

# The Santiam News

Politically Independent

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T. L. DUGGER

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## THE MANIFEST DUTY OF THE PEOPLE

It should be, and probably is, the desire of every citizen to have a liberal, just and progressive administration of the federal state and municipal governments. No one desires a dishonest grafting official. No one is favorable to graft unless he is the grafter, or gets part of the loot. Nor would the dishonest grafter be permitted to retain a position of public trust, for a minute after his offense became known, if it was not for the intense partisanship, which obtains in both of our great political parties. Because of this intense partisanship, laws have been placed upon our statute books which, in a manner, is a protection or shield to the dishonest official.

To illustrate, we cite one case in point: A few years ago a popular Linn county politician was appointed clerk of the State School Land board. While he was in office he converted something over \$30,000 of the state school fund to his own use. His term of office expired and for two or three years, he was the leading politician of his party in Marion county. Finally, when the books of the Land Board were expeted, it was found that this particular official was defaulter in the above named sum. Prosecution was commenced against him. Suddenly the Attorney General of the state discovered that the statute of limitation blocked procedure. That is to say, three years had passed since the defalcation and the state was powerless to prosecute. Why had the state been permitted to sleep upon her rights? Simply because the defaulting school official had sufficient partisan influence to prevent an exposure, until he was safe from punishment.

In order to purify the public service and to keep it pure, all laws which protect or shield rascally officials, should be repealed and this cannot nor will not be done, so long as rank partisanship controls the conduct of government.

Of course, not all public officials are dishonest, nor are they grafters. But we know that too many of them are. And we know that some of the officials are not ignorant of the fact that dishonesty and grafting are practiced by other officials, with whom they come in contact; yet from partisan reasons, they remain silent. They seem to think that the perpetuation of their party in power is of greater moment than the purity of the public service.

If a citizen is a true patriot and prizes an honest economical conduct of the public service, he will refuse to support any man for public office, who is not free of the least taint of suspicion. Should such an one secure a nomination, even though he be a member of the same political party, it is the duty of the true citizen to, if within his power, prevent the election of the shady candidate. He should consider his duty to the whole people our country, rather than to his party.

In these days of insurgency, which is only another name for progression, the patriotic citizen should give his political support to men who are courageous enough to break away from party shackles and advocate measures, which they know are demanded by the great mass of the common people. It is only by such action that officials will feel encouraged to advocate measures which are beneficial—not to any one particular party alone, but beneficial to the country at large. In accordance with this thought, such men as Senators Beverage, LaFollette, Cummings, Bristow and others, merit the support of every man who has the good of our whole country at heart. Not as individuals, but because they manifest just such unselfish patriotism as is necessary to rescue our government from the clutches of the interests.

If our country is ever rescued from the clutches of the trusts, tariff barons and the influence of high finance, as taught by Wall street manipulators, the patriotic progressive element of the people—those who think of our country first and party last, must divest themselves of all fear of the party whip and stand, fearlessly, for any man for public office whom, he believes will act for the sole purpose of promoting the interests of all the people. "Down with all class-legislation" in nation, state and municipality, should be the political battle cry from now henceforth until every congressman, legislator and city councilman, who would favor private interests at public expense, shall be driven into political oblivion. All patriotic citizens should unite in political action until the fact that "Public office is a public trust" is so engrafted in our political system that the people will know that we have "A government of the people, by the people for the people."

Ex-Congressman Einger Herman has been dangerously ill, at his home in Roseburg.

## AN ENTERPRISE BENEFICIAL TO ALL

We take it that all of our citizens desire that Scio and the surrounding community shall grow; that industries shall spring into existence; that our schools shall grow more efficient, and that communication with the outside world shall grow more modern, consequently more convenient. Yet we have a number of people who refuse, absolutely, to do any thing towards helping to bring these results about.

We have heard of the man who did not wish his land of property to advance in value; because he did not wish to sell it and a higher value would increase his taxes, anyway. A town or community composed of such disposed people would never progress—would never have left the log-school-house with its slab seat days.

If a town grows and increases in population, some of the property holders must sell some of their holdings—their cow pastures. Men cannot build business or residence properties unless they have ground conveniently and properly situated, upon which to place them. Merchants cannot sell goods as cheaply as the merchants of other towns, unless they can buy their goods and have them transported as cheaply. So railroads are essential to progress and, if we would bring our town and community to the front, and have it keep in line with the progress of the other portion of our county, we should aid the present enterprise in every way possible.

