

THE SCHOOL TEXT BOOK PROBLEM

The Oregon public schools are loaded down with some very bad text books and no relief in sight. The Republican party is in full power and its leaders deny that they are in a any manner obligated to the American Book Co. Monopoly. The Republicans should be encouraged to do all they will to improve the school text books. It is this writer's impression that they will accomplish about as much as the silver commission to Europe accomplished for silver—gave everything to gold. The Republicans who found it impracticable to force relief from the book trust by the defeat of Mr. Ackerman, will cave in again whenever they are brought to the point where they need the aid of the book trust. The Republicans will find it necessary to discuss and agitate the school question, but that they will find practicable to do will not hurt the trust and will not give much relief to our people. Nothing except real unrestricted competition among the book companies will give us an approach to fair prices.

In the summary of votes cast in Oregon it appears that H. S. Lyman, the Union candidate ran about two thousand votes ahead of the Union ticket. Where he was best known he carried a large vote. Clatsop county where he lives gave the Republican candidate for governor 780 majority, but Lyman carried the county by 141. He was supported by thousands of the best and most conscientious people in Oregon of all denominations.

Prof. Lyman made a brave battle against the American Book Co. and its methods of securing control of the school text book business. He is a man of clear convictions on the subject and fought the monopoly openly, while his opponent disclaimed all connection with the American Book Company, but undoubtedly had its support. Ackerman is a poor man but the state was flooded with thousands of typewritten letters making personal appeals for support on educational grounds and for non-partisan reasons. These letters were sent to all teachers, school officers and taxpayers. There was no word of opposition to the Book Trust in these letters. The subject was carefully avoided. In the leading state paper Ackerman denied that he was the American Book Company candidate. The press all over the state of his party denied that he was for the Book Company. No doubt thousands of Republicans voted for him believing and probably believe to this day that they elected a deadly foe of the Trust, and a true friend of open competition in quality and price of textbooks. Mr. Ackerman's course may confirm their confidence or it may deceive them. He will appoint nine members of the state board of examiners who will be for or against a monopoly by the American Book Company. They may not be openly for the monopoly but will at least not resist its labors to keep its grasp on the entire school textbook business of Oregon. Ackerman may use his appointive power in state institutions and with county superintendents in the interest of that company or against it.

We want Republicans who do not believe in the American Book Co. monopoly in our public schools to keep their eyes open and see what will be done. We want Republican newspapers and campaign speakers and educators who have vouched for Ackerman, as not being an American Book Co. man, to keep their eyes open and see if they have not been deceived.

This issue, whether or not our public school patrons shall remain under the burden of this tax for higher prices for textbooks than other states compel their citizens to pay, is now with the Republican party. The Union voters and all who did not vote for Ackerman have done their duty partly or fully, and it is

main for Republicans to struggle with the question. The Republican party and its candidates have denied all connection with the American Book Co. It devolves upon them to act in accord with that denial and give the people the benefit of open competition between all the publishers including the A. B. Co. It devolves upon the conscientious elements of the Republican party, who are the friends of the public schools, to take up this matter with those in position to give relief.

But the Republican bosses will find some way to satisfy the greedy trust and at the same time fool their putty head partisans. That is the way that the public schools whip in the respectable voters, who have a weak vertebrae, and like to fight except when the battle is on. At the same time we propose to remind State Supt. Ackerman of his pre-election utterances, and let him know that he is watched. It will not do for the people to trust school reforms to the Republicans. They have had their way; let them use their chance. Expect nothing of them. They have elected a book trust man. They have shown their preference.

They must meet the people of Oregon on this issue in the future. The quality and prices of text books affects the attendance and results of public school work. The political future is very uncertain, and we cannot count upon accomplishing anything by party action. Two years hence county superintendents must be chosen who will have a vote on text books. What the legislature should do is to repeal the present monopoly law and give the people a law like the one in Washington, a state board of three responsible men to select the text books for the public schools.

WHEAT AND BINDING TWINE.

Not a few farmers are flexing hard because wheat is low in price and binding twine is a great deal higher. They have got to pay what the twine trust asks and take what the wheat trust will give them. After peace with Spain is declared wheat may advance so as to help pay the increased price put on twine. But whether wheat is up or down, the only fact worth hammering at is that while the trust can fix its own price on twine the farmer must buy what farmers sell is subject to the markets at home and abroad, the bulls and bears, and the plentiful yield of mother earth or the helpful scarcity of barren fields and famule. Farmers can't fix prices of products.

