

The Santiam News

POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT

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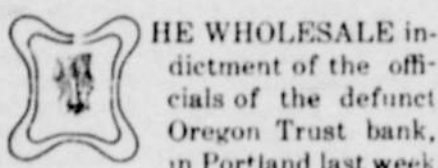
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EDUCATION THE BASIS OF REFORM



THE WHOLESALE indictment of the officials of the defunct Oregon Trust bank, in Portland last week, is most encouraging. It means that the courts are becoming inoculated with the virus of reform. It means that the agitation on the part of the people for greater security of their savings, when placed in banks, is bearing fruit. It means that the day has arrived when the possession of money does not make a man immune of the law. All of this sentiment for the enforcement of law against the rich as well as the poor—against the people who have become prominent in the world of affairs, as well as against the lowly and inconspicuous, has come up from the foundation of society—the people and, as such, will be a permanent result of reform. When this same reform movement can be made to reach the courts of last resort, legislatures and congress, then we may expect the administration of government to become more in accordance with the declarations of that immortal document promulgated to the world, by the thirteen colonies bordering the shores of the Atlantic ocean, on July 4th, 1776.

This reform movement, if traced to its foundation head, will be found in the handfull of farmers who organized the order of Patrons of Husbandry, in 1867. The agitation thus begun, generated the purely business organization of farmers known as The Farmers Alliance. When these long whiskered and long headed farmers began to delve down deep into the business proposition, they found that "business" bore an intimate relation to politics and, in order to bring about business reforms, the field of politics must be invaded. The People's or Populist party was the result.

The greatest good which the people's party has accomplished has been, it caused the people to think. Ridicule and abuse, which was indulged in freely by both old political parties, seemed to make the Peoples party grow and thrive, until nearly one-third of the people of the United States were enrolled under its banners. When this point was reached, both the old parties began to sit up and take notice. Instead of ridicule and abuse, both old parties were compelled to take up and make a part of their platforms of principles, many of the reforms advocated by the Populists. They were compelled to do this in order to maintain the integrity of their respective parties. It was taken up the reforms or suffer annihilation of their organizations.

When people commenced to think for themselves, they began

to see that they were used as tools, only, with which to place unscrupulous and oftentimes dishonest politicians in power, from which dislodgment was most difficult. The independent voter, a new political factor, soon became numerous. Candidates for office, who were too closely allied with corrupt political machines, began to go down to defeat until, at the present time, a candidate must be reasonable decent in order to be elected. Now, many of the reforms advocated by the Peoples party are laws of the land. Oregon leads all other states in the reform movement. Our Initiative and Referendum and Direct Primary laws, a pattern from which other states copy. As in Oregon, all voters of all the states and of all parties are now thinking for themselves. They can no longer be led up to the polls and voted as dumb driven cattle.

This march of reform, as before stated, if traced to its foundation head, is attributable to the handfull of farmers who inaugurated the Grange movement. Other organizations carried the work into the field of politics, but the Grange was the lump of heaven, which now seems likely to enliven the political structure throughout the entire Nation. Education is the basic principle of all reform, which is only another name for progress. Education, which is synonymous with thought, is necessary for the intelligent progress of a people. So long as people were ignorant and did not think for themselves, even the Christian church made no progress. Education, or thought, caused our Revolutionary sires to throw off the yoke of oppression, maintained by the mother country, and to plant the seeds of political and religious liberty, which has now spread almost over the entire civilized world.

Every reform which has been established in the world, has been brought about in spite of the bulging power. As a rule, the ruling power never institutes reform, until driven to do so from the force of public opinion, which is the result of thought. Nor are reforms after becoming laws, free from assaults from men whom they displaced from office. At the present time, there are men in Oregon endeavoring to overthrow the spirit of our Direct Primary law. But as reforms rarely, if ever, take a turn backward, these reactionaries are destined to an ignominious failure.

The Grange—our Grange should feel a great degree of satisfaction, in that it is numbered with the organization, which is the origin of so much good in the world. The Grange—our Grange should, also, remember that the dow fall of all organizations, secret, civic, religious, or political, has been brought about through the selfishness of individual members. The man or association of men, who make an organization subservient or tributary to the advancement of their own selfish interests, are entering a wedge destined to bring the organization to ruin, if carried to extreme. Leathery and inaction of the masses of an organization, affords an opportunity for a selfish member or clique, to deflect the true object of the order. We have seen this feature exemplified in the political machine, or in the self-serving member of other associations. The watchword of every organization of whatever character should be PROGRESS and EDUCATION and thought and agitation are the prime factors thereof.

The News will be glad to supply a copy of the paper free, regularly, to any one who will supply items of news weekly from any and all of the surrounding neighborhoods. Some one in every neighborhood should be willing to take up this work for the interests of themselves and neighbors.

