

Editorial Page of the Capital Journal

AN INDEPENDENT PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

THE DAILY JOURNAL

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BY HOFER BROTHERS.

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AN HONEST MAJORITY.

The Republicans, as usual, have both houses of the Oregon legislature, and the only question that remains is whether an honest majority can be secured in each house to organize a business deal.

A number of the boodle leaders of the last legislature have been returned, and the people have knowledge of their ways and methods. The only thing to do is not to let that element organize either branch of the legislature.

The people, regardless of party, should take this up and interview the members of the legislature, and impress upon them the necessity of a better order of things.

A completely "brownellized" legislature and state government would be something that Oregon would not recover from in twenty years.

Let all be warned and let the Republicans and people of other parties take this up and try to get a new deal in the legislature.

The people will get no progress and no reform from the ordinary partisan clap-trap. That is a cloak behind which rascality stalks and waves the flag for effect, while it carries on its robberies.

A more partisan majority in either house, led by the boodle element of the party, which all admit is strong in Oregon, will cost the taxpayers a quarter of a million. In both houses half-a-million.

There is no politics in legislation. There is none in appropriations. On electing a senator or an appointment bill there is politics. Keep politics where it belongs, and give the taxpayer a chance to live.

FLAT SALARIES WON.

No matter who is elected governor, the flat salary program has won, and must be put into effect.

The only right way to put it into effect is to pass the law before any of the newly-elected state officials ever take the oath of office.

If the matter is put off until these officials are sworn in and have entered upon the term for which they were elected legal complications will arise, and this reform will be put off for four years.

This means a loss to the taxpayers of \$200,000, and should not be inflicted upon them, when by a short special session of the legislature, called a week or ten days before the regular session it can be averted.

The people should consider this matter, and if they understand its importance rightly, they will demand a special session for this special purpose.

It would be a good thing, too, if the special session would enact the law to put the initiative and referendum into effect.

That would give the people the right to review any bad work of the legislature. That would be a check on the legislature, and prevent much bad work that will be otherwise enacted.

If the flat salary law goes over into the regular session it will not only entangle that reform, to which all parties stand committed, but it will become a football in the fight for the senatorship.

Let the people consider these matters, and be ready to act.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

The Oregonian admits that while there has been a great revolution against the candidate for governor proposed by its faction, it was nothing to what would have occurred if the Geer-Simon faction had won.

Because Mr. Geer would not join in the personal warfare on Mr. Simon the charge was brought against him that there was a Geer-Simon combine. Because Scott and McEllin fell out with Simon, all must fight Simon.

So the Oregonian says if the Geer-Simon people had controlled the state convention the whole state ticket and the legislature might have been lost to the Republican party.

Because one man is rebuked for buying his nomination for governor, the whole party would have been rebuked by him and his friends if he had not been permitted to do so.

Mr. Scott confesses in his leading editorial that if Geer and his friends had controlled the state convention the Oregonian and all its present faction would have fought the whole Republican party.

That proves what these same men were saying before the state convention, but have always denied, that if Geer were nominated they would not support him.

They will support no man they do not own and control, and the name of Republican is only a disguise to secure personal power.

But those are the powers in control of the party, and everybody better knuckle under and acknowledge their bossism, or get out of the party.

In Marion, as in some other counties, occasionally a man is found too honest to be sent to the legislature.

WAS ASHAMED OF HIS VOTE.

A lady who keeps boarders tells The Journal of one man who eats at her table confessing he voted for Furnish, as a party duty, but feeling heartily ashamed of it.

That is about the size of the political pride felt by many voters who do not express themselves.

The state of Oregon may be set down as having as nearly an impermeable Republican majority, and a majority that is calculated to appal any but the stoutest heart when the party gets wrong, and any attempt is made to set it right.

Under the circumstances there is more honor in the vote Chamberlain got than in any vote ever given any man who ran for office in Oregon.

Consider the majority he had to overcome, consider the state with one city and one newspaper, consider the way people felt ashamed to vote for the Republican standard-bearer, and yet did it.

There is more glory for a man like Chamberlain in defeat than for a man like Furnish and his friends in victory.

POWER OF THE PRESS.

The election just held in Oregon is another tribute to the power of the press.

While Chamberlain and Furnish had the support of their party papers, The Journal, as an independent paper, supported Chamberlain.

Wherever The Journal circulated and the people were fully informed of the facts of the political situation the Republicans won out.

Chamberlain carries Polk and Marion, and largely reduced Furnish's vote in Benton, because The Journal had a large circulation in those counties.

In the counties where the Oregonian alone circulated Furnishism got its greatest majorities.

The most remote counties gave the largest vote for the factional candidate for governor. Partisan ignorance was relied upon to pull him through.

The purpose of a biased party organ is to keep its readers ignorant, but of the condition of the state government, of the opposition party, and of the factions in the party.

Get as large a blinded prejudiced vote as possible, and elect every yellow dog on the ticket is the humiliating motto of partisanship, in the narrow, bigoted spirit in which it is carried on in Oregon.

SYLVESTER PENNOYER.

The death of Sylvester Pennoyer at Portland removed from the activities of the Northwest another of the pioneers who have been identified with nearly all of its past that is worth recording.

As a Harvard graduate, Pennoyer came to these shores in 1855, when scholastic opportunities were as rare as they are now in Alaska.