One will search the Republican papers in a vain attempt to find any condemnation, so far, of the outrageous scheme by which the price of binding twine has been doubled to the farmers. This is a vital matter, brought about by a wanton betrayal of a public trust and the confidence of the people. In Minnesota, for instance, a twine factory was established with state money to protect the farmer against combines, whereby the price of binding twine could not be raised against them. It had the effect to break the corners and combinations, and up to the present year the farmer has been able to buy his twine at reasonable prices. The war has cut off some what the supply of raw material from which the twine is made, but the state had bought its material in advance and was in condition to meet all reasonable demands. The farmer, trusting to the integrity of the managers and following the practice of former years, did not order his twine until the near approach of harvest, and when he sent in his order it was returned with the money and the information that twine could not be supplied, that the immense product of the year has already been sold. The state sold its twine to the combines at 44 and 47 cents per pound, and the combines charged the farmers 15 cents. Here is a state manufactory, supported by the people and instituted for the very purpose of protecting farmers from extortion and robbery, now turned over to speculators and used to make them pay double the price of their own production—their own property. The Republican party today is the party of combines, corners and unjust extortion. Its system of special privileges to favored classes has built up exacting monopolies all over the country. The votes of all the farming community have enabled it to inaugurate and successfully carry out this policy. It is firmly engrafted upon the governmental system of the country, and this outrage in binding twine is one of its legitimate fruits. By its practical operation the farmer, who is forced to pay double price for his binding twine, is given a living, practical

Illustration of the entire subservency of the party leaders to the combines. Every Minnesota farmer who is compelled to deliver to the twine combine 16 cents per acre (pure robbery) over the state price, has a just cause of complaint, and if he does not resent it at the polls, this fall, deserves to be robbed and plundered.

But it is almost useless to talk to any farmer who is addicted to helping keep the trust party in power on the strength of its empty and broken promises. The party cannot be in dicted and the fool who has parted with his vote or the knave who has sold his soul to the combine for a mess of pottage are not worth laboring to save. The problem must work itself out until the producer is able to get a government responsible to him.

OREGON STATE NEWS.

Albany—Architect Charles Burger was up from Salem yesterday, on business connected with the improvements upon the court house.

Astoria—Saturday a big run of children came into the river and the fishermen had about all they could do to keep them from going up the river.

Andrew B. Carter, a pioneer of southern Oregon and a veteran of the Mexican and Rogue river wars, died on July 10, at the Soldiers Home at Santa Monica, Cal., where he had been located for the past few months.

The Dalles—The D. P. & A. N. Co., have given up the attempt to get the Regulator off the rocks at present. The boat will be allowed to remain where it is until the water goes down, then it will be repaired.

Astoria—Four masked men entered a scow on Sand Island on Sunday night and after tying the hands of the owner took \$140 and 15 salmon and then departed. The men were not recognized and there is at present no clue to their identity.

Canemah—For the past two weeks an apparently half-crazy old man has been camped near here. He had a small piece of canvas to sleep under and his diet consists of frogs and water, snakes cooked with potatoes. Tuesday the old man shouldered his bundle and started north.

Corvallis—Another big lot of Web-foot cattle is to be shipped east within a few days. A buyer named Moose, arrived last Saturday and he wants a train load of not less than 800 head of stock (one and two year olds for the North Dakota ranges. The prices paid are, for heifer yearlings \$12, for two year old heifers \$15 to \$16; for yearling steers \$14 and for two year old steers \$18 and \$19.

Pendleton—In Grant county stockmen have sold more stock this year than for seven years past, and from present indications there are enough buyers now in the field to handle every marketable hoof in the county. Not only are the regular foreign buyers taking all they can possibly contract for in the way of sheep and cattle, but local men are buying for speculation.

Lexington—In Morrow county, near here several dogs routed a strapping big coyote and proceeded to chase him for all they were worth. The race becoming too warm for the wild dog of the prairie, he sought protection and made a dive for the house of Andrew Reaney, which stood near by, which he entered in a not overly polite manner by dashing through the window and rushing under the stove. The family, who were just eating dinner, were of course frightened out of their appetites, but after taking in the situation they took a hand in the encounter and proceeded to dispatch his chair and other domestic accessories too numerous to mention; and it wasn't much of a day for coyotes either.

"Saved Her Life."



MR. JOHN WALKER, of Jefferson, Wis., than whom none is more highly esteemed or widely known, writes: "In 1901 I had a severe attack of LaGrippe and at the end of four months, in spite of all left side at all. My husband brought me Dr. Miles' Nervine and Heart Cure and I began taking them. When I had taken a half bottle of each I was much better and continuing persistently I took about a dozen bottles and was completely restored to health to the surprise of all."

Manila Affairs.

Dewey to Demand Its Surrender Shortly.

Prisoners to Be Taken at Manila Likely to Be Sent Back to Spain.

NEW YORK, July 29.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: General Merritt has reached Manila, according to the most conservative calculation of the war department authorities, and the announcement is momentarily expected by cable from Hong Kong that he has assumed the military governorship of the Philippines, as directed by the president. He left San Francisco on the steamer Newport, four weeks ago, two days after the departure of the third military expedition, which he expected to pass on the way to Honolulu and after coaling at that port he was to continue as rapidly as possible to his ultimate destination.

