

The Santiam News

Politically Independent

Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY

T. L. DUGGER

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year in advance	\$1 25
One year, at end of year	1 50
One year, at end of 2 years	1 75
One year, at end of 3 years	2 00
Six months in advance	75
Three months in advance	50
Single copy in wrapper	65

ADVERTISING RATES:

Car of thanks	50
Special obituary notices, per line	50
Extended wedding comments, per line	50
Display ads, to be changed weekly if desired, one column wide each insertion, per inch	15
Business locals per line first insertion	10
Each subsequent insertion per line	50
Long time standing ads, contracts made on application.	

THE DEMOCRATIC OPPORTUNITY

NOT SINCE THE FIRST election of Grover Cleveland, has the democratic party had such an opportunity to gain ascendancy, politically, as now, in the nation. As the minority in the 61st congress, the democratic members were patriots rather than partisans. They showed their willingness to cross the line and with their help, alone, was President Taft's Canadian reciprocity measure carried by the lower house. When the measure reached the senate, where the republican majority was large, through parliamentary tactics, the measure was shelved.

The present house of representatives has a democratic majority of 66. The party is powerful enough to pass any measure which may be deemed expedient. The question which agitates the American mind today is: Are the democratic members of the present congress patriots as were the members of last session, or are they mere partisans and tools of the "interests," as were the democrats of the congress which enacted a tariff bill which President Cleveland characterized as "A measure of perfidy and dishonor?"

The present republican majority in the United States senate is only 8. More than that number of the majority are progressive and can be depended upon to vote with the democrats on all measures which are truly patriotic and for the best interests of the country. President Taft, too, feeling grateful to the democrats for helping in the passage of his reciprocity measure, will be disposed to affix his signature to any or all measures which is for the general welfare of the people.

The democratic party is now on trial. If it acquits itself to the satisfaction of the people, entire control of the government for that party is quite likely in 1912. But the power now held in the lower house must not be used in playing politics. The country has had a surfeit of that stuff, during the past few years, and it is not in a humor to tolerate any more of it. To maintain power, it is absolutely necessary for the democrats to abandon all peanut politics and show to the country that they are statesmen and patriots of a type, practically, unknown for many years. They must show that their only purpose is to legislate for the general welfare of all the people, and not for section, party nor interests; but for the whole people.

The democratic majority in the present house of representatives can do several things, if it will, which will popularize it with the people. It can vote to reduce the tariff without fear or favor and without having the tariff barons in the ante rooms to dictate the schedules. It can vote to increase the power of the interstate commerce commission and, also, place a more effectual curb upon the trusts and combines.

There are many things which the great mass of the American people would like to have done and just in proportion as the democratic majority of the lower house of congress attempts to do these things, will their party be weighed. If the democratic party merits the trust of the people, surely that trust will be given it. But if the people become convinced that the political change is but a change of robbers, it is quite likely that a return to the republican robbers will result.

What the American people want at Washington, are men imbued with a true patriotic spirit, and not men who go there to serve the "interests." While we do not want the "interests" treated un-

fairly, we do want the common people—the masses, to be given an equal show in the life struggle.

The democratic party, as represented by the congressman of that faith, has the opportunity of its life. If it is equal to the emergency—if it can make good, all is well. This is, probably, the last time the people will trust the government, in whole or in part, to that party. It, therefore, behoves the congressmen it has elected, to make good. To play peanut politics means annihilation to the party. But if the majority of the lower house shows a disposition to get down to real business and promulgate legislation that is for the real interests of all the people, the democratic party may live forever.

THE DOLLAR AND THE MAN

IT IS A FACT THAT in the mad struggle for wealth, too little care is taken to protect the lives of the wealth producers. While it is true that accidents will occur, even when the greatest of care is used, and in almost all walks of life, we cannot but be almost horrified when we read of the wholesale slaughter of human life, which press reports carry almost daily. After one of these horrors occur, we can see how it might have been prevented. But then it is too late. The life or lives have been sacrificed. If that tall building in New York had been provided with proper fire escapes, many if not all of those women and girls would have been saved. But, in order to save the dollars necessary to provide proper escapes, the fearful toll upon human life resulted. Was not the owner or owners of the building criminally negligent in not supplying this necessary protection to those workers? Was not the manufacturer equally criminal in bunching so many workers in a building filled with inflammable material and without adequate means of escape in case of fire?

Are not the owners and manufacturers just as guilty as the highwayman who commits murder in order to secure money or valuables? The result is the same in either case, the loss of human life. We hang the murdering highwayman, providing we catch him, but simply censure the man or men who, in order to save a few dollars, has taken the lives of 150 work people.

