

BRIGHT HOPES OF STAND-PATS GO GLIMMERING

Month Sees Complete Revolution in Political Situation—Business Revival and Program of Military Preparedness and Progressive Independence.

BY GILSON GARDNER
WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Within a month a complete revolution has taken place in the political situation. Following are the changes:

- (1) A revival of business headed by war orders but followed by genuine industrial revival, has robbed the standpatters of their principal issue;
- (2) The administration has adopted the military preparedness issue almost to the extent, advocated by Roosevelt and Augustus P. Gardner, abandoning entirely the Bryan pacifist watchful waiting attitude;
- (3) Progressives of the country have concluded suddenly and quite unanimously not to return to the party of their daddies, but to continue their organization and name candidates;
- (4) National prohibition has become a looming issue with Hobson and Bryan as likely rivals for the presidential nomination on that platform.

Possibility of War

Back of all this looms the possibility of war. In everybody's mind there is the thought that plans which may be made today may be knocked in the head tomorrow by some act of Germany precipitating the United States into the world conflict.

A little while ago the Old Guard republicans—Penrose, Crane, Gallinger, et al.—were meeting in New York city and almost dividing the spoils. They were perfectly sure that a promise of prosperity and jobs for the unemployed would work a repetition of the McKinley-Hanna full dinner pail election and sweep the democrats from office. So sure were they that they were picking candidates for first and second place. Root was almost a twenty to one shot and C. W. Fairbanks actually let go a wad of money to start a weekly newspaper for the purpose of booming his candidacy. It began to look like a race among the republican standpat nominees for a sure thing nomination.

Now All is Changed

Now all that is changed. The republicans are in the doldrums again. Root as boss of the reactionary New York constitutional convention at Albany has not been a vote getting figure before the country. The progressives have not been falling over themselves in the prodigal role. In New York the progressive party committee men have conferred and decided against going back into the G. O. P., while out at the exposition Roosevelt has gone so far as to stand out publicly and suggest the nomination of Hiram W. Johnson as the progressive party's presidential candidate.

More overwhelming, however, is the administration's plans for the biggest navy in the world and an endorsement of Garrison's recommendation for an adequate army. Along the latter line plans will be ready for congress authorizing a new federal volunteer militia reserve.

Military Program

Following Secretary Daniels' action in creating a board of scientific counsel in the navy department, comes the news that congress will be supplied with full reports on the observations of our military and naval experts abroad, together with recommendations touching vastly increased numbers of aeroplanes and submarines and several battle cruisers of the most up to date type. The naval program, it is declared, will suit the most enthusiastic advocate of national defense.

Even the Mexican policy of watchful waiting has been abandoned and it is announced officially that the president is waiting only to decide on a plan of intervention which will reduce that country to law and order.

Prosperity Returning

As to the country's material prosperity, which is probably the most important factor in the political situation, the results of war orders are notorious. But these are not the only basis of prosperity. Figures just compiled by the department of commerce show that for the fiscal year just ended all records were broken in the volume of American exports and vast increase in the balance of trade—which is what the foreigner owes the United States for goods supplied. The balance of trade in favor of the United States for the fiscal year was \$1,094,432,792 which sum exceeded by \$428,000,000 the former high record made in 1908, and by

\$623,800,000 the export balance of 1914. At the same time reports from all parts of the country show that the army of unemployed has been dwindling and now there is even a clamor for farm hands and expert operatives in the mills and munition making factories. Strikes are resulting in increases of wages with hardly any question.

Without the "hard times" and the "military preparedness" issues, the opponents of the administration will find hard sledding. There will evidently be three candidates in the field, and possibly four. So the prospect of a particularly interesting presidential year is daily increasing.

MEDFORD STUDENTS AT SUMMER SCHOOL

Geary E. Garret, Mildred G. Brown and William Vawter, Jr., are representatives of Jackson county at the summer school of the University of Oregon. Mr. Garret's course includes History and English Literature. Mildred G. Brown is taking work in Spanish, Psychology and Education. Mr. Vawter's work is in History, English, Literature and Music.