The two expeditions which preceded him, that of General Anderson, leaving San Francisco on May 30, and of General Greene, which sailed 18 days later, reached Manila after runs of 36 and 32 days respectively. General Anderson and his fleet of transports was compelled to depart from the direct course to capture Guam, in the Ladrone Islands, which, involved several days' delay, and General Greene's brigade followed the chain of islands west of Hawaii, and spent the Fourth of July at Wake Island, where it celebrated the national holiday. The Newport, however, was not handicapped by the necessity of setting her pace to that of the slower transports, and therefore, should have anchored near Cavite by Sunday or Monday last, and the governor selected by the president should already be in control.

It is understood among the authorities at Washington that Admiral Dewey will not postpone his demand for the capitulation of Manila long after General Merritt's arrival, and from the confidential tone of the admiral's dispatches no anxiety is felt regarding the prompt compliance of the Spaniards, with whatever demand he may make.

The authority given to General Merritt in his instructions from the president precludes the possibility of a recognition of the pretensions of dictatorship proclaimed by Aguinaldo, and it is not likely that Aguinaldo, or his forces will receive any greater consideration from General Merritt than from General Shafter in Manila. In fact, there are the best reasons for believing that the president's order fixing the line of conduct of the commanding officer of the United States forces in Santiago to be observed during the military occupation of that province were almost identical with those given to General Merritt. This order provides among other things that citizens are entitled to security in their persons and property and in all their private rights and relations, and that the municipal laws, such as affect private rights and provide for the punishment of crimes are to be continued in force and administered by the ordinary tribunals substantially as they were before the occupation if the judges and other officials accept the supremacy of the United States.

The problem of the disposition of the Spanish prisoners who will be thrown upon General Merritt's hands when Manila surrenders has not as yet received much consideration at the war department, it being deemed advisable to have the benefit of General Merritt's recommendations before actual steps are taken. It appears advisable to send the men back to Spain as in the case of those who surrendered at Santiago, and in this event no difficulty is apprehended in securing transportation in neutral ships now in Asiatic waters. It is recognized that the insurgents could never again be compelled to respect Spanish rule, and this fact would probably prove an insuperable obstacle to the inclusion in a treaty of peace of the terms which will be most strenuously insisted upon by Spain, looking to the restitution of her Asiatic possessions. It is therefore thought to be beyond question that the complete separation of the Philippines from the Spanish sovereignty will be one of the inevitable consequences of the war.

TOLEDO, O., July 29.—Crosby Matthews, who was arrested last February for shortage in his accounts in Wells Fargo & Co.'s office at Newport was convicted today in the district court of larceny by bail of \$1000.

Express Agent Convicted. TOLEDO, O., July 29.—Crosby Matthews, who was arrested last February for shortage in his accounts in Wells Fargo & Co.'s office at Newport was convicted today in the district court of larceny by bail of \$1000.

Extremely Weak

Deficient Blood Causes Loss of Appetite and Final Break Down—Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures.

"I lost my appetite and about all I lived on was food and drink. My strength was all gone. I was so weak I could hardly cross the floor. At last I was taken very sick. One physician told me my blood was all gone and he gave me medicine but it did not help me. I had pretty much lost all faith in medicine, but thought I would get one bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla and try it. After taking that bottle I was much better, and so I got two more bottles and after taking them I was well, but to be sure of it, I kept on taking Hood's Sarsaparilla until I had used in all five bottles. It has done unspeakable good to me and I wish all my suffering sisters would try it." Mrs. A. EVERESSE, Wedderburn, Oregon.

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SHAFER'S ARMY HOME.

Alger Orders the Removal of the Troops From Cuba.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Secretary Alger has given orders for the removal of all of Gen. Shafter's army, as soon as the men, in the discretion of the commanding officer, may be brought safely back to camp on Montauk Point, L. I.

The report of General Shafter, showing that there were 3778 cases of sickness in the army in Cuba, has given officials of the war department considerable concern, but reports heretofore made that the yellow fever cases were of a mild type encourages the hope that the death rate will be small. The large number of fever cases reported 2924, shows that not only fever, but typhoid and other kinds are numerous.

Stranded Treasure Hunters.

SEATTLE, July 29.—Purser Twigg, of the steamer Humboldt, which arrived here today from St. Michaels, reports a serious condition of affairs prevails there. Several steamers, which have no river connections, can not land their passengers. They have been feeding them several weeks and provisions are getting scarce.

The most unfortunate lot of passengers are those that went from Seattle on the steamer Progress. The company sending her out has since become insolvent. The passengers number about 100 men, and it is probable that they will nearly all be returned here.

The captain of the Dirgo says he would sail for San Francisco with his passengers if he had provisions enough to make the trip. The steamer National City, with 100 passengers, is in a similar condition. The passengers of these steamers are getting very restive, and threaten all sorts of things.

Derelet Reported.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 29.—A message from the Umpqua, received in this city, reports that the schooner Louise is at that port, and that she reports having sighted at sea in 38.40 north latitude, 129 west longitude, the hull of a vessel bottom up. The derelict is about 165 feet long. It is believed the wreck is that of the bark Forest Queen, which left Tacoma for San Pedro last March. The vessel was given up for lost last May.

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