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MORROW COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

**REFORMS OF PRIMARY ELECTION LAWS.**

In nearly all western states efforts will be made to reform the direct primary nomination laws.

These reforms will proceed along two lines—allowing state and county conventions and making the primary effective.

The latter line of reform includes preservation of political party lines and requiring majority vote to decide.

The abuse of the Non-Partisan League registering as of one party and putting out party nominees on its own platform is aimed at.

The absurdity of candidates running on a ticket as Republicans or Democrats but really bound hand and foot to a socialist platform is apparent.

In cities, progress in primary election reform is simple—any candidate at primary who has a majority of all votes is declared elected.

Nominations in city elections are made on petition and are not partisan and a majority at the primary elects, thus obviating another election.

This provision also shortens the ballot, as there are only contests for the remaining offices in which case the two receiving highest vote run.

County and state conventions are valuable educational gatherings in the training of citizens for political duties and must be restored.

In case of renominations or a candidate running without opposition there is no need of a direct primary, the county or state convention nominating.

Nominations over which there is a spirited contest may well be left to the direct primary by the county or state central committees, majority to decide.

This primary election can be held at the same time delegates are chosen in the precincts for the county convention, delegates bound by precinct vote.

Reforms on those lines would save expense, shorten the ballot and preserve party harmony, and neither party organization or direct voting at the primary be destroyed as both have valuable features.

**HE TOLLS NOT SPINS.**

The more we see of folks the more we think of coons.

Speaking now of the ring tailed raccoon.

The coon's system is a hard one to beat.

Mister Coon minds his own business during the summer and early fall, keeps out of sight, raises his family, picks out his secluded hollow log, and then, when the first frost begins, he and his family take a holiday.

He nightly visits the apple orchards and the corn fields and stuffs himself.

He lays on wads and wads of fat, while the laying is good.

And to insure his remaining long in the land of his fathers he travels by night; leaves dogs strictly alone; and walketh slowly, his long keen nose just two inches ahead of his toes.

So, when he smells a steel trap, he taketh a meander round and about that trap, and when he cometh to a dead fall he sticketh in his claw and springeth ye trap, and then devourth the bait with gusto; ornerly cuss, and his hide's worth three-fifty right now.

And then, when he gets real fat, and his family has been warned of the perils of this cruel world, he hunts up his hole and abides there, until spring comes.

About any way you look at it the coon has a system of living that is hard to excel.

If he does get caught by a toe, in some long-hidden and unsuspected trap, he will, Spartan-like, gnaw off that toe, or foot if need be, and go his way.

For better that one lose even a right eye than that he burn forever in hell fire.

Or have his skin stretched on the north wall of a barn.

**COLD STORAGE.**

Our esteemed secretary of agriculture recently in outlining a reconstruction reclamation project incidentally inquired why the farm engineers had sought the city; then he gave several answers.

But he didn't hit the main reason. Perhaps he never resided on a farm in the winter time.

Any farmer's boy or girl generation will tell you why the rising genera-

tion sought the city, and still does. They wanted an inside job in the winter.

Many a girl has left a farm home that she loved and taken up the slavery of clerking or stenoging to escape gathering frozen clothes from the ice crusted line in the backyard.

From working icy butter, and washing heavy woollens in zero weather.

Probably the acute discomfort of leaving a warm bed, nitting a frozen floor, getting into icy clothes, building half a dozen lackadaisical fires, and spending three hours in the dark doing chores has called more boys to town than the white lights, or the presumable easy money to be picked up on the street corners.

Man is a warm blooded animal, and he prefers to starve in comfort than to abide in a frozen luxury.

The average farm, even yet, from Thanksgiving until the lides of March is uncomfortable, acutely so.

Some favored few have furnaces, and electric lights, and hot water from faucets, and plumbing and heated bath rooms, and comfortable dairy barns, but they are few among the six million American farmers.

The fact is that the farm, everywhere, provides its dweller with none of the town conveniences that make for comfort.

No corporation brings water and heat and light and power to the average farmer's door.

Until the one, abides in the same daily comfort that the common laborer does in town there will still be a decided movement of rural youngsters cityward.

**RAISE A FEW SHEEP.**

Equipment for raising sheep on farms need not be expensive. Small flocks can be cared for in sections of barns having stabling or feed storage for other stock, but with a flock of, say, 100 ewes separate buildings are desirable.

Sheep raising should be a feature of every farm as a few sheep are virtually a by-product of the small farm and bring a good return from virtually nothing.

**THINK AND THINK AGAIN.**

Now is the time to do some real thinking. If the public utilities become government property who is going to pay the extra taxes? Of course there will be extra taxes. First, the taxes these same utilities previously paid. Government property pays no taxes. Second, the larger army of public officials make more expense which will necessitate more taxes.