Every person with whom we have conversed relative to the present railway project, freely acknowledges the large benefit which will be derived from it. Yet they, some of them at least, refuse to aid the enterprise in any way. They are unwilling to divide their farms or city holdings, unless than at prohibitory prices, and, as a result, prospective settlers come and go.

If Scio and vicinity ever emerges from this condition, the citizens must be willing to sell their holdings, or a part of them at least, at reasonable prices. Prospective settlers will not pay a fancy price, in order to come here and help build up a community. We must be willing to help bring this result about. Property owners should not expect to receive as great values for their holdings as the property would be worth when Scio has a population of 5000 or more.

We want Eastern Linn county to develop. We want our thousands of acres of fruit land, which is as valuable for that purpose, as the Hood river and Rouge river lands, to be brought to the front. To do this, we must encourage men who are adepts in the orchard business, to come here and invest. We want more people and to get them, we must give them the opportunity to get hold, at a reasonable price. Nor should land holders sell their holdings at a sacrifice. But, as before stated, men should not expect to receive, for their land, what it would be worth ten years hence.

So, if we desire that our section of the country shall develop, we must make conditions possible for it to develop.

It has been said that the promoters of our railroad will make a few dollars, if their risk should be successful. Suppose they do! What the people of Scio and vicinity want, is a railroad service which is commensurate with the needs of the community. Men who are engaged as merchants or other business men do not want to run a railroad, nevertheless may be the main instigators in the promotion of the same. They want the railroad just the same as the farmer or property owner—for convenience and profit.

Then let us all join in promoting an enterprise, which all admit, is of uncalculable value to the community.

Though the prices of foodstuffs, grain, meat, dairy products, live cattle, fish, fruits and vegetables, have been much higher during the past year than in preceeding years, the aggregate values of exports of these products show an enormous shrinkage. The total value of foodstuffs exported in 1898 was \$550,000,000; in 1900, \$500,000,000; in 1906, \$450,000,000; and estimates for the present fiscal year, ending June 30 next, are only \$330,000,000. This falling off is due principally to increased domestic consumption. Millions more people are employed in manufacturing, railroading and other work than were employed 12, 10 or even 4 years ago and must be fed. Exports of manufactures have increased greatly. In 1896 they were \$258,000,000; in 1902, \$453,000,000; and it is said that 1910 will show approximately \$750,000,000. So that what has been lost in one form of exports has been more than made up in another. We are becoming a very great manufacturing country, consuming more and more of our raw products.—Oregon Journal.

In the death of Samuel J. Clemmens, (Mark Twain) the United States and the world has experienced an irreparable loss; for he has established a class of himself for humorous writing and lecturing which, as yet, the world has not produced another his equal along the lines he wrought. No writer has depicted certain elements of the human character, especially of the frontier miner, more vividly than he. While his writings are of a humorous vein, there is a moral lesson conveyed, as well. No one can read his "Innocents Abroad" or his "Roughing It" and feel that the time is wasted.

The fact that every congressman elected, since the Aldrich revision of the tariff, is a Democrat, is an evidence that the people expected and desire a modification of the present highly protective tariff laws. It is an evidence, also, that the American people wish to discard special congressional class legislation and favoritism, by which individual fortunes are augmented at the expense of the people.

Republicans have a legal right to hold assemblies, if they see proper, so long as such assemblies are for the purpose of consultation and advising with each other. But when the assembly seeks to practically, overturn or set aside the spirit of the primary law, then it will become a conspiracy.

Ex-President Roosevelt is an extraordinarily levelheaded man, if the adulation which is being paid him in European countries, does not cause him an attack of swellhead.

President Taft may be able to convince the people that he has an eye single to their interests, before the end of his term; if so, he will have to get down to business quickly.

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### Administrator's Notice

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Susannah Craktree, deceased, by the County Court of Linn County, Oregon. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to the undersigned at his residence at Kingston, Oregon, within six months from this date duly verified as by law required.

Dated this 9th day of April 1910.

J. K. WEATHERFORD, P. P. CRABTREE, Attorney for Admr. Administrator.

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