STILL KICKING

THE OREGONIAN propounds the query, "If a candidate receives say 18 or 20 per cent of the vote of his party for the nomination, and thereby insists that he is the choice of his party, is he?" If he receives a larger vote than either of his competitors, he certainly comes nearer representing his party than either of his competitors, who received a less number of votes.

But were the candidates nominated in the old convention days always the choice of their party? The News can cite a number of instances in the politics of Linn county in the old convention days, when prospective candidates for office made up slates of delegates, sent them out to the various precincts of the county and generally had them elected, either in whole or in part. Also, before the assembling of the convention, the chairmen, temporary and permanent, and secretaries were slated, as well. If there were rival or contesting delegations from a precinct, a credentials committee, appointed by the slated chairman, decided the contest and the delegates favorable to the interests of the particular aspirant were seated. When the nominations were made and the various precinct delegations had given his rival aspirant a complimentary vote, the machine candidate won out. Was a candidate thus nominated, by delegates selected by the winning candidate, the choice of his party? Practically one man or perhaps two or three, had fixed up the whole business. Is not 18 or 20 per cent of a party more representative than two or three of its members?

What has been done in Linn county, has been done in every county of the state. Not only once, but often, and the rottenness of such procedure generated the present primary law, which was adopted by an overwhelming nonpartisan vote.

The Oregonian is a great newspaper whose influence extends to the farthest boundary of the state; but it is endeavoring to defeat the spirit of a law which is quite satisfactory to the people. When the Oregonian caterers to the wishes of the small disgruntled political machine, which is endeavoring to restore the old order of political bossism, it is combatting a law which a large majority of its party were mainly instrumental in enacting.

Of course there are phases of the primary law which seem to be defective. That is to say, there are phases of which unscrupulous politicians take advantage. Possibly experience will enable the people to so amend it that these weak places will be made strong. But it is hardly probable that any election law will ever be devised which will make dishonest politicians be honest and prevent them from unlawfully influencing voters. It seems to be in the blood and will come out, do what we may. Defective as it may be, the direct primary is greatly preferred by the people, to the old delegate convention system and is infinitely preferred to the proposed advisory mass convention, composed of reactionary demagogues and controlled by expolitical bosses.

THE ELECTIONS

Elections were held in several states for minor offices and in a large number of cities. As a rule local conditions have effected results to such an extent that the political trend is inconsequential. The principal interest of the people throughout the nation has been attracted to the municipal elections in New York City, Cleveland Ohio and San Francisco.

In New York the chief fight has been for the office of mayor, Otto T. Bannard led the Republican forces. W. R. Hearst Independent Fusion and William J. Gaynor the Democrats. Indications point to the election of Gaynor by a plurality of 60,000 Bannard second and Hearst third. On the rest of the ticket the fight was between the Republican and Democratic Candidates only and the indications point to the election of the entire Fusion ticket though in many instances the majority is small.

In Cleveland Ohio, Tom Johnson was running for mayor for the fifth time and indications are that he is defeated for the first time, by a small majority. San Francisco held about the warmest municipal contest of her history, the issue being Heney and anti Heney. Heney has gone down to defeat, the city apparently, being tired of the graft prosecutions. The end of first-page reports of graft prosecutions is now, probably in sight. McCarthy, Union Labor candidate for mayor is probably elected.

The second Washington congressional district elected a congressman, to succeed Congressman Cushman deceased. An exceptionally light vote was polled. Judge W. W. McCreadie, of Vancouver, the Republican candidate, is elected, though with a reduced majority.

Pennsylvania elects state treasurer and supreme judge. The Republican candidates have won out by majorities ranging about 100,000.

New Jersey has elected a Republican legisature.

Nebraska, Sullivan for supreme judge, may be elected. Majority elections—Democratic majors appear to have been elected in the

following cities: Muncie, Lafayette, Indiana; Buffalo, Elmira, Johnston, Schenectady, Binghamton and Rome, N. Y. Republican candidates have won out in Fort Wayne Ind. Watertown N. Y., Rochester N. Y. and Troy N. Y. Illinois added four more counties to the "dry" column, 40 out of 102 counties, now bar the sale of liquor.

Seattle Notes

Actual work on the construction of the Lake Washington ship canal has been started. This project, which has been agitated for many years, will give Seattle a fresh water harbor, something novel for an important seaport. By materially enlarging the shipping facilities of the Northwest, this undertaking is an important aid to commerce, the success of which means much to the whole state. The federal government will share in the expense of construction. Suitable ceremonies attended the turning of the first shovel full of earth, by former Governor J. H. Mc Graw, at the portage near the South entrance to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition grounds.

The Railway Commissions in the various states of the Northwest are subjecting the equipment of the transportation companies to close scrutiny at this time. The Northern Pacific has received a report on its line in the state of Montana from the local commission, as follows: "You have a good railroad, particularly the main line; track is well ballasted, good sub-drainage, grade revisions and line changes, all of which indicate large expenditures for betterment. The result is a track that is a pleasure to ride over, and those conditions should minimize the accidents incident to travel."

