

# The Santiam News.

Politically Independent

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## PREJUDICE BLOCKS PROGRESS.

Political prejudice is probable more to blame for our national political condition than any one feature of our political system. The boy whose father was a Republican or a democrat, is very apt to follow in his fathers political footsteps. Nor can the boy be blamed for so doing. His environment has been all on the one side or the other. He has been taught that all the good, all that was right, was on the one side and all the wrong, all the evil was on the other. He has been taught, not openly of course, but in divers and sundry ways, that while neighbor "A" is a good man, a good neighbor, etc., his politics are all wrong, and that he could be a better man if his politics or his religion was so and so. Such teaching is all wrong and is a block to political or religious progress. Unless the son thinks differently from the father, in other words gets out of the parental rut, there is no possible room for progress. Such was the condition of Japan before her political and commercial awakening. But the Japanese boy finally managed to get out of the parental rut and Japanese progress has been the result from that day. China is an example of what prejudice, when carried to the extreme, will do for a people. For a thousand years, it is said, she has made no perceptible progress. The boy, for generation after generation has trodden in the parental rut. Ancestor worship has practically blocked all progress, save what the outside nations have forced upon her. With the brilliant example of Japan at her door, the Chinese boy will probably get out of the rut and the Flowery Kingdom, too, will then take her place among progressive nations.

The American nation in all things save politics and religion, is practically free from prejudice and in these days they are growing much more liberal in both. The day is nearly at hand when, if a man is honorable and upright, if he is a good citizen, no matter what his religion, politics or nationality may be, he will be valued at his true worth. Within the past decade, the people have been shaking off the shackles of prejudice and the effects of early education to a degree, never before seen or heard of. Most church members now are willing to concede that a man may be a good man and yet be either a Christian, Catholic or a Pagan. He may be a good man regardless as to what his political sentiments may be. People are fast becoming convinced that not all the good men are members of their own particular party or church, nor that all the bad ones are members of the opposing party or other church.

From this growing liberality of thought, much may be hoped for and expected. When political prejudice fully passes away, then will our nation thoroughly purge herself from dishonest and grafting officials. Then will honest and conscientious action on the part of an official be valued at its true worth? When men will go to the polls on election day and cast their ballots for the better man, regardless of what his political sentiments may be, then we will have a government based upon justice and equality for all.

But so long as we allow political prejudice to force us to vote for this or that candidate solely because he is the candidate of our particular party may we expect that bad men—men who think that public office furnishes an opportunity for private gain, will occasionally be elected. We can and do have just as good a government as we deserve. If we want pure upright lawmakers and executors of law, the electors must be of pure political motives. It does not follow that all men should be absolutely pure and upright (thought such is very desirable) but that they, in exercising the elective franchise, should always give their preference and votes to the better man. By so doing, by thus offering a premium for honest and upright action on the part of our officials, the official grafter and class legislator will soon pass away and our government be, as it should be "Of the people, by the people and for the people."

## UNSAVORY REVELATIONS.

The revelations that have been served the public lately, concerning the big life insurance companies is an exhibition of "high finance" that causes a feeling akin to alarm to hit the hearts of the people; especially those who are directly interested—the policy holders. When men who are placed in positions of trust, who, as trustees, handle the money of a confiding, trusting public, prove so treacherous and dishonestly extravagant, the

thought at once fills one's mind: If these insurance people have proven themselves so outrageously extravagant and dishonest in handling trust funds, may we not expect that the railroads and other large corporations are equally dishonest and extravagant? The public is familiar with the high finance methods of the railroads, such as watering stock, etc., with Rockefellers arbitrary raising or lowering the price of coal oil and with wildcat mining propositions. They have, as a rule, concluded that all of these things are good to let alone. But they did expect that the old line life insurance companies were so honest and reliable that a life policy could be looked upon as the safest possible investment and a sure provision for a man to make for his family, when he shall have "Shuffled off this mortal coil." Many poor men depend upon a life policy as the only provision for wife and little ones. Their entire savings have gone to pay the premiums upon this life policy. In the light of the revelations brought out by the investigating of these old line companies, men do not know whether their policies are worth anything or not, and many will abandon any further payment of premiums and, consequently, lose all previous payments. Is there any punishment too severe for these masters of high finance, these looters and robbers of widows and orphans?

Such dishonest and criminal extravagance as has been shown by this insurance investigating, does more to educate the people up to the idea of strict government control of all these great aggregations of capital, than all the editors might write or reform agitators might preach. When you tap a man's pocket book, the illustration becomes so practical that you catch him every time.

