

ROOSEVELT PLEDGES HIMSELF TO RADICAL INSURGENCY AT COLUMBUS

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM, NOMINATIONS BY THE PEOPLE AND RECALL IS PLATFORM

Short Ballot, Election of United States Senators by Direct Vote, and Other Progressive Measures favored by Roosevelt in Speech Before Ohio Constitutional Convention—Quotes Lincoln and pleads for Masses as Against Classes—Rights of People Above Those of Capital.

SAYS EFFORT TO BREAK-UP BIG BUSINESS IS FOOLISH RETURN TO ANCIENT FORMULAS

Regulation, Not Destruction, Is Remedy Suggested—Administration of Law Has Become Technical Instead Just—Judges Are Servants of the People, Same as Other Officials—Most Radical Utterance Yet Delivered by Colonel

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 21.—Pledging himself flatly as for the initiative and referendum, the short ballot, direct nominations by the people, the presidential preference primary, the election of United States senators by direct vote and, in a measure, going on record for the recall, former President Theodore Roosevelt, here addressing the Ohio state constitutional convention and outlined, as he has never done so fully before, just where he stands as to the progressive policies on which it is believed he may again become a candidate for the presidency.

Welcomed to Columbus by cheering crowds, Colonel Roosevelt also received an ovation when he appeared in the convention hall. With little delay he plunged into his speech, which was distributed for publication to the news agencies under the title "A Charter of Democracy."

Mr. Roosevelt said in part: "I believe in pure democracy. With Lincoln, I hold that 'this country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it.'"

Belief in People's Power.
We progressives believe that the people have the right, the power and the duty to protect themselves and their own welfare; that human rights are supreme over all other rights; that wealth should be the servant—not the master—of the people. We test the worth of all men and all measures by asking how they contribute to the welfare of the men, women and children of whom this nation is composed.

We are engaged in one of the great battles of the age—long contest waged against privilege on behalf of the common welfare. We hold it a prime duty of the people

to free our government from the control of money in politics. For this purpose we advocate, not as ends in themselves, but as weapons in the hands of the people, all governmental devices which will make the representatives of the people more easily and certainly responsible to the people's will.

Land Belongs to the People.
This country, as Lincoln said, belongs to the people. So do the natural resources which make it rich, in preserving them, which is an additional duty, we must not forget that monopoly is based on the control of natural resources and natural advantages, and that it will help the people little to conserve our national wealth unless the benefits which it can yield are secured to the people. Let us remember, also, that conservation does not stop with the natural resources, but that the principle of making the best use of all we have acquired with equal or greater insistence that we shall stop the waste of human welfare which flows from the unfair use of concentrated power and wealth in the hands of men whose eagerness for profit blinds them to the cost of what they do.

I am emphatically a believer in constitutionalism, and because of this fact I no less emphatically protest against any theory that would make of the constitution a means of thwarting instead of securing the absolute right of the people to rule themselves. All constitutions are designed and must be interpreted and administered so as to fit human rights. Lincoln so interpreted and administered the national constitution. Buchanan attempted the reverse; attempted to fit human rights to and limit them by the constitution.

Lincoln Is Quoted.
We stand for applying the constitution to the issues of today as Lincoln applied it to the issues of his day. Lincoln, mind you, and not Buchanan, was the real upholder and preserver of the constitution, for the true progressive is the only true constitutionalist, the only real conservative. The object of every American constitution which is worth calling such must be what it is set forth to be in the preamble to the national constitution, "to establish justice."

If the constitution is successfully invoked to nullify the effort to remedy injustice it is proof positive, either that the constitution needs immediate amendment or else that it is being wrongfully and improperly construed. The power is the people's and only the people's.

I emphatically dissent from the view that it is either wise or necessary to try to devise methods which under the constitution will automatically prevent the people from deciding for themselves what governmental action they deem just and proper. It is impossible to invent constitutional devices which will prevent the popular will from being effective for wrong, without also preventing it from being effective for right. The only safe course to follow in this great American democracy is to provide for making the popular judgment really effective.

The wisdom of framing any particular



Sketch of Theodore Roosevelt.

ROGUE PEARS ARE FIRST FRUIT IN ENGLISH MIND

Jack Astbury as Guest of John W. Dennis Sees Car of Local Comice Sell for \$9 a Box at London Auction.

The keeping quality of Rogue river pears, the excellence of their pack and the reputation they have in the English markets is responsible for the high prices paid for them, according to R. F. C. Astbury who recently returned from an eight months visit in England. Mr. Astbury witnessed the sale of a car of Rogue river Comice by John W. Dennis and Sons at Covington Gardens, London, which brought an average of \$9 a box. At the same time he saw a car of French Comice, apparently as excellent as the Rogue river variety, sell at an average of \$2 a box, due, he states, to the fact that they will not keep and dealers are therefore afraid to deal in them extensively.

Mr. Astbury was a guest at the sale of John W. Dennis, well known to local orchardists. Mr. Dennis had much quiet enjoyment out of the fact that he introduced Mr. Astbury as the grower of the Rogue river fruit, while in reality they came from Hillcrest and Hollywood orchards. However, Mr. Astbury was so well posted on local conditions that he answered many questions and listened to many suggestions the English dealers had to offer.

