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**The Tillamook Headlight.**  
 Fred C. Baker, Publisher.

**UN-AMERICAN SYSTEM.**  
**Proportional Representation De-**  
**troys Majority Rule.**

At the request of the Oregon Library Commission, a negative argument on the subject of Proportional Representation has been prepared by Hon. C. N. McArthur, Speaker of the House at the 27th session of the Oregon Legislature. The paper has been printed in pamphlet form and will be sent out to the circulating libraries as a part of a general discussion that the Library Commission has arranged for all subjects of public interest. Mr. McArthur's paper follows:

Having been asked to prepare a brief statement of my views upon the subject of Proportional Representation, I will say at the outset that I am in favor of a judicious use of the Initiative and Referendum; but it is my honest opinion that both branches of the system of direct legislation are being abused and overworked here in Oregon at the present time. Among the abuses foisted upon the people of this State under the Initiative is Proportional Representation—a scheme to rob the majority of the powers to which it is justly entitled under our republican form of government.

Proportional Representation seeks to set aside the will of the majority party by permitting minority parties to choose a certain number of members in the Legislature, the City Council, and in other offices where the electors cast their votes for more than two candidates. Under this system Multnomah county could not send twelve men of the same political complexion to the lower branch of the Legislature, as at present. Instead of sending twelve republicans as Multnomah county did last year, that county would be represented by, approximately, six republicans, four democrats, one socialist, and one prohibitionist. Such representation would not reflect the sentiment of a majority of the voters of Multnomah county, but would give each party a fraction thereof representation. I am opposed to the system of Proportional Representation because it is confusing and cannot be understood by a very large percent of the electors and because it violates one of the fundamental principles of American citizenship—the rule of the majority.

In all deliberative bodies, in practically all elections, in all workings of free government, the rule of the majority is supreme. It has been so since the early days of civilized society. Attempts to overthrow it have resulted in failure, and it still remains as one of the basic principles of the republican form of government.

The attempt to substitute the system of Proportional Representation for the majority principle is altogether ill-advised. The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature (or the people) to provide for the detailed workings of this system was rushed through without debate, without amendment, and without deliberation. Its catchy title secured its adoption by an electorate that paid but scant attention to its basic principle. It is the product of one man's mind and in no sense reflects the will of the great mass of our people. The last legislature very wisely rejected a measure providing for the detailed workings of this proposed system. The majority against the measure was large. Members of the legislature evidently had in mind that fundamental truth contained in the Declaration of Independence, i. e. "Prudence, indeed will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes."

Representative government has been criticised because of its abuses. The abuses that would follow the adoption of Proportional Representation would be manifold when compared with the present abuses. Every dishonest element, every plundering corporation, every disreputable faction could manipulate primaries and elections to such an extent that the better element of the people would have little or no representation.

The success of this government depends upon political parties and the purity thereof. Party is the recognized agency of government that throws men together for a common purpose. Without party all is disorder, chaos, and confusion, and the unsuspecting public falls a prey to the demagogue and the pretender. When a party becomes incompetent or corrupt, let that party be turned out of power and another submitted therefore. Let parties, as the

agencies of government, be responsible to the people. Without party, there would have been no Declaration of Independence, no Federal constitution, no Emancipation Proclamation, or Fourteenth Amendment. As long as the people of Oregon see fit to keep one party in power let that party fill the offices and be responsible for the business of the state. If the people are not satisfied, let them rise in their might and substitute another party.

Inharmonious mixtures produce friction, confusion, dishonesty, and fraud. Our state is governed wisely, honestly, efficiently, economically, and without scandal. There are always a few disgruntled patriots, most of whom are disappointed office seekers, but the great majority of our people are satisfied with our present system.

The efforts of a few theorists to upset the whole structure of our government, to set aside the fundamental principles of our organic law, and to foist upon us new and untired theories, reminds me of the following passage from Pope: "For forms of government let fools contest; What'er is best administered is best."

To make the case complete, the incubator baby ought to be carried off by an aviator, or a chicken hawk.

Japan is gradually increasing her standing army, in the firm belief that this is the only way to make peace serene.

It remains yet to be told whether the North pole will develop any new species of game for Mr. Roosevelt to go up and kill.

If Walter Wellman should ever reach the North Pole he will not dig for Dr. Cook's brass tube. Walter has enough of that metal.

The authorities of the Matteawan Asylum have made Harry Thaw librarian of the institution. If not already crazy he soon will be.

Political disturbances and earth quakes coming so close together in Mexico may frighten the peons out of any revolt against the constituted powers that be in that country.

Nobody knows how Uncle Joe Cannon is putting in his vacation, but it is suspected that most of his time is occupied in inventing new expletives that will fit the Fowler case.

The mayor of Portsmouth, Va., offers a beautifully engraved gold medal to every child born in that town, of resident parents. The fight against race suicide is now well on and spreading everywhere in this country.

Senator Cummins, since reaching Iowa, on return from Washington, has discovered that the great majority of Iowans would like to have the new tariff left alone long enough to give them a chance to see how it works.

At the Buffalo meeting of the American Press Humorists' Association, a message was read from President Taft in which he told the funny men that they were doing a great work in making people laugh. "Humor is like the buffer between two railroad cars," he said. "It relieves the jolts of life. It is a shock absorber. It makes the journey through the years easier and brightens the pathway along the route. We Americans could not get along without humor."

What is the president's attitude toward the oncoming wave of women suffrage advocates is has been made known to the newspaper men at the summer capital. He is said to believe in the principal of the thing, and that when the time comes that the women of the United States are agreed that they want the suffrage the time will then be ripe for them to have it. He hopes that they will then get it, but he believes that a great many able women are not yet convinced that they desire the right to vote.

