

# The Santiam News.

Politically Independent.

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PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY  
T. L. DUGGER,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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### A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.

LAST WEEK THE Republican National convention occurred at Chicago, resulting in the nomination of Secretary Taft for the presidency. For some weeks it has been anticipated that Mr. Taft would be the winner, for the direction of the before-convention campaign, has been by President Roosevelt, and who has thus established himself as being the most capable politician of his party. Whether the rank and file of the republican party will silently acquiesce with the dictation from the White House remains yet to be seen. Certain it is, even in this day of political bossism, President Roosevelt has proven himself to be the most powerful political boss the Nation, in all its history, has produced.

Ever since the President selected Mr. Taft as his crown prince, more than one year ago, all the political prestige and power the exalted position of president has given him, has been exerted to place the mantle upon Mr. Taft's shoulder, as his successor. Admitting that the republican is an excellently disciplined organization, it is but reasonable to suppose that candidates who were defeated should feel somewhat sore at the result. They, no doubt, think the defeat was due to, what may be considered, unfair means. Human nature is such that Messrs. Cannon, Knox, Hughes, Fairbanks and others, cannot nor will not give Mr. Taft other than a profunctor support. Heretofore, unless a president expected to succeed himself, the field was left open to all comers. It has been "a fair field and no favor" in the past. Now, there has been a new feature introduced into American politics. In kingdoms and empires, the governing power is transmitted to lineal descendants. Such has been their custom for ages, and as such, has become unwritten law. It is what the people of those countries expect and no other than the crown prince or princess is considered. But when the American government was formed, a government almost diametrically contrary to the custom of kingdoms and empires was decided upon by the people. The presidential term was limited to four years and our president was given greater power than any constitutional ruler in the world. Knowing that this great power conferred, came from the people, our presidents have ever attuned their ears to the wants and desires of the people.

President Roosevelt has introduced a new and dangerous precedent into our political system. By his acts he has practically said, "Though I decline to serve as your president longer than my present term I have, in my wisdom, selected the proper man for you to elect. My wisdom is superior to that of the American people. I know who is the most suitable ruler for you to select, etc."

The fact that President Roosevelt's object is the good of the American people, cuts no figure in the proposition. For several years we, the people, have been endeavoring to retire political bossism; and now to have the most powerful political dictatorship known in the history of constitutional governments established, especially in that of a republic, destroys the effect of all our efforts. It places the chains of bossism about us more securely than ever before. We, the people, have fancied that we have, heretofore, through the delegates we selected, nominated our candidates for the presidency. We have not always gotten the man whom the people wished; yet in most cases, the wishes of a majority of either political party has maintained. In the convention, of last week, did the wishes of a majority of the republican party maintain? Certainly the matter is open to question. There is no doubt but what the president's influence was entirely responsible for Mr. Taft's nomination. Without it, Mr. Taft would have, at least, had a hard struggle to win out. Should Mr. Taft be the successful candidate, next November, the principle of political bossism or dictatorship will fasten itself upon the American people as never before. Our boast that we are

freemen would become a misnomer—a subject of ridicule.

Suppose Mr. Taft should be elected, follows in the footsteps of President Roosevelt, in this respect. He would have even a better right to do so; for he would have the example of the precedent just established for his guidance. His successor would have a still stronger example or precedent to follow. What would be the result? What will have become of our boasted personal sovereignty?

The readers of the NEWS may not think the interference of President Roosevelt in the selection of a presidential nominee at all dangerous. It agrees that the president's purpose was pure and that he had the real good of the common people at heart. It knows that when a wedge is first inserted in a crack or crevice, but little effect is noticeable, and that it is the continual pounding on the wedge which results in damage. President Roosevelt's established precedent is the wedge. The pounding which will be given it, by presidents following this year's precedent, will burst asunder every vestige of the real liberty of the American electorate.