"It is a wonderful sight," states Mr. Astbury, "and one which I enjoyed very much indeed. To see a car of fruit auctioned on the other side of the world when I knew almost the very trees that bore them, was most interesting. Mr. Dennis displayed the fruit to its utmost advantage and I saw it sell for \$9 a box."

"The English dealers offered me a number of suggestions, the principal one being to double the flat boxes, to insure the fruit's arrival in first class shape. It is a splendid suggestion."

"Rogue river fruit has an excellent reputation in England, being the best fresh fruit that reaches that market. I saw French Comice sell by its side at \$2 a box, due to the fact that the French fruit is a poor keeper."

"I believe that nearly the entire fruit crop of the Rogue river valley should go to England."

Died
At the home of her daughter, Mrs. William F. Hammond, America E. Gillam, at 2:15 a. m., Feb. 21, 1912, aged 75 years, 2 mos., 1 day. She was a native of Indiana. Funeral services this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the late residence.

MUST RAISE COIN ENOUGH TO PAY TO SECURE STREET

Street Committee of City Council Meets With King Street Advocates But Fail to Find Way to Open Proposed Street.

Following a lengthy conference Wednesday morning between the committee of property owners interested in the opening of King street and the street committee of the city council, the latter committee announced their determination to report unfavorably to the city council on the petition unless the property owners raised money enough to pay for the opening of the street. About \$2000 is involved, \$1500 of which the property owners have raised.

In the opinion of the members of the council the city cannot afford to pay for the opening of King street from Oakland to the city limits and that it is impossible for them to act favorably upon such a request until the property owners can afford to pay for the improvement.

On the other hand the street committee believes it will be possible to open King street between Eleventh and Tenth streets with the amount of money now subscribed by property owners. This would be of considerable advantage.

The matter was brought up at the council meeting Tuesday evening, and was referred to the street committee and the meeting Wednesday morning was arranged.

BRANDT WINS FIGHT FOR HIS FREEDOM

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 21.—Foulke Brandt, formerly valet to Mortimer Schiff, who was sentenced to thirty years for burglary on what was alleged to have been a frame-up today practically won his fight for freedom. Attorney General Carmody notified Governor Dix that there was no evidence in the case to warrant Brandt's conviction for burglary. Carmody requested a full pardon.

Brandt was sentenced by Justice Rosalsky.

FIGHT EXTRA TOMORROW

The Mail Tribune will issue an extra edition containing the fight at Los Angeles tomorrow afternoon. The fight starts at 3 o'clock and should be over by 5 o'clock.

GOLD RIDGE MINE SCENE OF BIG FIND

T. M. Anderson, in Following Ore Chute Strikes Base Ledge Which Shows Gold to Extent of \$6000 a Ton.

OVER \$900,000 IN GOLD ORE NOW BLOCKED OUT

Brings Ore to City Where It Attracts Much Attention—Only in 60 Feet

T. M. Anderson, owner of the Gold Ridge mine on the divide between Josephine and Fall creeks, eight miles northwest of Kirby, is in the city with a sack full of specimens taken from the mine, which shows \$6000 in gold to the ton. This ore is taken from the base ledge which proves the immense richness of the mine. Complete prospects show over \$900,000 in sight at the present time before the ore chute and base ledge drops and there be that much again below.

Mr. Anderson has been following an ore chute for some months, which is filled with free gold. However, he was more interested in the base ledge, which if it should show a good value would mean much to the mine. He started in on this and on last Wednesday a blast opened it up. The ore goes a trifle over \$6000, which is immensely rich, under the circumstances.

The ledge of high grade ore is 12 feet wide and thirty inches high. The ore chute cuts into it diagonally.

The property bids fair to prove one of the richest in the district. From the ore chute alone Mr. Anderson has taken a large amount of gold, \$20,000 from the surface when he was prospecting to determine the extent of the ore chute.

Mr. Anderson has a large amount of ore at the Medford National bank, where it is attracting much attention.

MAY PAY SIX FIRE FIGHTERS

Fire Committee of City Council Has in Preparation Ordinance Providing for a Paid Department for This City.

The fire committee of the city council has in preparation an ordinance providing for a paid fire department for the city. While many of the provisions have not as yet been determined upon it is stated that six men will be employed by the city to remain on duty at the fire hall.

It is stated that this improvement in the department was made necessary by the purchase of the new auto truck as it gets away from the barn so rapidly that the volunteer company cannot board it as they did the team drawn chemical.

The matter did not come before the city council Tuesday evening as the fire committee was not ready to act.

PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW

The Medford public library will be closed all day Thursday, Washington's birthday.

The library board has appointed a building and grounds committee, composed of Mayor W. H. Canon, Mrs. B. P. Theiss, and Mrs. F. W. Hollis. Requests for the use of the library auditorium should be made to this committee.

DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION CAUSES LOSS OF \$6,000,000 IN CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

Burned Area Comprises Section Seven Blocks Wide and Eighteen Blocks Long and Not a Building is Left Standing in This District—Thousands of People Muddled Homeless in Parks and Houston Threatened by Food Famine—Work of Volunteers Saved Balance of City.

