

The Santiam News.

Politically Independent

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Proprietor, and Proprietress.

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WILL THE PARTY LAST?

The frank energy with which the Morning Oregonian swings the party lash gives evidence that the big daily sees the probable defeat of the Republican party on June 4. Its argument of such a timely and untimely character that, boomerang like, it will probably return with such force that it will injure the cause it seeks to benefit. Most of the rank and file of the Republican party are possessed of average horse sense and such nonsensical chaff as was served up by the Oregonian will certainly inspire a feeling of disgust rather than to convince.

The statement is made that if the Democratic party should be successful on June 4 it would in effect rebuke President Roosevelt and be a victory for the plutocratic gang which he has been fighting so vigorously since the opening of the present session of Congress. Let us see.

The central and most prominent feature of the present Congress in the passage of the President's freight rate law, which was outlined in the message submitted at the opening of the present session. The bill was promptly passed by lower house, but when it reached the Senate it came up against a good-sized snag. Senators Aldrich, Foraker, Platt and other railroad senators, all Republicans, bitterly opposed the measure. When it was ascertained that a favorable report would be made by the committee to whom the bill was referred, in order to humiliate President Roosevelt the care and management of the bill was placed in the hands of Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, a Democrat, and who was supposed to be, of all the United States Senators, the President's bitterest and most relentless enemy. Right then the railroad senators made a grave mistake. They supposed that Senator Tillman and the President were men of such small calibre that they would allow personal feelings to outweigh duty to the public. Never was schemer more widely mistaken. President Roosevelt and Senator Tillman are patriots. They are great enough to drop any personal differences they may have had in order to accomplish a public good. It also soon developed that the Democratic senators under the lead of Senator Tillman would support the President's measure. These, with the Republican senators favorable to the bill, would constitute a majority and would be sufficient to enact the measure into law. Senator Aldrich ascertained this fact after resorting to all manner of dilatory tactics. At the present time, seeing that the measure will be enacted into law anyway, these railroad senators, in order to prevent the Democratic senators from getting the glory of aiding in the passage of the President's measure will, spaniel-like, curl their tails between their legs and vote for the measure. Does this look like the President would feel hostile to the Democrats in the Senate? They have been a whip in the President's hands with which he has lashed Aldrich and his crowd into line. Has not the President found the Democratic senators more united in the support of his rate law than he found the Republicans? Before Governor Chamberlain appointed John M. Geary Senator, he pledged him to support the President in the passage of this measure. Does this look as if Oregon Democracy was hostile to the President? Again, President Roosevelt, through Secretary Hitchcock, has been prosecuting a number of reputable citizens of Oregon for defrauding the Government of public lands. Are these men Democrats? One United States Senator and one Congressman convicted of crime and the other Congressman under a number of indictments to say nothing of some half-dozen members of the Oregon Legislature who are under indictment as well. Are these men Democrats? Not one of them that the NEWS calls to mind. Does this give evidence that Oregon Democrats are hostile to the President's policies and that it is necessary for all Republicans, land-thieves and all, to get into line in order to sustain the President in cleaning his own stables?

The Oregonian is certainly bereft of what little consistency it was supposed to possess to attempt to deal out such chaff. Editor Scott is surely away from home and some of the boys are trying their hands at wielding the editorial pen. As we before stated, most Republicans are possessed of reasonable horse sense; at least, if we except the writer of this brilliant (?) article in the Oregonian. They are men that think. They will not take to this dash of chaff very kindly. They want to have the truth served up. They desire to have credit given where credit is due, even if it must be given to a

Democrat. President Roosevelt cannot, even if he were controlled by as much party prejudice as was the writer of this Oregonian article, think less of a good, clean Democrat who supports his measures, than he does of a Republican against whom rests criminal indictment, or one who by every means in his power, seeks to block the reform legislation that the President wishes enacted. Oh no! President Roosevelt is not a peanut politician. He is broad enough and sensible enough to place more confidence in a political enemy who is a patriot than in a false friend who seeks selfish ends.