Think and think again.—Dufer Dispatch.

Morrow County contributed \$277,600 to the grand total of \$38,362,550 of the Fourth Liberty Loan in Oregon. The number of subscribers in the county was 1,448. The over-subscription was 1.14 per cent. These figures have just been received from State Headquarters. The official compilations do not show the quota of non-banking centers.

In the newspapers outside of Portland 87,834 column inches of space was used in paid and free publicity in aid of the Loan.

Following is the statement of the communities of this county:

One, quota, \$29,120, subscribed, \$30,750, number of subscriptions, 254.

Lexington, quota, \$16,800, subscribed, \$17,850, number of subscriptions, 111.

Heppner, quota, \$228,550, subscribed, \$229,000, number of subscriptions, 1,083.

**Man From India Predicts Two More Years of Flu.**

Mark Sreeman, a missionary from India who was in Echo Wednesday, advances the cheerful theory that the influenza epidemic will last two years more in the United States. Whether the fact that Mr. Sreeman has recently arrived from India gives him any special infallibility as a flu prophet is not clear, but anyway he says we will have two more years of the epidemic, and cites as evidence the fact that it is still raging in India although it is now warm weather in that country. He says all the experience gained by doctors fighting the disease in Europe and Asia has been of no apparent value in combating the disease in this country, and it will apparently have to run its course until every one who is not immune has had the disease.

Mr. Sreeman was here from Portland arranging for a foreign mission campaign in the churches. He has recently arrived in this country from India.—Echo News.

News reached Lexington this week of the death at Klamath Falls, Ore., of Orville Eskelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Eskelson. He was a victim of influenza and leaves a wife and five children. Orville Eskelson grew up in Morrow county and has a great many friends living at Lexington who are saddened by the report of his death and their sympathy goes out to the stricken parents and the family of the young man.

**THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIANITY.**

**No 3, "What Is the Gospel?"**

(A sermon by Frank A. Andrews of the Christian Church.)

"I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16.

I once heard a sermon preached on this text, in which the preacher made a play upon the Greek word for "power," which is "dunamis," from which we get the word "dynamite." He said, "the Gospel is God's dynamite." That is a very misleading statement. Dynamite is violent and destructive in its action. The Gospel is not violent and destructive in its action; on the contrary, it is quiet, attractive and stimulative in its action. In this text the Apostle Paul is not attempting to tell what the Gospel is. He is stating what the gospel does. The statement that steam is the power which drives the railroad engine does not define steam, but merely tells what steam does. Just before his ascension, Jesus said to His apostles: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned." Mark 16:15-16. Evidently the Gospel has to do particularly with the faith element of Christianity. It is what one must believe in order to be a Christian, and in order to be saved.

**The Gospel Is "Good News."**

The Greek word which is translated "Gospel" means literally "a good message," the marginal reading in the New Testament gives "good tidings." It is so translated in Luke 2:10. The first four books of the New Testament, called the Gospels, are then, the record of good tidings according to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. These records must be believed. They testify that Jesus is the Son of God, and that man may receive the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life thru faith in Him. This is good news to a world without God and without hope. These four gospels tell us that God loves man. This is good news to all who, if they worshipped any God at all, did so in fear and trembling. These gospels testify to the goodness, purity, and beauty of the life of Jesus Christ. This is good news to a world which regarded it as impossible for any one to be good and clean in his life. These records hold out the assurance that the one who believes in Jesus shall have the power to follow Him and live a life which is helpful, clean, and beautiful. That is surely good news to all. These records tell us that God is the father of us all and that he regards a sinful man as an earthly father does his wayward son, still loving him and seeking to win him back to a life of retitude and of filial relationship. What a wonderful assurance!

**The Gospel to the Jews.**

In the Galatian letter Paul says "He that wrought for Peter unto the apostleship of the circumcision wrought for me also unto the Gentiles." Because of this statement it is assumed by many that there are two gospels, one for the Jews and one for the Gentiles. It might be worth while to examine the scriptures in order to find out just what basis of truth there is for that position.

Bearing in mind the meaning of the word "Gospel," good news, it is quite evident that a particular announcement might be good news to the Jews and not to the Gentiles. Jesus had been promised to the Jews by many of the prophets thru many centuries of their history. It had been promised that He should come as a Prophet, as a Priest, as a King, and as a Messiah. The announcement that these promises were being fulfilled and that the promised one had come would be good news, or a part of the gospel proclamation to the Jews. Such an announcement would not be good news to the Gentiles, it would be without any particular interest to them for they knew nothing about these prophecies and were not concerned about them. On the other hand the announcement that "God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is acceptable to Him," or that "To the Gentiles also hath God granted repentance unto life" would not be good news to the Jews, they had always regarded themselves as God's chosen people; but it would be good news, a part of the gospel, to the Gentiles.