Among the other Jackson county students at the summer school is G. W. Milam.

The summer school this year is larger than ever before, and the student body is remarkable in several respects. In the first place, there are half again as many men as women. This is very unusual in summer schools, which are, as a general thing, composed to a very large extent of women school teachers. The men at the Oregon Summer School this year are, many of them, in the prime of life. According to Dr. Schafer, director of the school, their average age is probably 30 years or more. They include numerous county and city superintendents and high school and consolidate school principals who are working for higher degrees and to advance themselves in their profession.

NEW BOOKS ADDED TO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Some new books lately added to the public library are:

Dr. Montessori's Own Handbook, Montessori; Guide to Current Periodicals and Serials, Severance; How to Know Period Styles of Furniture, Kimery; Literary and Historical Atlas of America, Bartholomew; Meaning of Truth, James; Memories and Milestones, Chapman; Naturalization Laws of the U. S., Wilson; Oxford Book of American Essays, Matthews; ed; Passing of the Third Floor Back, Jerome; Practical Investing, Escher; Pragmatism, James; Profitable Vocations for Boys, Weaver and Tyler; Table Service, Allen.

Angus MacDonald has left at the public library his collection of books published by the Gospel Trumpet Co. and they may be consulted there at any time.

NEW JERSEY TOLL IN STORM IS MILLION

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—Reports from various points in New Jersey tonight indicated that the storm damage in that state probably amounted to \$1,000,000. This estimate included damage to growing crops which in many sections were said to have been totally destroyed. Many bridges were swept away and a number of houses demolished.

SIDE LIGHT ON MANUFACTURING A CONSTITUTION

Visit to New York Committee Drafting Revision of Empire State Constitution—Root and Barnes Doing the Work—Perpetual Franchises Authorized—How It is Done.

BY GILSON GARDNER
ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 5.—As ex-Senator Elihu Root is the most talked of candidate for president of the United States on the republican ticket, I decided to run up to Albany, New York, to see him in his most up to date role of constitution-maker for the Empire state.

On the afternoon of July 28, I dropped in on the committee on public utilities at which Mr. William Barnes, Jr., Root's first lieutenant—the only court adjudicated corrupt bi-partisan boss in the country—is chairman. As it happened, Mr. Barnes was speaking, and this is what I heard:

"This provision looks all right to me. It would permit the legislature to grant franchises to public service corporations for a certain number of years, say 500 years, or for an indefinite period."

There were nine members of the committee sitting around the committee table. Nobody said anything. Mr. Barnes appealed to the member on his right.

"As for me," replied the member, "I don't see why there is any objection to giving power to the legislature to grant perpetual franchises. Why such a fuss?"

Again the committee members said nothing. Mr. Barnes read another section.

"That is to protect the present franchise holders," he explained. "But it doesn't do it," one member objected. "It doesn't take into consideration good will value of the franchise. I know a decision of the appellate court"—(business of telling about the decision.)

"Well," said Mr. Barnes, "if nobody has any objections, we will let that stand."

Nobody had. Somebody asked about the medical clause.

"I am getting a barrel full of letters from the Christian Scientists about that," said one member.

Mr. Barnes: "Oh, that section is all right. I talked to a couple of them this morning and they went away convinced that it doesn't mean what they thought it meant."

Pause. Silence.

Barnes: "Anybody want to make a motion to adjourn. I don't think there is much more we can do today."

So everybody stood up and drifted from the room.

The committee meetings are quite informal. No records are made or kept. The chairman interlines with a lead pencil a typewritten copy of the proposed amendment and the committee takes it for granted. Apparently I was the only representative of the public present. The experience was to me a valued sidelight on the business of making a state constitution. Perpetual or 500 year franchises and nobody objecting. Is it any wonder the interests approve the administration of Mr. Barnes and the valued work of Mr. Root in presiding over the convention?