Nearly all of the great disasters, due to accident, could have been prevented, had proper precaution been used. Watchmen and trackwalkers can prevent most of the railway wrecks and the consequent usual loss of life. The inauguration of the block-signal system, will eliminate railway collisions to a great degree. Proper ventilation of mines will prevent the accumulation of dangerous gases and consequent explosions. Dangerous machinery can be made reasonably safe, if proper safeguards are used. But all of these means of protecting life, means expense to the owners and operators. And many, vastly too many, are too greedy and selfish to use dollars for, to them, a useless purpose. The lives of work people, only are at stake, so what's the difference. Such men will not provide safeguards to protect the lives of their work people, unless the law forces them to do so. But so long as the initiative depends upon such men, may we expect to read of these horrors. Their only regret is when the law forces them to pay damages to the families of the victims, and their sorrow is usually gauged by the size of the sum which they are required to pay.

Human life is valued too lightly by our manufacturing and producing corporations and transportation companies. The men who furnish the dollars to carry on these enterprises, are rarely exposed to the dangers to which their employees are. They do not seem to realize that the danger exists, until forfeited life reminds them of the fact. Then they hurry to the families of the victims to have the cost of the accident placed at the lowest possible sum. If the dollars paid in damages had been used in providing safeguards, how much better it would be for all concerned.

For some reason, European countries have a less number of accidents of this character than we have. Whether it is owing to greater care on the part of the owners and operators to protect life, or whether because of the lesser production of the operative, we cannot say. We do know, however, that great improvement can be made towards the protection of the lives of those who operate our railroad trains, our factories and our mines. The improvement will involve the expenditure of dollars, but what if it does. Is not human life of vastly more importance than mere dollars?

There is an element of danger in all the walks of life. Lives are sacrificed when we least expect it and in occupations which we regard as being the least dangerous. There is no way in which we can guard ourselves from such accidents. But so far as human foresight can guard and care, it is our duty to exercise it, no matter what the occupation may be.

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE

Carefully prepared by competent and experienced employees thoroughly familiar with the records of Linn County. Accuracy, neatness and dispatch is our motto. We are now abstracting the instruments filed daily and can serve the public most efficiently. We use the most modern and up to date system of abstracting. An unlimited amount of money to loan on 6 per cent. per annum on approved farm security BOTH PHONES IN THE OFFICE TELEPHONE OR WRITE

Albany Abstract Co., L. M. CURL, Manager

WALL PAPER

Largest Stock outside of Portland
Samples and Estimates on Request

FISHING TACKLE

Expert Truss fitting—Camera supplies, etc

Woodworth Drug Co., Albany, Ore

Standard Liquor Co.

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Telephone Main 175

148-156 Commercial St.

A. G. MAGERS, Prop.

Salem, Oregon

R. SHELTON

Real Estate Notary Public

Administrator of Estates

Loans Negotiated, Abstracts

Obtained and Examined

SCIO - - - - - OREGON

First Class Accommodations and prompt Service
Large Sample Rooms for Commercial Travelers

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

St. Charles Hotel

GRANT FIRTLE Prop.

ALBANY - - - - - OREGON

Geo. W. Wright

Dan Johnston

Wright & Johnston

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Nos. 3-9 Wright Bldg
Both Phones

ALBANY
OREGON

A. G. PRILL, M. D.

Physician & Surgeon

Telephone, Exchange No. 11

SCIO - - - - - OREGON

The Best Place in Portland to Eat
is at

Pap's Coffee House

at West end of the Morrison Street
bridge.

CHARLES J. MAHER

(Successor to Riner Bros.)

PROPRIETOR.

DR. W. R. BILYEU

DENTIST

OVER WOODWORTH'S DRUG STORE

BOTH PHONES

ALBANY - - - - - OREGON

A. SHANKS

—Manufacturer and Dealer in—

Harness and Saddles

Carriage Trimming Repair Work Solicited

All Work Strictly Guaranteed

SHELBURN, OREGON

THE ESMOND HOTEL

Centrally located, good
rooms, prices moder-
ate, courteous
treatment

Corner Morrison and Front Streets

PORTLAND - - - - - OREGON



A resolution that will
save you, perhaps, many
a heart burning and re-
gret is that to have an
abstract made by us of
every piece of real estate
you intend buying before
the contract of sale is
signed.

An abstract is the only
real safeguard you have
against investing in a
title that is clouded—
have US make the ab-
stract and you're assured
of a thorough, absolutely
correct one.

Linn County Abstract Co.

303 Broadalbin St.

ALBANY - - - - - OREGON