Laying aside the statesmanship and personal qualifications of the republican nominee, the American people are apt to register their disapproval at the polls next November, not because of their dislike or unbelief in Mr. Taft, but because of their disapproval of the methods used in his selection.

Furthermore, defeated aspirants who possess even a better right to the nomination than does Mr. Taft, because of what they have achieved in the public service, are apt to, in effect, say to the president, "you nominated Mr. Taft through the power which you possess as president, without our help and against our wishes; now you may elect him without our active support."

Surely Mr Taft commences the presidential race handicapped as no other republican nominee for that office has been. Should he be elected, that result will emphasize the dangerous power a president can exercise in the selection of his successor.

On the first Monday of July the management of the affairs of Linn county will pass into new hands. That is to say, a majority of the court will be new. Let us hope the new court will continue, at least, some of the policies of the retiring court. Judge Stewart and Commissioner Butler may have made some mistakes during their administration, (we do not include Commissioner Bither, for he has been a member of the court but a few months) and they have done many things which are commendable. The present plan of bridge construction has given us a better quality of bridges and at but little more than one-half the cost of the old contract plan. The present plan of improving the roads and the encouraging of volunteer road work is most commendable and we sincerely hope the new court will continue the policy. The annual supervisors convention is, also a feature which, we believe is productive of good results. It is a well known fact that very few road supervisors are really first-class road men. These annual conventions enable the inferior supervisors to gather ideas and enthusiasm from the really good road men. "In a multitude of council there is wisdom" is an old yet a true proverb. The supervisors' meeting afford this multitude of council. Let us hope the new court will profit by any mistakes the old court may have made and retain and practice those features which have proven to be good. Judge Stewart and his commissioners have placed the road and bridge business on a high plane and the new court will be a success if it maintains a record as high. The plan of buying lumber and other bridge material which Judge Stewart has inaugurated, is one of good business sense and has resulted in a great saving. Judge Duncan will do well to adopt a similar plan.

It is generally conceded that Governor Chamberlain will be elected by the legislature next winter, on the first ballot. The honor of the Statement No. 1 republicans has been impugned by the partisans of their party; but all, with the exception of one or two, be it said to their honor, say they will comply with the conditions of their pledges. Of course these men will be criticized unmercifully by republicans who are republicans right or wrong; but men of honor and integrity, will applaud them for their action. Nor can these pledged republicans regard the people who advise them to not comply with their obligations, as friends. On the contrary, people who advise a course of dishonor are, not only enemies of their party associates, but enemies to the principle of the rule of the majority as well.

It is stated soldiers who served in the Philippines under Taft will not support him for the presidency next fall. They assign for such action, that when he was governor-general of the islands, he was considerably of a martinet. Many of his orders were looked upon as being overbearing and useless; calculated chiefly for the discomfort of the men.

If the Taft managers undertake to defeat the re-election of Senator Foraker and the prevention of the re-election of Speaker Canon to the Speaker's chair of the house of Representatives, they are apt to bite off much more than they can chew.

### CIRCUIT COURT.

Judge G. H. Barnett at promptly 9 o'clock Monday morning began the business of the circuit court, department number one, with seventeen attorneys in their seats, appreciating the customary promptness of the presiding judge.

The following business has been done: Dismissed—Oregon agt. John Doan and Richard Roe, the Lebanon bank robbery case on the docket for several years; Oregon agt. Edward Perdue, because the principal witness, who is in Washington, refuses to come to Oregon; Oregon agt. Louis A. Kroschel and Or. agt. Wm. Tobl, because the principal witness, W. L. Pason or Mason, is beyond the jurisdiction of the court; Oregon agt. Elmer Jones, because the defendant and prosecuting witness have married.

