The Santiam News.

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T. L. DUGGER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THE PEOPLE WILL FINALLY WIN.

In the battle that is now on between the people and the organized capital, the people will finally win. But how soon the victory will be gained, depends upon the length of time required to secure unity of action on the part of the people; for just as long as capital can keep the people devided and cut up into factions, will it be able to levy tribute from the people about as it pleases.

The relation between the organized capital and the people ought to be reciprocal. The people have granted corporations certain special privileges that is not granted to the private individual. For these special privileges the corporation is supposed to render certain specific service to the people. The people never fail to perform their part of the contract. But where is the private corporation that fulfills the letter and spirit of its contract with the people?

Right at the present time the battle wages all over the Nation, along railroad lines. The people, through congress and state legislatures, are endeavoring to regulate the railroad business—are endeavoring to cause the railroads to live up to the letter and spirit of their contract. The people have more than fulfilled their agreement and think it is but justice that the railroads should live up to their part of it.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is now going about various parts of the country seeking testimony as to how well or how poorly the railroads are doing their duty towards the people. Without exception, the Commission finds that the railroads are violating the spirit of their agreement. It finds them doing things that were not guaranteed to them in their charters, usurping privileges not granted and attempting to bottle up sections of the country and place the people solely at the mercy of corporate greed. Surely there will be something doing next June when the Commissioners meet at the nations capitol and compare notes.

In our own state of Oregon, the legislature is now wrestling with the railroad problem down at Salem. Legislation of some sort will be enacted looking to giving the people relief from extortionate freight charges and for the cure of the shortage of cars for freight purposes. Just how effective this legislation will be, depends upon how strong an influence the railroads can bring to bear upon legislators. The railroads are well aware that some sort of legislation on this subject will be enacted; but it will not be their fault if the stinger of any legislation enacted, is not removed before its enactment into law. For this reason the railroads maintain a lobby at Salem composed of men who are past masters in the art of making legislation harmeless to their masters, the railroads. It may be expected, then, that any railroad legislation enacted at this session, will be of a very mild honœopothic nature, whose principle object will be to halfway pacify the people and yet not put the railroads to any great trouble.

The NEWS thinks railroads are making a great mistake in not submitting to moderate regulatory legislation. By pulling the stinger from any law that may be enacted at Salem relative to railroad controll, they are but preparing the way for more drastic legislation in the future through the invocation of the Initiative. Mr. Harriman and Mr. Hill and all other railway men of lesser importance may just as well prepare to submit to the inevitable. Sooner or later they, as well as all others who controll railroads in Oregon, will have to submit to regulatory law. They cannot expect to receive the protection of Oregon courts, unless the great railway systems they controll, submit to and obey law as well. It may require years to bring about a disposition on the part of the railroads to be good, obey the law and treat the people justly; but it will finally be accomplished. Even if the present great railroad kings have to be deposed and the people through the government take charge of the roads in order to controll them, it will be done.

Why can't Mr. Harriman, Mr. Hill and all other railway magnates be willing to treat the people justly. The prosperity of their great railway systems depend entirely upon the prosperity of the people. Destroy the business interests of a country as the lumber business is now being destroyed through the lack of cars for transportation, and the business that sustains railroads would soon begin to dwindle. Fair, just and equitable treatment of the business interests of a country by the railroads, is simply a guaranty of profitable traffic for the roads. A people that is poverty stricken, that have nothing to ship nor money with which to pay railway fares, would be worth nothing as railway patrons.

Therefore, knowing the temper of the American people, as the railway people ought to know it, it would be wisdom on their part to make a virtue of necessity and meet the people fully halfway in establishing fair and equitable freight and passenger traffic. If they do not submit willingly to regulatory laws, they will be compelled to do so in the end. "Necessity knows no law," it is said. When the people become convinced that the business life of the Nation depends upon reasonable and just freight and passenger tariffs and a railway service sufficient to handle the trafic, the railroads will be compelled to submit, or have their properites confiscated and operated by the people through state and National government.

SHOULD REMEMBER THEIR OATHS.

The usual Normal ring or community of interests of all six higher educational institutions is about to be effected by the members from the six counties in which the state schools are located. These members seem to forget that in taking their legislative seats they made a solemn oath that they would support the constitution of Oregon. Section 3 of Article 14 specifically states "That all public institutions of the state, hereafter provided for by the legislative assembly, shall be located at the seat of government. "How can a legislator provide money out of the state treasury for to build, equip or or maintain a public building at places other than at or near the city of Salem, which is the seat of government, without committing perjury. Each member has sworn that "I will support the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of the state of Oregon and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of senator (or representative, as the case may be), according to the best of my ability." Then every dollar voted for the maintainace of any public institution at any place other than Salem, is a direct violation of the state's fundamental law. Every legislator who votes to pay money from the state treasury, the governor when he signs the bill, the secretary of state when he audits the claim and the state treasurer when he pays out the state's money, committs perjury when he does so. If legislators will simply live up the requirements of their oaths, they will save to the people over a half million dollars.