Bishop Candler of the Methodist Episcopal Church not long ago said, in Atlanta, that education is not a good thing for the black man. He has just now said, at Kansas City, that it is not a good thing for the white man unless it leads to correct thinking. This, at least, is the substance of his thought in saying that too much of the thinking of today is done in universities and colleges where men led cloistered lives. The dispatches indicate that the particular thinker he had in mind was Dr. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard. It is not material who was in the bishop's mind when he spoke. The point of interest and importance is that he made a natural and homely illustration which is going to stick in saying, by way of illuminating the position of college professors, that they appear greater than they really are. "Stable fat," said the bishop, "is not as good as the fat a horse takes on when he works in the field or on the road." We think this will apply to more college professors than one. But never mind!

"Say nothing of the dead unless it good," is an injunction which will not be needed in the case of Edward H. Harriman. And he himself, if he were permitted to speak, would be the last man to invoke it in his own favor. In Mr. Harriman's career, as in that of every other large figure in every activity the good and the bad intermingled, but

in the deeds of the dead railway chief it can be truly said that the good overshadowed the bad. On the score of a rigid morality some of his exploits can not be defended. In his great battle with Hill and Morgan which culminated in the big corner of May 9, 1901, his methods were harsh. The ousting of Stayvesant Fish from the presidency of the Illinois Central was a ruthless piece of work. In the capture of the Alton road his conduct came close to the border of brigandage. His name was associated, whether rightly or wrongly, in a rather discreditable way with the irregularities, extravagances and corruption of one of the big life insurance companies four years ago in New York, the disclosures of which were brought out by Gov. Hughes in the investigations by the Armstrong Committee. In these, and in some of his other exploits, his conduct deserves the condemnation which it called out. But on the other side of the account much more is to be said. Every property which he acquired was benefited by the change of ownership. Either immediately or ultimately all of them brought greater profits to their stockholders.

**The Home Stretch.**  
 The amusement feature of the Portland fair will be called the Home Stretch. There will be many kinds of attractions, and all of a high class, and no one can afford to miss this fine feature. There will be something doing all the time and whoever misses the Home Stretch and the Portland fair will be doing themselves an injustice.

Among some of the attractions are the Bronco Busters, Joy Wheel, Chariot Races, Music, The Bohemian Girls, Crazy House, Hell, Merry Widow Cottage, Plantation, etc., etc.

There will also be a wireless telegraph station and demonstrations will be made daily.

The Union Meat Co. will have a fine exhibit, and some of the coffee, tea, and spice houses will also exhibit.

There will be a barrel of fun, and don't miss it, for they will miss you.

**Pneumatic Milk Can.**  
 A recent invention is a dairy milk can which may be filled at the dairy, hermetically sealed and kept in this condition until the contents of the can are removed at the place of sale. This result effected by the use of compressed air in the can, which forces out the contents as needed. The compressed air is sterilized and everything about the milk is kept perfectly clean.

There is no danger from contamination by exposure to dust and dirt, or flies or other insects. It is impossible to change or adulterate the contents of the can in any way from the time it leaves the dairy until the contents have been placed in the consumers' hands.

This can is locked, and no liquid can be pumped into it without breaking the lock and removing cover.—Scientific American.

**The Knocker.**  
 The knocker is a peculiar cuss, without a pedigree and should be without a home. In his opinion he is entitled to a seat at the golden gate, but if he ever reaches that port his first greeting to new comers would be, "there's nothing doing; move on; they can't raise a leather on an angels wing here and all the golden harps and crowns have to be imported from across the bay; take my advice and don't stop here." Some towns are fortunate in not being cursed with this class of beings, but the experience of one place in this county is told authentically of a family of prospective settlers arriving and the first person they met was the man with a sledge hammer. He had just arisen from a dyspeptic supper and was in excellent mood for striking heavy blows against his town, his county and his state. So effective were his hits on the bull's eye that Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer straightway hid themselves away from town, and in telling of their experience afterwards declared the man soberly informed them without a choke or a false pulse beat that nothing could be produced around the town; that all vegetables, fruit and grain had to be imported; he knew for he had been in business there and was forced to get out because people would insist upon squandering their money in improvements that were of no earthly use.—Sheridan Sun.

**Night On Bald Mountain.**  
 On a lonely night Alex. Benton, of Fort Edward, N.Y., climbed Bald Mountain to the home of a neighbor, tortured by Asthma, bent on curing him with Dr. King's New Discovery, that had cured himself of asthma. The wonderful medicine soon relieved and quickly cured his neighbor. Later it cured his son's wife of a severe lung trouble. Millions believe its the greatest Throat and Lung cure on Earth. Coughs, Colds, Croup, Hemorrhages and Sore Lungs are surely cured by it. Best for Hay Fever, Grip and Whooping Cough. 50c. and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by Chas. I. Clough.

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 has many obstructions, but none so desperate as poor health. Success to-day demands health, but Electric Bitters is the greatest health builder the world has ever known. It compels perfect action of stomach, liver, kidneys, bowels, purifies and enriches the blood, and tones and invigorates the whole system. Vigorous body and keen brain follow their use. You can't afford to slight Electric Bitters if weak, run down or sickly. Only 50c. Guaranteed by Chas. I. Clough.

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**THE ALLEN HOUSE,**  
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 Special Attention paid to Tourists.  
 A First Class Table. Comfortable Beds and Accommodation.

SUGAR always advances before berry season.  
 We have a good supply on hand and will sell our friends and customers while it last.  
 100 lbs. sk. PURE CANE SUGAR.  
 C. & H. Berry Sugar, \$5.80 a sk.  
 Extra Fine Dry Granulated Sugar, \$5.60 a sk.  
 Star brand process Rolled Barley,  
 The best on the market.  
 75 lbs. Sack, \$1.60.  
 \$40 a Ton.

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