposed candidacy for a 'steenth term in congress is that he desires a vindication at the hands of the voters of his district from the charges that have been preferred against him in the name of the government by a federal grand jury. For the ordinary citizen who is confronted with a charge of violating the law it is enough to secure a verdict of not guilty at the hands of a jury of his peers, but it seems that this will not suffice for the Honorable Binger Hermann.

The charges which he must soon meet in court are precisely the same which have been published hundreds of times since his summary discharge by President Roosevelt from the office of commissioner of the general land office. Three months after that memorable episode in his career Hermann became a candidate for congress. Practically all of the facts which afterward led to his repeated indictment by a federal grand jury were laid before the voters of the district by this paper in the campaign that followed Hermann's nomination. Owing to the heavy Republican majority in the district and the potent influence of the "machine" and of certain subsidized Republican papers, these disclosures were ineffective and Hermann was reelected.

A year later Hermann was again a candidate for congress. The charges of the previous campaign were virtually unanswered. The columns of the papers which had supported him were closed to all free discussion of those charges. The Oregonian, his chief supporter, ridiculed the accusations against Hermann and gave him its cordial support for renomination and reelection. He was again elected.

Six months after his election a federal grand jury began inquiry into the evidence which had been laid before the voters of his congressional district during two campaigns. The result was three indictments which were returned in this judicial district, followed almost immediately by a fourth indictment in the District of Columbia.

Binger Hermann still awaits trial under these indictments. In the eyes of the law every man is presumed to be innocent until he is proven to be guilty, and therefore it would be unjust to anticipate the verdicts of the juries which are to pass on the several charges against Binger Hermann. But while the question of his legal guilt or innocence may still be in doubt, as viewed from the standpoint of the law, there can be no question that Hermann is not the man to represent Oregon in congress. It will be an insult to the intelligence of the voters of his district if he again seeks nomination for the office. There are scores if not hundreds of men in the district whose ability to fill the office is fully equal to Hermann's, whose reputations are unstained by suspicion of crookedness and grafting, who have never been indicted for infraction of their country's laws. It is certainly a novel proposition if the man who is indicted and tried for crime is ipso facto entitled to seek vindication by election to an office as important as that of representative in congress. Oregon has no need to send to Washington men who have been under lifelong suspicion of dishonest practices and the pretense that Hermann can ever be entitled to another term is too preposterous to deserve consideration. The argument that Oregon owes him another "vindication" may well be met by the inquiry, "How much does Binger Hermann owe to the people of Oregon?"—Oregon Journal.

A POOR START.

The most ardent advocates of the Panama Canal must admit that, admirably as the government has handled the matter of the purchase of the Panama Canal property, it has made something approaching to a very pitiful fiasco in its attempt to commence actual construction of the canal.

The Scientific American for many years past has favored the prosecution of this great work. It was our conviction that if the United States, with its vast experience in great engineering works, once took hold of the Panama enterprise, it would push it through to completion with economy and dispatch. We still believe that the United States can accomplish this great work with economy and dispatch; but we are just as fully satisfied that it will never so accomplish it, unless the halting policy that has thus far marked our efforts at construction be abandoned.

We have spoken above of this country's "vast experience in great engineering works." If this experience is to be applied with practical results at Panama, it must be applied along the same lines on which it has produced such splendid results in the upbuilding, let us say, of the great railroad system of the United States, a system which in its rapidity and economy of construction, is without a parallel in the world. In building that system, and particularly in the latter years in which the greater part of the work has been done, the organization of the working forces has been noticeable for its simplicity and directness. The combination of a president, a treasurer, an auditors, and a chief engineer, the last-named absolutely untrammeled when once the main outlines of his work have been passed upon, has enabled this country to construct the various lines of a great railway system over 200,000 miles in length with a smoothness, rapidity, and a dispatch that have won the admiration of the world.