The day of intense partyism has passed. Men who can be controlled through political prejudice have passed away, or have been educated politically so that they see the folly of such action. Such baldly dash as the Oregonian's article might have served the desired purpose twenty years ago, today it will have no influence whatever. Men now think for themselves and vote for whom they please. They are deaf to the swish of the once powerful party lash. They are something more than mere Republicans and Democrats. They are patriotic American freemen.

A WET BLANKET.

If the so-called big Republican rally in Albany last Saturday night might be a sample of Republican enthusiasm that is expected by the Herald, Capital Journal and a few other Republican organs, to wipe the Democrats from the face of the earth, the aforesaid Democrats need not lay awake at night contemplating defeat.

County Chairman Van Winkle called the meeting to order. Seated on the stage were nearly all the Republican candidates on the State ticket, and County candidates of Linn and Benton as well. After speaking for a few minutes in his usual bombastic manner, Chairman Van Winkle introduced State Chairman Westgate. Brother Westgate at once called for three cheers for the Republican State ticket. Not a single solitary cheer responded to the call until Chairman Van Winkle arose from his seat and supplemented the call, which resulted in some fifteen or twenty half-hearted cheers from different portions of the audience. After vainly urging some people who were standing in the lobby to come forward and fill the vacant rows of chairs next the stage, Chairman Westgate called for "The Withycombe Quartette." Four young gentlemen, in evening clothes, came from the wing of the stage and rendered music so nicely that they were encored. The speaker of the evening was Dr. Withycombe. Dr. Withycombe is not an orator, which he very soon demonstrated. His statements were so miscelaneous as to almost approach the untruthful, one of which was that the Governor of Oregon had nothing to do with the loaning of the irremediable school fund. Presumably every member of his audience knew that Governors Geer and Chamberlain, as chairmen, respectively, of the School Land Board, had very much to do with the loaning of this fund. True, until a law was enacted empowering the Board to buy school district bonds with the fund as well as to make private loans, the buying of bonds could not be done. But the NEWS man remembers that Governor Chamberlain in his inaugural address recommended that the Board be given this power. Dr. Withycombe talked for something more than half an hour. He at least made no votes by the effort. He was followed by Attorney-General Crawford and W. R. Dunaway, either of whom is far and away the better speaker.

Dr. Withycombe will win no votes by belittling or attempting to belittle his opponent, Governor Chamberlain. The people know that since Governor Chamberlain was elected he has used every means within his power to reduce taxation. Whether the Governor should be given the entire credit, or no credit at all, for the collecting of a part of the revenue required for State purposes from other sources than direct taxation, is for the people to say on June 4.

Dr. Withycombe states that he favors one board of management for the Normal schools. From this statement we are to conclude that he will favor the support by the State of all four of these schools. Hence, if the people veto the big million-dollar appropriation bill of last session on June 4, if money should be reappropriated next winter for the support of these schools during the past two years, Dr. Withycombe, as Governor, would sign the bill. Governor Chamberlain would not do so. This is the first time that the people have held up an act of the legislature. Dr. Withycombe would defeat the will of the people if he should have the honor of becoming our next Governor. The Doctor would make votes if he would quietly remain at Corvallis and attend to the duties of the position he now holds.

That the people may know as much about Dr. Withycombe as his connection with official life in Oregon entitles them to know, we publish the following sketch concerning him:

Born near Plymouth, County of Devon, England, March 21, 1854.
Settled in the Willamette Valley at the age of 17, 1871.
Naturalized in District Court, Portland, April 24, 1888, age 34.
Appointed (under Penoyer's administration) Veterinary Surgeon for the State with title of State Veterinarian, March 19, 1889, at a salary of \$1000 a year and expenses. In 1891 his salary was raised to \$1500 per year and expenses.
Resigned September 30, 1898, and shortly after was appointed Director and Agricultural at the State Agricultural College at Corvallis, Oregon, at a salary of \$2000 per annum. The Legislature created the State Veterinary Board in 1903 and Dr. Withycombe was appointed a member. He receives his traveling expenses when performing his duties.
The Legislature in 1905 authorized the holding of institutes for the instruction of citizens of the State in the various branches of Agriculture, and the Board of Regents of the Agricultural College was authorized to employ an agent or agents to perform such work. Twenty-five hundred dollars per annum was appropriated to defray the expenses of holding said institutes. Dr. Withycombe was selected to do this work, and has thus been able to conduct his campaign before the primaries at the expense of the citizens of the State.

