

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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BY THEIR FRUITS, ETC.

When a republican congress enacted its first currency measure, just at the beginning of the Civil war it acknowledged, by that act, the existence of a powerful and secret force, greater than that of congress. In placing the exception clause on the greenback at the dictation of the Wall street banks, it placed the government in the clutches of the money power and which power, has dictated all congressional financial legislation from that date until the election of President Wilson and a democratic congress. This exception clause resulted in making a commodity of gold and the value of the greenback simply a thing to be buffeted about by that greatest gambling joint in the world, the New York stock exchange.

When this same republican congress, a few months later, enacted the law creating our present system of national banks, it marked another step forward in forging the fetters which made congress subservient to the wishes of the money power.

This bank act authorized the formation of national banks under slight federal control providing the incorporators would buy a stated amount of government bonds, when the government would return to the proposed bank, 90 per cent of the face value of the bonds purchased in bank currency. That is to say if \$50,000, face value, of bonds were purchased, \$45,000 would be returned, leaving but \$5000 of actual investment.

Now the government paid interest to the bank on the full face value of the bonds. At three per cent this would amount to \$1500 annually. But as but \$5000 was actually invested, the bank received 30 per cent on its actual investment.

A congress which was representative of the people and had the welfare of the people at heart, would never have enacted such a law. But if it had the welfare of the money power only, in view, just such a scheme would have been worked out.

But even this graft did not satisfy the money power. A few years later an amendment to the banking act, authorizing the treasury department to return to the bank the full amount of the face value of the bonds purchased, in currency. The bank, therefore, without a dollar actually invested, was enabled to draw down \$1500 annually from the government treasury. Thus the people who support the government by paying taxes in various forms, are making a present to the national banks every year, of what the interest on the governmental bonds, which the banks purchased, amounted to.

Then the excessive high tariff duties which republican congresses have imposed for the benefit of the manufacturing interests and which are at the expense of the great

mass of the common people, and the lack of any attempt to correct these wrongs against the people, proves conclusively, that it has been the policy of that party to favor the money power and corporate interests, as against the welfare of the common people. These statements are matters of history which can be easily substantiated.

On the other hand, take the activities of a democratic congress and a democratic president to witness:

The enactment of the regional bank law, destroys the ability of the big New York banks to bring on a financial panic at their pleasure and destroy the influence of the money power over the government and the people. This is the first attempt congress has made to break this power since the beginning of the Civil war. The recently enacted Rural Credits law, is the first time since the Civil war that farmers have been treated as being equally as worthy of confidence as the banks. The national good roads law just passed, is the first time that our government has placed the common people and agricultural communities on an equality with the railroads. Public lands have been given to the railroads and private toll wagon roads, but never a cent, until now, to the rural wagon roads.

So that it can be seen that history proves how friendly the republican congresses have been to the moneyed interests and how willing the government has been to fly to the assistance of Wall street in time of great financial stress. But it has been the proud privilege of a democratic congress, strongly supported by a democratic president, to dissolve the partnership which has existed between the government and the money power and to recognize that farmers, backed by their farms, are as worthy of trust as Wall street gamblers.

Which, then, of the two great parties has proven by its acts its willingness to aid the money power and which to aid the people? You ought not to make a mistake when you go into the election booth next fall and vote against your own interests—the interests of the great body of common people.

MORAL OBLIQUITY

Any one of three good reasons ought to be sufficient to defeat Pendleton's normal school aspirations unless it succeeds in beguiling the voters.

Pendleton is misusing the initiative privilege in a manner contemptuous of the plain mandate of the sovereign Oregon people. Two years ago the voters declared unmistakably that they did not want either one or two additional normal schools. They should be allowed a decent and reasonable interval in which to change their minds before being pestered with a demand for more normals. To ask them to build a \$125,000 plant in Eastern Oregon within two years after they have voted not to restore to state use a \$75,000 plant, falls but little short of pure insolence.

Pendleton is evasive and cowardly in that it makes its covert fight from ambush behind the skirts of the Oregon Agricultural college and the University of Oregon. It seeks unnecessarily to "validate" these two already recognized and established institutions in the bill proposing to create the Pendleton normal.

Afraid to risk the straightforward piracy of scuttling the Weston normal in order to acquire for itself a big slice of state pork, it tries to hoodwink the voters into fearing that the agricultural college and the university may some time be spirited away by a constitutional goblin. Its deceptive bill, as pointed out by

S. D. Allen, of Eugene, constitutes "log rolling" of the worst variety.

Pendleton's duplicity toward a smaller neighbor in the same county that has always been its loyal tributary, throws too much doubt upon its moral and ethical standards to make of it a suitable place for a state school. Pendleton has always coveted the Eastern Oregon normal. Some ten years ago in the legislature it tried through its agents to steal the school from Weston, but failed. Bidding its time, after the Weston school had been recklessly thrown over by the state senate at the instigation of Pendleton men, it initiates a bill when Weston could not consistently do so. Not until its scheme was under way did it send out a committee to see how Weston people felt about it and to ask them to "lay down." It is such brazen effrontery that the Pendleton newspapers applaud and one of them describes as "righteousness," forsooth!

Here are three conspicuous reasons, we say, why Pendleton deserves an admonitory squelching from Old Man Oregon. A fourth is that it already has the Eastern Oregon state hospital and should be satisfied. There are others, but for our present purpose these will suffice.—Weston Leader.

THAT \$450,000 Again

(Communicated)

In March, 1913, F. H. Newell, director of the Reclamation Service, recommended that \$450,000 be set aside to co-operate with the state of Oregon in reclamation work. At that time Oregon had already appropriated \$450,000 for work on the Tumalo project which work was begun in June 1913. In August of that year, Secretary Lane visited Oregon and congratulated the state on its progressive work and reiterated his promise to give us consideration. The \$450,000 was never made available and never spent, but it is not the purpose, at this time, to enter into a discussion of that matter, more than to show that Oregon has done more for herself in the way of reclamation than has any other state and has received proportionately less from the Federal government.

The state completed the Tumalo project by a direct appropriation of \$450,000. The state appropriated \$50,000 to be used with a like sum from the government in co-operative investigations. These funds were expended and surveys made. It was anticipated by this state that following this co-operative work, funds would be made available by the reclamation service to carry forward some of this meritorious work.

The service has in the past allotted to Oregon about \$7,000,000 but has actually expended only a little more than \$3,000,000, the balance reverting to the general reclamation fund. From the fact that over \$10,000,000 has been put into the reclamation fund from sale of timber in our national forests, it seems that Oregon should receive more than a third of the sum.

If the entire 40 per cent of the Oregon-California grant fund, now appropriated to the reclamation fund were spent in Oregon, she would yet receive less than has been supplied to that fund. Mere justice to the state should cause the expenditure of that fund here, not taking into consideration Oregon's right to proceeds of the sale of these grant lands.

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Chas. Wesely

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Chas. Wesely,

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2

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