So, when other big corporations are investigated an equal rotten condition is likely to be found. The managers of all of them are probably exploiters, grafters or professors of "high finance." Investors who have placed their surplus cash in these corporations, are extremely uneasy, and a complete collapse of said corporations is not an unlikely coming event. Surely a law should be enacted placing corporations, which handle trust funds, under strict government control. This is due the people who invest their savings in this manner.

If the government can successfully operate telegraph lines in Alaska, at a lower rate for the service than is charged by private companies in the United States proper; yet be able to extend the service from the profits, why should not the more densely populated portions of our country be equally favored? As a matter of fact, in every country where the government operates the telegraph, the service is given the people of those countries at a fraction of what we pay. The government should operate the commercial telegraph lines in connection with our postal system. It should, also, establish a parcel post system as well. It should do what the Western Union, the postal telegraph and all of the express companies are doing. The government could do this just as perfectly and easily as it now handles our postal business. If it is true that governments were instituted for the benefit of man, its scope should be extended as rapidly as private corporations, which operate public utilities, become extortionate in their toll charges. As we now pay eight times as much per car, for the transportation of the U. S. mail, as the express companies pay, it would seem that something should be doing to rectify this injustice.

It will be difficult for the next congress to prevent the tariff from coming up at the coming session. There is such a strong current of sentiment among the people of all sections, that congressmen can hardly refuse to respond. While it is true that different sections of the country will differ as to which or what articles should be placed on the free list, or to remain dutiable, all will favor reduction from the present prohibitive rates. That is to say, all consumers will be of that mind; the manufacturers will, of course, be unwilling to surrender an iota of the protection they are growing so wealthy upon. However the deficit in the revenues will be the leading reason for the tariff to be placed upon an importing basis. Anyway our infant industries have grown to be such lusty, overgrown rascals, that they are now able to hold their own with those of any other country. It is, also, about time for the consumer to have protection; the manufacturer has had it for the past forty years, and have waxed so fat thereon that they have millions to give away.

A great many people suppose that the U. S. is a pure Democracy in form of government. This is not true. Our government is one in which the laws are made by representatives elected by the people. A pure Democracy, is a government wherein the laws are made by direct action of the people, without the aid of agent or representative. The adoption of our Initiative and Referendum, is an example in point. Oregon is the first state to adopt a pure Democratic form of making laws; yet our state is far from being a pure Democracy. We do not, as a people, enact all of our laws. The legislature can still enact laws, subject to veto by the people. Other states have adopted the Referendum, but so far as we know, Oregon is the only state that has the Initiative.

Assessors are at last waking up to the fact that railroads, valued at \$40,000 to \$50,000 per mile should, at least, be assessed for tax paying purpose, at one-third their values. In Linn county, however, they are assessed at about one-eighth their value.

Russia, in the throes of revolution; with her railroads blocked by striking employees, with her army all, save the Cossacks, in a state of mutiny, will surely be compelled to grant her people what they are contending for—religious and political liberty.

# Royal Baking Powder

is made of Grape Cream of Tartar.

Absolutely Pure.

Makes the food more Wholesome and Delicious.

## ROOSEVELT'S RATE REGULATION PLAN.

Some of the railroads say their chief objection to railway rate regulation by the federal government is the placing of this power in the hands of the interstate commerce commission. In his Raleigh address President Roosevelt met their views on this point. The most important part of that address was devoted to that subject. "What we need," he said, "is to have some administrative body with ample power to forbid combination that is harmful to the public, and to prevent favoritism to one individual at the expense of another. We want an administrative body with the power to secure fair and just treatment among all shippers who use the railroads—and all shippers have a right to use them." This administrative body, he said, should not be subject to the supervision of the department of justice, but should have power to do its work, and then be held to a strict accountability for the way the work was done.

The railroads ought to be satisfied with the President's programme. He is not proposing to place this rate regulation power in the hands of the interstate commerce commission or any other body which exists now. He would prefer to have a new body created to do this work and no other. Nor is his programme of work for that body in any sense extreme. He proposes that the prohibition of rebates and the prevention of favors by private cars, terminal tracks and other ways be placed in that projected board's hands. That body should, when complaint was made to it, if any given rate, have the authority to fix a maximum rate which it regarded as just and reasonable; this rate to go into effect promptly, and to stay in effect unless reversed by the courts. The courts' power of review over this body's acts would remain, just as it does now in the case of some of the acts of the interstate commerce commission. No rate, however, should be touched unless complaint was made by some shipper, and not touched even then unless the administrative board deem the rate to be unfair.