There is absolutely nothing in the Panama situation to prevent the application of this railroad methods of organization in carrying the work through. As far as the constructive features are concerned, it must be a one man job; and we do not hesitate to say that there are not merely half a dozen but fully a score of civil engineers in America today, any one of whom is capable, if left absolutely untrammeled by unnecessary red tape, of taking hold of the Panama Canal, enormous undertaking though it be, and pushing it through to completion within a specified time and for a specified cost, and with just as much absence of friction, delay, graft, bickerings, political interferences, and all other petty and pure childishness of that kind, as similar works have been and are being carried through by these same men for the various railroads of this country today.

A cubic yard of earth, hard-pan, or rock is about the same thing at Panama as it is in the Rocky Mountains or on the plains of Dakota. In Panama so many million tons of it can be dug up, blasted out, and carted away, with as much certainty as to cost as it can in the mountain or on the plains of the West. A single chief engineer of the Panama Canal, if given an absolutely free hand, can gather around him a staff of engineers just as efficient for their work as any he may have handled when building railroads in a more northern clime. The contractors are ready with their plant and appliances to do just as expeditious work at Panama as in Maine, Missouri, or California, and the work they do will be measured up, appraised and vouched for by the chief engineer and his subordinates with just as little "lost motion" and with as great dispatch as in the construction or rebuilding of railroads.

If the unfortunate experience of the government in its initial work on the construction of the canal has no other effect than to teach the above lesson, it will not have been for naught. The course of events suggests that the scheme of administration, as at present adopted, is greatly over-elaborated and is so cumbersome that it will ever be in danger of breaking down of its own weight.—Scientific American.

GRAFT AND PROTECTION.

The New York Evening Post has been diagnosing the graft disease. Noting the graft in the government printing office, following that in the agricultural department, succeeding the scandals in the postal department, and observing that eight army officers have been dismissed from the service this year and six more are under indictment, all for embezzlement, the New York paper suggests that if the president would search for the source of all this grafting, so rife and rampant everywhere, he would find it "in the get-rich-quick craze, which has been stimulated by the Republican theory that the government exists to help people make money, either by creating new offices, obtaining colonial possessions or by artificially raising wages and prices by means of protective tariffs. When history of this period of corruption comes to be written up, some decades hence, he will be but a poor historian who will fail to perceive that the spirit of protection is at the bottom of it all."

The Post is anti-protection and mugwumpian, as the late E. L. Godkin made it, but the St. Paul Dispatch, a distinctly Republican though not a protection-worshiping paper, says that it "dissents from the Post in attributing dishonesty in public office to 'the spirit of protection.' It agrees with it in attributing it to continued protection long after the need that caused the adoption of that policy has ceased. The 'spirit' of protection called for selfsacrifice for the common good. It said: 'I will increase to you the cost of many of the things you need but I ask you to bear the burden for the good to all that will come from making these things among ourselves until conditions arrive when I shall be no longer needed; conditions under which those who make these things can meet the competition among us of the foreigners who also make them.' That appealed to and awoke real patriotism, for that always calls for sacrifice. To continue the policy when the reason for it has ceased is not only grossly to abuse the power of government, but inevitably to create and 'stimulate the idea that government exists to help people make money,' and to induce those not directly helped to help themselves indirectly. And the ramifications of that idea spread all through the governments, great and small, and into commercial life until graft becomes our national disease."

No doubt the protection policy as pursued for the past third of a century has been largely responsible for the wholesale grafting and frauds that are coming to light. People were taught not only that it was right and necessary to compel the many to enrich the few, but that the chief function of government was to favor some, the comparatively few, at the expense of others, the great majority. And with insidious and corrupting cunning the people plundered were induced to believe that in a roundabout or underground way they were getting even by plundering others—that everybody robbed everybody else and by a system of "reciprocal rapine" everybody came out more than even.

No wonder a government run on such a theory is honeycombed with graft and fraud. The grafters are only extending the prime principle to their private relations.—Oregon Journal.