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Makes delicious hot biscuit, griddle cakes, rolls and muffins.

An absolutely pure, cream of tartar powder.

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Put more money into our public schools and less into colleges, should be the slogan of every voter who is a true lover of Oregon and who wishes the general standard of educational conditions raised. Ninety per cent of our boys and girls will never be able to take a college educational course, and must worry along through life with what they get in the public schools. Yet Dr. Withycombe would have all the people taxed to give five per cent of the Oregon boys and girls a college education. This is an English idea that has been unable to shake off. As old country as England is, her school system for the poorer classes of the people does not begin to compare with that of America. Dr. Withycombe has not yet become Americanized in this respect.

Judge George H. Burnett is reported to have said that County Clerk Payne is really the most efficient Clerk in the Third Judicial district. There is no part of the Clerk's duty that Mr. Payne does not thoroughly understand. He also understands all matters pertaining to the settling of estates, probably as well if not better than any lawyer in Albany. Several times during his term of office he has arrested for drunkenness every one out of court, have kept estates out of expensive litigation. Surety it would be very foolish to hire a man who has so much knowledge and experience, and elect a man wholly inexperienced in his place.

No one finds fault with Dr. Withycombe because the accident of birth made him an Englishman. He is criticized because he never placed any value in American citizenship until it centered in him that he would like to hold an office. He then wanted every cloud to his title to be called an American citizen because he has lost on the State's payroll ever since Judge Deady removed that cloud, we guess his head was about level.

A man who would stoop to the dirty work that Pete D'Arcy attempted to do several years ago, in seeking to control our Judge Bids from the Circuit Judge, by tinkering with the election return, etc., ought to so condemn him among decent men that he can't look in the mirror, let alone have any influence over them. Had he received his just dues he would now be doing time in the penitentiary.

Chicago is said to be the wickedest city in the world. Statistics show that street disturbances occur every two weeks; arrests by the police every 7 1/2 minutes; arrests for drunkenness every 15 minutes; assault and battery case every 27 minutes; new larceny case every 20 minutes; burglary every three hours; suicides every six hours; two suicides every day, and one murder every day.

D. S. Smith is regarded among, if not the best Sheriff Linn County ever had. He never sought the office in any way. After urgent solicitation by his friends, he consented to stand for the office. Understanding well all the duties of the office, he will, if elected, be an efficient officer from the start.

Who discovered Dr. Withycombe? Governor Penoyer, a Democrat. The query, seeing that the Governor was never particularly for appointing Republicans to office, is how and why should he appoint Dr. Withycombe, a Republican, State Veterinarian during his entire occupancy of the executive chair.

H. Powell is one of Linn County's most successful business farmers. As a Commissioner he would be a sort of safety valve over the courts, but partitions in expending the people's money, but economical and frugal. You will make a mistake if you place an X opposite his name on the ballot in June.

Most of the people of Oregon favor municipal ownership and operation of public franchises. Dr. Withycombe is opposed to such action; nevertheless his own town, Corvallis, is now installing a splendid \$75,000 municipal water plant, to supply her citizens with pure mountain water.

Senator LaFollette says that Senator Geary has voted for the people's interests at all times on matters pertaining to the freight rate bill. A high tribute for a Republican to pay a Democrat, but if it's the truth, why not?

Voters will remember when they cast their votes for Governor in June, that if they vote for Dr. Withycombe they will vote to continue all of the Normal schools. Governor Chamberlain will not favor more than one.

Every voter should be out on election day. There are about one dozen questions to be voted for or against, in addition to the candidates for office. It is your duty as a citizen to help decide these questions.

Would be Governor Withycombe is opposed to the municipal ownership of the public utilities, such as light and water plants, street railway systems, etc. In this matter he certainly is a back number.

Men differ in opinions, yet are perfectly honest in doing so. Editor or publisher of them may be right. A man is foolish to assume that he, above others, is right at all times.

A large majority of the voters of Oregon registered as "Republicans," but a vast majority of them will vote for what so many Democrats as for Republicans.



BE EARLY!

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JOSEPH F. WESELY.

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