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The Santiam News

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While Congress is bravely hammering away at tariff bills and appropriations, there's a heap sight more interest being felt in politics than in legislation, whether the latter be constructive or destructive, progressive or reactionary. This month has seen a big stride in the rounding up of convention delegates. Practically everybody in the running has gained something, but then most of them have not gained so much as they had expected and of course there are a few wails rending the atmosphere. Cries of "fraud," "influence," "pernicious activity," "corruption," and the like are becoming familiar to newspaper readers. Meanwhile the standing of the candidates is changing so rapidly that it is difficult to keep track of it, and in fact scarcely any two of the political headquarters can agree on the exact distribution of the delegates. On the surface it seems that Col. Roosevelt has

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been making big gains, and on the democratic side, Speaker Clark's friends have been very busy and highly successful. Wilson and Taft are not at all down-hearted to judge from the tone of their literary managers, while Underwood, Harmon, LaFollette, Gaynor, Marshall,—in fact all of them seem to be advancing cheerfully to the big skirmishes at Chicago and Baltimore.

Don't be a loafer, don't class yourself as a loafer, don't hang about loafing places. Better work for nothing and board yourself than sit around corners with your hands in your pockets—better for your mind, for your own respect. Bustle about if you mean to have anything to bustle for. Many a poor physician has obtained a real patient by riding hard to attend an imaginary one. A quire of old paper tied up with red tape, carried under a lawyer's arm may procure him his first case and make his fortune. Such is the world. To him that hath shall be given. Quit droning and complaining; keep busy and mind your chances.

When mother and the youngsters ask father to go with them for a little picnic party, there is one kind of 'em who says this: "What's the use of going away for a picnic? Throw the dining-room table out and spread the dinner on the floor, then let all the flies in, throw some dust on the sandwiches, sprinkle a few ants in the water, turn the hose on ourselves to remind us of the rain which invariably comes when we are farthest from shelter and cap it off by crowding in the pantry and hanging to the shelves for the usual time it takes to ride home. Nix on any picnic for me.

"The time to be jolly is when everything is going wrong and

you are way down in the mouth with the blues." That is a mighty nice thing to preach, but almighty hard to practice. How is a fellow to be jolly when he gets out of bed on a cold morning, steps on a tack, burns his fingers while lighting the kitchen fire, finds his pet dog poisoned, goes down to business and finds two sight drafts to pay and no money in sight, and so on through the day. Show us the fellow who wouldn't wear the corners of his mouth in curl papers under those circumstances.

Every good citizen should take the keenest interest in the welfare of his own town,—the stores and churches, in fact everything that goes to make prosperity and happiness. When this is done there is never any need to apologize for a town's existence or for anything it contains.

Local pride is a great business builder,—knocking is the surest way to wipe a place off the map. Let's all be practical boosters for the old town. Let's start today! And let's keep it up all the time.

There is some question whether or not the eating of fish produces brain power, but there is no quibble over the fact that catching fish produces liars.

To run a newspaper without occasionally publishing an item that is untrue or without giving offense, is like running a railroad without having accidents and smash-ups. It cannot be done.

Salt will keep meat, but it requires "sand" to keep a good resolution.

Extremes meet when the kitchen plays with its tail.

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