It would be hard to trace anything revolutionary or destructive in this rate regulation scheme as outlined by the President. It would protect the shippers and the general public without inflicting any harm on the railroads or any legitimate concern. It is to the interest of the railroads to please their patrons, and the way to do this is to grant reasonable rates to all of them and give no favors to any. It would seem to be difficult for any railroad man to get much of an argument against this very moderate policy of federal supervision. No railroad magnate in the country is more opposed to government ownership than is the President, but he, like the average intelligent, unbiased person, sees that unless we get regulation, the extremists may be powerful enough to bring ownership. In these days, when the electorate of a big town like Chicago declares by a large majority in favor of such a programme as that which swept Mayor Duane into office, there is a socialistic sentiment in the air, especially throughout the west, which might easily be provoked into a government ownership of railroads which would be as formidable as that which Mr. Bryan put up a few years ago. If the railroads are wise they will lead off this peril by accepting the mild scheme of governmental regulation and supervision which the President outlines.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A western editor has come to the conclusion that people who desire "pulls" in his paper may pay for them, and established the following schedule of prices: For telling the public that a man is a successful citizen when everybody knows that he is as lazy as a mule, \$1.75; referring to a deceased citizen as one who is mourned by the entire community, when he knew he would only be missed by the poker players and crap shooters, \$1.00; referring to some gullivating female as an estimable woman when it was a pleasure to meet, when a business man in town would rather see the devil, horns, hoofs and all, than to see her coming toward them, \$1.25.—Exchange.

Russia's troubles are not over, by any means. The Czar will have the fight of his life, to sustain his government, against what appears to be a revolution covering all portions of Russia in Europe.

## L. W. POMEROY, REAL ESTATE BROKER

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From the time of our birth till we lie down for the last time, the least defense from the dangers of disease is vigor of body and activity of non-natural functions.

The kind of assistance is important. It must not be a mere stimulant, but one that gives but temporary effect, and the reaction is more than a depressing. This is the only medicine that will re-establish normal digestion and assimilation and prove a reconstructive rather than a stimulant of waste. This will give you a four fold increase in your normal work of repair and tissue building. Such a tonic was given to Nature's Laboratory hidden in the ground and brought thence forty years ago by Dr. H. P. Jones, who has made the treatment of lingering diseases his lifelong study and care.

He used glyceric extract instead of alcoholic ones, exactly proportioned and prepared by processes of his own invention, first used in his private practice and now given freely to the world in his "Golden Medical Discovery," which is composed of Golden Seal root, Queen's root, Sassafras, Blackberry, Blood-root and Mandrake root.

Mrs. A. T. Jones, of 606 Hayes Street, San Francisco, Cal., writes: "As a child I was delicate, and great care was taken of me because of my frailty. I had a bad case of consumption, although my father and mother were healthy. I grew up with only the ordinary diseases of all children, but about two years ago I contracted a severe cold, which would not yield to such home-treatment as was handy. Doctors were tried but after three months of this treatment I was only worse. Then I was advised to try Dr. H. P. Jones' Golden Medical Discovery, and I tried to say that three bottles not only cured me of the cold and cough, but made me feel better than I ever had before. I will always have a bottle of this medicine in the house."

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"The Magazine with a purpose back of it," was established to teach the best way of abolishing these special privileges, and, hence, of rendering the trusts powerless to rob the public. It is a big monthly magazine of 128 pages, with illustrations, cartoons, Mr. Watson's brilliant editorials, special articles, a world story, no-votes, short stories and poems, by the world's best writers. Regular price, \$1.00 per year; \$0.50 for the copy, at all newsstands. Every farmer interested in knowing the best way to cure the Trust evil and how to bring it about. Now in its second volume, "Tom Watson's Magazine" is firmly established, and its circulation is growing rapidly, but we want to add a hundred thousand subscribers to our list in the next month or two.

## Send Us Three Names

of trading farmers in your neighborhood, together with this advertisement and a one-cent stamp—or a silver quarter securely wrapped and we'll send you a first-class trial trip subscription. We'll honor it interested in knowing the best way to cure the Trust evil and how to bring it about. Now in its second volume, "Tom Watson's Magazine" is firmly established, and its circulation is growing rapidly, but we want to add a hundred thousand subscribers to our list in the next month or two.

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## The Santiam News.

T. L. DUGGER, SCIO, OREGON.

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