Legislators would do well to read Daniel Webster's reply to Hayne; or at least the first paragraph of the memorable speech. They should then make the application to themselves and see "How far the elements have driven him from the true course." If we substitute the word legislature for "Him" and the words "Normal schools" for "elements" in the above quotation, we will then have made Mr. Webster's simile fit the Oregon case. The lobbies from the state schools, under the almost sacred name of "Education" have caused our lawmakers to drift from the true, legal course of obedience to fundamental law. Our only remedy is to get the ship of state back into the true legal course. Every legislator can excuse himself, legally, from voting a dollar of state funds to state institutions not located at the state capitol. He can truly say "The oath that I have made in taking a seat in this body prohibits me from voting to give a dollar in support of a state institution not located at Salem. The legislator who has the courage to take this position, will place himself, in the estimation of the people, right about the top round of popularity.

If the legislature adjourns without enacting any remedial railroad legislation, its members, who are to blame for blocking the demands of the people, will meet with a pretty frigid reception by their respective constituencies, when they go to their homes. The railroad lobby at Salem and elsewhere, are showing that they are very short sighted. Apparently they have forgotten that the people have a remedy within themselves, the Initiative. The railroad people can rest assured that if they prevent the creation of a Railway Commission or other legislation that promises to give the people relief from the present intolerable conditions, that the people, through the Initiative, will enact a law much more drastic than the present talked of legislation at the legislature.

The State University and the Oregon Agricultural college have each had a majority of the legislature to visit them. They toasted and banqueted these legislators for a purpose. These schools expect, by this means, to obtain larger appropriations than they otherwise would get. They are not willing to let the schools rest upon their merits, but resort to all the tricks of the veteran lobyist to obtain the money they want and think they need. By such actions they lower the dignity of the high plane upon which educators ought to stand, to the level of mere grafters.

Perhaps members of the legislature of the past have gotten around the constitutional inhibition of voting money to support collegiate institutions located at other points than at the state capitol, by not recognizing the Normals as state institions. Yet the constitution is violated just the same, when money is voted to support the schools at Corvallis or Eugene.

Oregon wants an economical, though not a niggardly administration of government. She wants public money expended judiciously, but not parsimoniously.

The Knock-out Blow.

The blow which knocked out Corbett was a revelation to the prize fighters. From the earliest days of the ring the knock-out blow was aimed for the jaw, the temple or the jugular vein. Stomach punches were thrown in to worry and weary the fighter, but if a scientific man had told one of the old fighters that the most vulnerable spot was the region of the stomach, he'd have laughed at him for an ignoramus. Dr. Pierce is bringing home to the public a parallel fact; that the stomach is the most vulnerable organ out of the prize ring as well as in it. We protect our heads, throats, feet and lungs, but the stomach we are utterly indifferent to, until disease finds the solar plexus and knocks us out. Make your stomach sound and strong by the use of Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and you protect yourself in your most vulnerable spot. "Golden Medical Discovery" cures "weak stomach," indigestion, or dyspepsia, torpid liver, bad, thin and impure blood and other diseases of the organs of digestion and nutrition.

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CONTEST NOTICE.

Department of the Interior,
United States Land Office,
at Portland Oregon, January, 22, 1907.

A sufficient contest affidavit having been filed in this office by Johnson White contestant against Homestead entry No. 13890, made Oct. 7, 1903, for N. ½ Section 12, Township 10 S. and 2 E. by Fred W. Tway, Contestee, in which it is alleged that he is well acquainted with the tract of land embraced in the homestead entry, and knows the present condition of the land part of the same; that there are no improvements thereon except the shell of an old dismantled log cabin, about 10 ft. by 12 ft. and uninhabitable; that no part of said East half of said quarter has been cultivated during the year 1906, and there is nothing to indicate that any one has resided thereon. And that says, on information and belief, that there are no improvements on said quarter section or and except the said log cabin, that said cabin is of no value whatever; that said entryman never resided on said quarter section of land never made any improvements thereon except said cabin, and never at any time cultivated any portion of said quarter section or any; and that the said alleged absence from the said land was not due to his employment in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States as a private soldier, officer, seaman or marine, during the war with Spain or during any other war in which the United States may be engaged.

said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said allegation at 2 o'clock p. m. on March 14, 1907, before the Register and Receiver at the United States Land Office in Portland, Oregon.

The said contestant having, in a proper affidavit, filed January 12, 1907, set forth facts which show that after due diligence, personal service of this notice can not be made, it is hereby ordered and directed that such notice be given by one and proper publication.

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