When we examine the records we find only such differences as are thus easily accounted for. The first occurrence of the word "Gospel" is in Matt. 4:23 "And Jesus went about in all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom." By referring back to verse 17 we read what this gospel was, "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." John the Baptist had been making this announcement of the impending establishment of the long looked-for kingdom. That it was about to be established was good news to the Jews, then under the oppressive rule of the Roman Empire. Moreover, it was an announcement of vital interest to every loyal Jew. That is why there "went out unto him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all

the region round about Jordan." After John the Baptist was imprisoned, Jesus himself took up the work of proclaiming that the promised kingdom was at hand. Later He sent out the twelve apostles, instructing them not to go to the Gentiles or Samaritans, the message did not concern them, but to the Jews only "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Still later seventy were sent out two by two with the same message. This was good news for the Jews, the gospel of the kingdom was not for Gentiles.

The first gospel declaration under the Christian dispensation was made by him every one that believeth is was delivered to Jews. Peter states: 1st The wonderful experiences they were passing thru were in fulfillment of prophecy. 2nd Jesus of Nazareth (1) approved unto them by God thru mighty works, and wonders, and signs, as they well know, (2) was unlawfully delivered up by them and put to death, (3) was raised from the dead by God. 3rd The resurrection of Jesus was in accordance with prophecy. 4th Many witnesses to the resurrection were standing in their presence. 5th God hath made him Lord and Christ. This is the gospel which the Jews must believe in order to become Christians. In the 13th chapter of Acts is recorded a sermon preached to Jews by Paul. Paul goes more fully into the details of Jewish history and prophecy than did Peter, but he sets forth the same facts in relation to Jesus and concludes by saying Thru this man is proclaimed unto you the remission of sins, and by him every one that believeth is justified from all things from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

**The Gospel to the Gentiles.**

As the Gentiles were ignorant, or nearly so, of Jewish history and prophecy the development of this history and the fulfillment of the prophecies was not good news to them and so these things would not be a part of the gospel to them. Peter went from Joppa to Caesarea to preach to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. Paul disregards Jewish history and prophecy, his statement is: 1st Jesus of Nazareth (1) anointed with the Holy Spirit by God, (2) went about doing good and healing, (3) witnesses to these things are present, 2nd, He was killed. 3rd, God raised Him on the third day, (1) witnesses to the resurrection are present. 4th, Jesus ordered the apostles to preach to the people. 5th, Thru His name every one that believeth on Him shall receive remission of sins. The facts in relation to Jesus are the same as set forth by Peter in his gospel proclamation to the Jews.

Paul calls himself "the Apostle to the Gentiles." We have the record of several gospel proclamations to the Gentiles by the Apostle Paul. However, rather than examine them we will go to the fifteenth chapter of the first Corinthian letter and there find a synopsis of the gospel in Paul's own words. He says, "Now I make known unto you, brethren, the gospel which I preached unto you. . . . For I delivered unto you first of all that which also I received: that Christ died for our sins according to scriptures; and that he was buried; and that he hath been raised on the third day according to the scriptures." Cor. 15:1-3. Then Paul cites witnesses to the resurrection.

In every instance the resurrection receives especial emphasis. Peter and Paul seem to regard it as the central act of the gospel. If anyone can accept by faith the resurrection of Jesus there can be no difficulty whatever about believing the other gospel facts. The resurrection of Jesus was a most wonderful event. Paul says: "He was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead." Rom. 1:4. Again: "If Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also that are fallen asleep in Christ have perished." 1 Cor. 15:17-18. Peter declares that we are begotten "again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Pet. 1:3.

A comparison of the facts in relation to Jesus which Paul declares to constitute the "Gospel," with the facts set forth by Peter in his sermon to Cornelius shows that there is a very close agreement. A further comparison of these two sets of facts with the facts set forth by both Paul and Peter when preaching to Jews shows again a very close agreement. The brief statement found in the fifteenth chapter of the first Corinthian letter may be considered as a synopsis of the essential facts of the four gospel records. Instead of requiring the reader to believe every item as set forth by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, they are required to believe these few facts. The rest then appears probable and reasonable, easy to believe. Compare these few facts with the numerous articles of faith comprised in the creeds of most denominations and it will be realized how far most churches have departed from "the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

**The Gospel Operates Thru Faith.**

The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. The gospel has no power over those who do not believe. Neither does the gospel have any power over those who merely give

intellectual assent to the facts of the part. Man must do his part and thus gospel. "These also must be complete the work of salvation, and shudder." The demon also believe anyone who really believes the facts believed, then man must act in accordance of the Gospel will surely be impelled cordance with this faith. God offers by gratitude and love to seek to know man salvation. He has done His will of God and to do it.

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