Local optionists are waging their campaign to make Washington a dry state, with avidity. As a result of the elections held so far, twelve communities have abolished the saloons, while three of them upheld it. In the near future, local option elections will be held in Colville, Vancouver and Walla Walla. The last named is the first large city to test local sentiment on the liquor question. Reports received from dry towns in the state do not indicate that there has been any falling off in business observed so far. Spokane is said to be flirting with the question.

The tours conducted by the Washington State College by means of demonstration trains, have proved so successful in the Inland Empire and Eastern Washington, that similar excursions will now be made through the Puget Sound district tributary to Seattle. Lectures will be given to the farmers by Prof. and Mrs. Lawrence. Mrs. Lawrence will talk to the women on domestic economy. Prof. W. S. Thornler, H. T. Rau and L. W. Hanson will also be a part of the traveling faculty. The towns to be visited include Bothell, Snohomish, Arlington, Burlington, Nooksack, Lynden, Laurel, Marysville and Paulsby. The excursion will begin Nov. 1, and end Nov. 11.

The trial of former Adjutant General Orvis Hamilton, on charges of embezzlement while head of the Washington national guard forces, will begin Nov. 23. After many delays, this date has finally been fixed. Since early last summer, Hamilton has been confined at Olympia. Of late, he has spent much time examining his accounts in his cell, preparing for his defense. Hamilton's downfall resulted from his inability to resist the blinding effects of the bright lights of high life.

Inspector J. C. Munger reports that the better class of hotels in the state are observing the new laws. This includes the much joked-about nine-foot sheet requirement. Travelling men are greatly interested in this provision, as skimpy bed clothing is unsanitary at best. The hotels are also equipping themselves with fire escapes.

Clubbing Rates

As the time of year is now at hand when winter reading should be provided for, we make the following clubbing offer to our readers. One year's subscription to the Santiam News is included in all the prices quoted below: The Weekly Oregonian (Portland) \$2.25 The Semi-Weekly Journal " \$2.00 The Breeders Gazette (Chicago) \$2.25 The Thrice a week World (N.Y.) \$2.25 Any \$1 a year magazine " \$2.00 We can give you clubbing rates with any newspaper or magazine, no matter where published.

Buggies at Factory Prices

We now offer our entire line of buggies and wagons at Factory Prices. Now is the time to buy.

CHAR. WESLEY

Mrs. W. H. Roberts, on Monday, brought to the News office some very fine peaches, a very large squash and a very perfect specimen of field pumpkin, for which accept thanks. We placed the squash and pumpkin in the show window of R. Shelton's real estate office. We did not deem it a very safe place for peaches, so brought them home.

THE SANTIAM NEWS

\$1.25 per year

A. A. Amason, Inc.

An event transpired on the south side last Monday evening, of which the witnesses still continue to laugh.

At the ford just one block east of the bridge, many people water their horses and of this number were three belonging to Mr. Simmes who, on Monday evening, turned them loose to go from his barn, a block away, to water.

While they were drinking, one of Bill Brenner's mules came out of the barn. His mate not following, he let off one of the un-artly brays, which can come only from the lungs of a mule or his paternal ancestor. The drunken horses had, probably, never heard such an outrageous noise before and badly frightened, proceeded to make themselves scarce about there. The mule followed and, the get-away would have been continued, had not the mule been caught and returned to his stall. No damage resulted, save the loss of a bride in the creek.

The Albany Apple Fair

Last Friday, Albany closed her third annual apple fair. That it was successful goes without saying, for people are beginning to appreciate the value of an exhibit of this nature. They have commenced to take care of their orchards in the proper manner and they are justly proud of the result. Five counties besides Linn were represented, that they were all close competitors, was evidenced by the fact that no one out an apple expert, could see any difference in the exhibits, so far as the quality and size of the apple was concerned. There was a difference in the manner of packing and, principally, because of superior packing, gave to Lane county the grand prize.

If Hood or Rogue rivers can produce any finer apples, from any point of view than were shown by these exhibits, they will have to go some, for those apples, to the eye of an ordinary man, seemed perfect. They really looked good enough to eat. The News has a says contended that the Willamette valley could produce as perfect apples as any other place in the world. All that is necessary is culture and care and our hill lands will do the rest.

The apple fair is demonstrating this fact, which will be more pronounced as more people give their attention to the business. While every farmer may not be situated to successfully carry on a commercial orchard, he can produce enough of good merchantable fruit for his own use and a few boxes to spare for his city brother. One thing is sure and that is, there will always be a profitable market for Oregon apples. There is there a danger that the business will be abandoned. Other states

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can grow apples, but none so perfectly and profitably as the bench lands along our valleys. Let us hope that the apple fair at Albany will grow in importance until every county in Western Oregon will be enrolled as exhibitors, not excluding Hood River or Jackson counties.

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Trespass Notice

All hunters and especially those hunting with dogs, are hereby forbidden to hunt or otherwise trespass upon these premises, under the penalty of the law.

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