Continued J. J. Whitney agt. Thomas Large, H. C. Fleischauer agt. Henry Zastrow, A. L. Weddle agt. Jerome Smith, and J. W. Weddle. Honeyman Hardware Co. agt. Oscar M. Leeper, G. W. Barge agt. D. S. Smith, First N. Bank agt. W. E. and W. P. Anderson Same agt. L. E. Bayne and P. F. Altermann; Oregon agt. John Buchanan and Or. agt. Ralph Turpin, on account of the absence of the defendants; Dollie Allingham agt. Arthur G. Allingham, Jas. N. Rice agt. the Cal. Lumber Co., G. W. Smith agt. Roscoe E. Overman, Int. Text Book Co. agt. Wm. Hoeflich, P. M. Scroggin agt. Thos. Lewis et al., Weatherford & Wyatt, agt. A. G. Co.

Settled—Turnidge agt. Matilda Garland and J. A. Craft, Elizabeth M. Denmore agt. C. W. Mariels et al. Eli Ranar agt. W. S. Paul and Lillie D. Paul judgment for plaintiff.

In Oregon agt. the bondsmen of Ralph Turpin and John Buchanan demurrers were overruled.

W. L. Wright agt. David Bond, judgment for the plaintiff.

In Edna Ferguson agt. Modern Pyramid Builders demurrer sustained. Plaintiff to have to July 10th to file amended complaint and defendant to Aug. 1st to answer.

Ernest Henrichs admitted to citizenship.

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### SHERIFF'S SALE.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF LINN.  
Frank Kierman, Plaintiff,

vs.  
James B. Stearns, Defendant.

By virtue of an Execution and Order of Sale to me directed, issued out of the Circuit Court, of the State of Oregon, for the County of Linn, in the case of Frank Kierman, plaintiff vs. James B. Stearns, defendants, I will on Saturday, the 25th day of July, 1908, at the hour of 1 o'clock P. M., at the front door of the Court House in Albany, Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand, the real property described in said Execution and Order of Sale, as follows, to-wit:

The South west Quarter of Section 25 in Township 10 South of Range 6 East of the Willamette Meridian, in Linn County, Oregon.

Said sale will be made to satisfy a judgment in said case, to-wit: A judgment for Plaintiff for the sum of \$528.00 with interest thereon at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum from the 4th day of August, 1896, amounting in all to the sum of \$1452.00—and the further sum of \$100.00 attorney's fees and accruing costs, the said real property being subject to redemption according to law.

Dated this 15th day of June, A. D. 1908.

D. S. Smith,  
Sheriff of Linn County, Oregon.

### Administrator's Sale of Real Estate.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned Administrator of the Estate of George Christie Johnston, deceased, will, in pursuance of an order of the County Court of Linn County, Oregon, duly made and entered of record in the office of the clerk of the County Court for said county, on the 6th day of July, 1908, at the hour of 1 P. M., sell at public auction at the front door of the Planing Mill in the City of Scio, Oregon, all of the following described real estate to-wit:

Lots Nos. 2 and 3 in Block No. 3 and fractional Lots 1 and 2 in Block No. 5 in Wheeler's Addition to the town of Scio, Linn County, Oregon.

Terms of sale, cash in hand on day of sale.

Dated this 29th day of May, 1908.  
RILEY SHELTON,  
Administrator for the Estate of George Christie Johnston, deceased.

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### Notice of Appointment of Administrator.

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of June, A. D. 1908, the County Court of Linn County, Oregon, duly appointed the undersigned, administrator of the estate of Wilda Goodfellow, deceased, and having qualified as required by law, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them, with proper vouchers attached as by law required, to the undersigned at his residence near Scio, Linn county, Oregon, R. F. D. No. 1, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit, June 20th., 1908.

Fred Goodfellow,  
Frank A. Turner, Administrator  
Attorney.

### EXECUTRIX NOTICE.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern that the undersigned has been duly appointed executrix of the last will and testament of B. F. McDonald, deceased, by the county court of Linn county, Oregon; therefore, all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent are hereby notified and required to present the same under oath with the proper vouchers to the undersigned at her place of residence near Jordan, in said county, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated this 29th day of May, 1908.  
ALICE McDONALD,  
Executrix of said estate.  
W. R. Blyden, attorney for executrix.