The Chinese boycott of American goods is being felt by the decrease of orders for the same, in this country. While we desire to sell as much stuff as possible to the Chinese, one cannot blame them for their boycott when we remember the hostile legislation that this country has enacted against them. We may have no great love for the Chinaman and his products, but at the same time, he is entitled to just and fair treatment.

Mr. Williamson says he is innocent of any wrong doing in his attempt with others to secure a large body of land, ostensibly for a sheep pasture. If so, why did witness Starr disappear when wanted? Starr would hardly have made the effort to secrete himself, if he had not had inducement to do so. This running off of witnesses, is an old trick of guilty criminals.

WAR IN THE UNITED STATES

The Question, why can't men be honest in public as well as in private life? is being threshed out—with some expense, trouble and pain. A few men of quite high degree, politically, officially, have been convicted of crimes or misdemeanors, and are paying the penalty. Everybody knows that these are not the only or the most guilty ones; that such men as Depew and Platt of New York, Scott and Elkins of West Virginia, Alger of Michigan, and some from New England, not to mention old Cullom of Illinois and "Gunshoe Bill" Stone of Missouri—are utterly insincere, utterly selfish, utterly unfit to represent an honest constituency. And there are many such fellows in the house, too.

The grafters are getting a shaking up, all along the line. They are properly getting afraid—of one another and even of themselves. They will still graft if they can and what they can, because it is in their blood; it is an ineradicable disease; they have been brought up to it, taught it, supposed it to be all right, legitimate, or at least allowable. It has been so. It would not have been so under Cleveland or Harrison, who were rigidly honest men, but they did not have the initiative force to attack the grafting army and make wide breaches in its ranks, as Roosevelt had done.

Roosevelt, Hitchcock, Bonaparte—these really are great figures of the time. There is a war in the far east; there is also a war in the United States. And ours is the more important of the two. Our government, national, state and municipal, had simply become rotten. It takes acid to cleanse it.—Oregon Journal.

DON'T KNOCK

If there is a chance to boom business boom it. Don't be a knocker. Don't pull a long face and get sour on your stomach. Hope a bit. Get a smile on you. Hold up your head. Get a hold with both hands. Then pull. Bury your hatchet. Drop your tomahawk. Hide your little hammer. When a stranger drops in tell him this is the greatest town on earth. It is. Don't get mulish. Don't roast. Be jolly. Get popular. It's dead easy. Help yourself along. Push your friend with you. Soon you'll have a whole procession. Be a good fellow.

No man ever helped himself by knocking other people down. No man ever got rich trying to make people believe that he was the only good man on earth. You can't climb the ladder of fame by stepping on other people's corns. They're their corns, not yours. And they, retender. Keep off the corns.

All men are not alike. Once in a while you may find one who is very much alike. But some are different. You're not the only shirt in the wash. If you don't like their style let 'em alone. Don't knock. You'll get used to it. There's no end of fun in minding your own business. And it makes other people like you better. Better have others get stuck on you than get stuck on yourself. Nobody gets stuck on a knocker. Don't be one. Be good.

Our statute limiting the time in which the prosecution of criminals shall be commenced, must have been instigated by men who thought they might some-day, become criminals themselves. Men, who have committed crimes, in the way of defalcations, securing of land illegally, etc., who ought to be now wearing stripes, are at liberty, enjoying their ill gotten gains. Surely this is a law that should be repealed at the next session of our legislature. When a man defaults, he should, at least, be required to make good his defalcation, no matter how long afterward his crime is unearthed; if he has obtained land either from the state or nation, he should be required to return the land to the original owners; if he owes money to another, he should be required to make payments no if even ten or fifteen years have elapsed since the contraction of the debt. The law now exempts him from payment after six years. We ought to make the road of the criminal and dishonest man, as difficult and thorny as possible, if we would deter men from going wrong.