With Medford Trade is Medford Made

DEMAND FOR "REALISM" MAKES FILM ACTOR'S LIFE A GAMBLE



Could photoplayers talk from the screen, there are many times when the shriek of the actors would curdle the blood of the audience. The demand of the public for "realism" in the movies and the attempts of the producers to furnish death for the sake of getting over the much wanted "realism." Directors do all they can to protect their people, but despite their efforts, death is always lurking in the unexpected. From time to time we will print in this paper one of Cleo Madison's flirtations with death. Every story will stir your blood. Read them.

MOVING PICTURES EASTLAND DISASTER

The first pictures of the great Chicago Eastland disaster will be shown at the Page tonight only. These pictures were immediately developed and shipped direct to the coast, and the management of the Page secured the special booking by wire only a day or two ago. These will be shown today only in addition to the great feature "Anna Karenina" from Count Leo Tolstoy's drama, which was enjoyed by a large audience last night. The splendid acting and beautiful settings make this picture one of unusual power and interest.

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HODGES DEATH DUE TO ACCIDENT DECLARES JURY

At a coroner's inquest held at Gold Hill Wednesday into the death of Samuel T. Hodges, a pioneer liveryman of Gold Hill, famed for his knowledge of whodunnit, returned a verdict of accidental death. The auto Hodges was driving was struck by an S.P. train Monday night at Sardine crossing. The evidence showed that Hodges' view of the approaching train was obstructed by the covering. The jury was composed of W. F. Blackerd, W. H. Miller, J. M. Hutson, G. B. Turner, C. S. Redfield and M. D. Bowers. A citizens' board of inquiry returned the following report:

"After hearing the testimony, the board finds that deceased drove a Ford automobile along the county road, parallel to the Southern Pacific track, for a distance of at least a half a mile. Road located just outside of right-of-way. Made an abrupt turn on crossing when about a hundred feet ahead of train. Automobile was struck by pilot of engine, and Samuel T. Hodges instantly killed and auto demolished. The accident caused by driver failing to observe ordinary precaution before attempting to cross railroad.

"View for a distance of three-quarters of a mile immediately parallel the track west of the place unobstructed. The county road parallels and immediately adjoins the right-of-way for a distance of about one-eighth of a mile beyond where the crossing known as the Sardine road crossing occurs, and it was impossible for the train crew to determine whether or not the automobile was continuing along the county road or intended to make the crossing, but the board finds that they took every precaution possible to take in the event that the driver of the automobile intended to make the crossing, using every effort to give him warning.

"We further find that the train crew, as soon as it became evident that the driver of the automobile that the driver of the automobile would cross the track, applied the emergency to stop the train."

Signed: J. L. May, L. C. Adams, D. C. Harris, J. H. Beeman and H. D. Reed.

NATWICK GIVEN CONTRACT TO GRADE PACIFIC HIGHWAY

At a meeting of the county court held at Jacksonville this morning, Chris. H. Natwick of Eagle Point was awarded the contract for the building of the Pacific Highway from Tolo to the Josephine county line. His bid was \$16,659.90 for the total work, which includes grading, culverts and curbing. Contractor Natwick will begin the assembling of his outfit and machinery at once, and it is expected that active operations will be under way by the first of next week.

The other bid upon the total work was from John H. Garrett of Klamath Falls, whose figures were \$28,696.79. H. D. Reed of Gold Hill bid \$1379.10 upon a small unit of the work.

The county court is now preparing estimates for bids for the Pacific highway from Central Point to Tolo, a section of the work that was left out, owing to the alterations made by the county court to eliminate dangerous crossings.

Orchardists of the valley met with the county court and discussed the appointment of a successor to County Pathologist M. P. Henderson, resigned. All the fruit sections of the valley were represented and the appointment of E. J. Krouse in charge of experiment stations at the Oregon Agricultural college, was urged. The court took the matter under advisement until next Monday, when a decision will be given.

NOTICE

There will be a regular meeting of the Grizzlies tonight at the Public Library at 8 o'clock. A full attendance is urged.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only Constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, etc. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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