THIRTY MILE GALE DRIVES FLAMES WHICH ARE ONLY CHECKED BY USE OF DYNAMITE

Two Million Dollars Worth of Cotton Destroyed, An Entire Block of Houses Blown Up to Stop Fire—Hundreds of Residences, Churches, Schools, Warehouses, Lumber Yards and Cotton Compresses Destroyed

HOUSTON, Texas, Feb. 21.—The fire started in a hotel in South Houston. After a visit to the burned section, city officials at noon placed the fire loss at \$6,000,000. The flames destroyed 57 blocks of residences, churches, schools, warehouses and other buildings.

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 21.—The most disastrous conflagration in the history of Houston swept the city today and before it was brought under control at 10 o'clock this morning, seven hours after it started, property valued at \$5,000,000 was destroyed and several thousand persons were rendered homeless. The work relieving the fire victims has already begun.

The burned area, which adjoins the railroad yards of the Southern Pacific company comprises a section of seven blocks wide and 18 blocks long. Not a building was left standing in this district.

Thirty Mile Gale.
Starting shortly after 2 o'clock this morning, the flames, fanned by a 30 mile wind, spread with incredible rapidity. Firebrands were blown to all sections of the city, and for hours it was feared that Houston was doomed to destruction. Hundreds of citizens aided the firemen by going to the roofs of their homes and extinguishing firebrands by means of wet blankets. This action on the part of the residents is admitted by the firemen to have saved the city.

The heaviest individual losers are the McFadden and Cleveland compresses and the plant of the E. D. Harrell lumber company. Sixty thousand bales of cotton were destroyed, the loss to the cotton dealers alone exceeding \$2,000,000. In addition to churches, schools, factories and lumber plants, a hundred private residences were destroyed.

The fire finally was controlled, fol-

lowing the use of dynamite. An entire block of houses were destroyed by this means to prevent the spread of the flames to the downtown section of the city.

The parks and other open spaces are jammed with homeless men, women and children. City officials announced that the fire victims would be cared for and that aid from outside cities probably would not be needed.

The fire started at about 2:50 this morning and has been raging fiercely for seven hours. Soon after the flames started a high wind sprang up. A hundred residences, a number of churches, school houses, warehouses, lumber yards and cotton compresses have been consumed.

Hundreds Homeless.
Hundreds of persons are homeless. Mounted police are hurrying ahead of the flames, notifying everyone of the danger. So far no casualties have been reported. The parks and other open spaces are crowded with women and children. Citizens fortified by wet blankets, are standing on the roofs of their homes, endeavoring to extinguish fire brands.

At 10:30 o'clock the fire had spread to the big shops of the Southern Pacific company, and at that hour a score or more box cars, containing provisions, were on fire. Engines have been pressed into service, and despite the terrific heat, an heroic attempt is being made to draw other cars loaded with foodstuffs to points of safety. A food famine is threatened if the fire spreads to the business section.

WORST BLIZZARD OF YEARS SWEEPS SOUTHWEST STATES

Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas Shivering—A Foot of Snow Has Fallen and More is on the Way—Suffering Is Intense.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 21.—The entire middle southwest, comprising the states of Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas, today is shivering in the worst blizzard of the winter. A foot of snow is reported in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma and it is still falling.

All trains running into this city are from two to five hours late and the telegraph is badly crippled.

Business both in Kansas City and St. Louis is virtually at a standstill. Street cars are blocked because of the heavy fall of snow, and traffic is completely demoralized. In the poorer sections of the cities the suffering is intense. Delivery of coal is out of the question and this has added to the misery.

Hundreds of head of cattle undoubtedly have perished on the ranges in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The loss from this source is certain to run high into the thousands.

PLAN TO WAR ON SLAUGHTER HOUSE USE

The citizens of North Medford have decided to wage war upon the slaughter house conducted in their neighborhood by Smith and Lawton and will appeal to the county court for relief. A committee consisting of George Andrews, Frank Conler and John Maltby are in charge of the fight.

If other measures fail the residents of the district will apply for an injunction restraining the owners of the slaughter house from operating it upon the ground that it detracts from the value of residence property in that section.

POWER IS BOUND OVER TO GRAND JURY

James A. Power who is said to have forged Rex H. Lammiman's name to a check was this afternoon bound over to await action by the grand jury.

DIRTY MONEY OF RYAN'S REJECTED BY PROF. WILSON

Marse Henry Kicks Woodrow Up Another Step in White House Stairs—Says Wilson Stiffly Declined to Touch Wall Street Dough.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 21.—Woodrow Wilson today is believed to have been kicked up another step on the White House stairs by utterances of Colonel Henry Watterson. One of the allegations Colonel Watterson makes in his attack on Wilson is that the latter was "rude" in his refusal to take campaign contributions from Thomas F. Ryan when such a course was suggested by Colonel Watterson. He says that Wilson stiffly declined to take what he termed "Ryan's dirty money."

"Marse Henry" also asserts that while he was engaged in furthering the cause of Wilson, the latter was corresponding with Colonel Watterson's enemies in Kentucky.

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