The man who has his home on the farm should take pride in having his home town a good, lively place, fully up-to-date, progressive, with good schools and churches. The town is for his comfort and convenience as well as for those who reside within its limits. It is toward the town schools the farmer looks for the higher education of his children. It is toward the town that the farmer turns when he has products to dispose of. The better the town as a business place the better is it for the farmer. The rise in value of his lands is commensurate with the progress of the town. The more enterprising and substantial becomes a town the better are the schools, its churches, its public and semi-public places in general. It's the duty of every farmer to assist in building up his own town, for in so doing he assists himself, his children, and in fact every one in the community.—Virginia Gazette.

The yellow peril has reached New Orleans. It is not an influx of Chinese, but the old time yellow fever. Several deaths are reported daily, principally among the poorer classes. It is a long time to frosty weather, the only hitherto preventive of the spread of the deadly disease.

The Panama canal under the controll of the French was nothing but a colossal graft. It begins to look as if matters were not to be greatly improved under American management.

A MATTER OF HEALTH

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It is refreshing to turn from everpresent stories of municipal, corporation and political graft to official figures for the country's imports and exports during the last fiscal year. Every working day we sent abroad nearly $5,000,000 worth of stuff produced at home. The balance of exports over import was more than $600,000,000. For the first time in history, we shipped to foreign countries products valued at one and a half billion dollars. A glance at the table showing figures of decennial period for 100 years gives in concrete form evidence of material growth that is simply astounding; for the growth of business has been larger than the increase in population. And not the least gratifying feature of the report is the steady increase of farm products which foreigners buy of us. A country that receives from other nations a million and a quarter a day more than it pays out is, and deserves to be, the envy of the world.—Oregonian.

The Trail at the Lewis and Clark fair, at Portland has, after a court proceeding been granted the privilege of keeping places of amusement open on Sunday.

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Three-day tickets to Newport and Yaquina, good going Saturdays and returning Mondays, are also on sale from all east side points, Portland to Eugene inclusive, and from all west side points, enabling people to visit their families and spend Sunday at the seaside.

Season tickets from all east side points, Portland to Eugene inclusive, and from all west side points, are also on sale to Detroit at very low rates, with stop-over privileges at Mill City or any point east, enabling tourists to visit the Santiam and Breitenbush Hot Springs, which can be reached in one day.

Season tickets will be good for return from all points until October 10. Three-day tickets will be good going Saturdays and returning Mondays only. Tickets from Portland and vicinity will be good for return via the east or west side at option of passenger. Tickets from Eugene and vicinity will be good going via the Lebanon-Springfield branch if desired. Baggage on Newport tickets checked through to Newport; on Yaquina tickets to Yaquina only.

S. P. trains connect with the C. & E. at Albany and Corvallis for Yaquina and Newport. Trains on the C. & E. for Detroit will leave Albany at 7:30 a. m., enabling tourists to the Hot Springs to reach there the same day. Trains from and to Corvallis connect with all east side trains on the S. P.

Full information as to rates, time tables, etc., can be obtained on application to J. C. Mayo, Gen. Pass. Agt., O. & E. R. R., Albany; W. F. Conman, G. P. Agt., S. P. Co., Portland, or to any S. P. or C. & E. agent.

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed by the County Court for Linn County, Oregon, administratrix of the estate of Charley Riesterer, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same to be properly verified, as by law required, at my residence near Jordan postoffice, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated and published the first time this 14th, day of July, 1905.

Lizzie Riesterer,
Administratrix of the estate of Charley Riesterer, deceased.
[illegible]ryant & Son, Attorneys for administratrix.

Dissolution Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the firm of Leffler and Foren has been amicably dissolved, W. C. Foren retiring. All accounts due the firm are payable to W. C. Foren; the business will be conducted by J. F. Leffler, to whom all accounts and contracts are receivable or payable from this date July 12, 1905.

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