Indeed, most of his long and useful life was spent amid conditions that to the eastern view seemed to represent the fringes of civilization, and in which men's virtues appeared worthy.

Yet until the hour of his death he continued to think and act as a gentleman and a scholar; in statecraft he fought many battles and won not seldom; in commercial life his influence was felt; and in his private dealings he was above reproach.

Pennoyer, for eight years Oregon's governor, may not have been a great man, but in the history of the early west he will always appear prominently.

Perhaps it was because of the very earnestness of conditions that he was able to win a prominent place in civil life; certain it is that upon the wave of the greatest error the west ever tried to commit he floated into his greatest prominence. An honest, eccentric, whose heart was in the right place, it is not strange that, prompted by a genuine love of the common people, he should have embraced free silver as the remedy for the evils that had fallen so heavily upon his state. The error and zeal with which he fought for it was characteristic of the man's political career.

It was the same governor who refused to meet President Harrison at the state line, and who told President Cleveland to mind his own business. But Pennoyer's life is not a record of errors and eccentricities, and his work bears strongly down on the positive side of the balance. Although some of his acts were dramatic, he was not a demagogue, and although he was frequently influenced by dishonest men, his honesty of purpose was unassailable.

And this is how it comes that Pennoyer was a great man. He was genuine. In a Thanksgiving proclamation he tried to thank God for the blessings the people were enjoying, and ended by rehearsing the evils of the single standard. But it was rather the cry of one in the wilderness than the trick of a politician. He had a sincere regard for the people's interest. He wanted to see them prosper and to have happy homes. He was a home-loving and truly patriotic citizen. He loved his family; he dealt fairly and generously with his neighbors, and he did not bear false witness against any man. These are the things that endure.

It seems Prince Henry did not show the same amiable disposition during his visit in Ireland which was so manifest during his American tour. The quality of personal amiability probably is no higher developed in the prince than in the plebeian.

OPINIONS OF COMMON PEOPLE.

Jas. Roberts says the election of governor was decided on the issue of labor versus capital. Many Republican workingmen, who got it through their heads how Furnish forced his nomination, voted for his opponent, who was not backed by wealth. Roberts is a Republican born and bred, and, as he has to work for a living, he could not stomach Furnish's nomination, or rather the way he was nominated.

Fred Devitz works in the Stayton sawmill ten hours a day. He has not much time to read, and, as he has only one good eye, he has to pick up most of his news the best way he can. Nevertheless, he is a well posted man. He supported Chamberlain and the rest of the Republican ticket. He was down here as a witness in the courts, and told the reporter who talks to common people that the only kick he had on the government was the large number of people employed around the public institutions, who, apparently, had little or nothing to do. For those the man who works for a living has to put up, in his opinion. There is something in what Mr. Devitz says, and he can see as much with his one eye as we can with two.

John M. Howell is a Republican, and ordinarily does not talk politics very much. He told the Common Reporter that he saw that people in all parties are becoming less partisan, and were going in more for the right of a matter than for the party view. He says it is getting harder to line up the voters for a man for mere party reasons than it used to be. A man who fought the populists in Nebraska tooth and nail told him that when he got through the populists had carried the whole county, and the very next year his taxes were reduced one-half, and he quit fighting popular movements. Mr. Howell said he did not believe in the whole Socialist program, but thought that public ownership of some things was bound to come. People were doing their own thinking, and could see the injustice of working public franchises from the private ownership standpoint.

With 25,000 immigrants on the Atlantic to arrive they will bring the total for May up to 85,000 to 90,000, thus breaking all records for any month in the past 20 years. The number of deportations is on the increase, and the officials are turning back more and more each day, the number being sent back across the ocean and not permitted to land being 750 for May. Being refused admission to the United States and not permitted to land, make those unfortunates feel as if there is no place in the world for them.

An excitable member of the Cuban congress has withdrawn and swears he will never return to the body, because a motion he introduced was tabled. Such temperamental only exists in the tropics; no member of the American congress allows himself to get in such a state of mind, it is said to relate.

The Rock Island railway is making great growth and is rapidly becoming one of the greatest railroad systems of the world. Within five years it will extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the great lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

Uncle Sam, first always among nations in any philanthropic work, was the earliest to bear succor to the Martinique victims. And still Europe says he is cold and grasping in the all-absorbing chase of the almighty dollar.

Fitting indeed were the honors paid by the nation's officials in Washington in memory of the dead British ambassador, Lord Pauncefoot. He was a friend to America, and a man of sterling qualities.

In the words of the prophet, to express the dissatisfaction over the late campaign of all parties, "stretch out upon it the line of confusion and the stores of emptiness."

The assurance of a born Irishman like Frank Davey having German cards printed, and holding himself out for a German, in the late campaign, breaks the record.

Wizard Edison is trying to put the horses out of business again. He has invented another storage battery. But it won't shock the horse. Neigh!

Dr. Von Hollenben, the German ambassador, becomes the dean of the diplomatic corps in Washington, by the death of Lord Pauncefoot.

"Judge" Fred Fontain says the Republican party is out of "gear," but admits the Democrats "Furnished" the governor.

An inch of snow is reported from Ohio. Why could not that storm have waited until July, when they would need it more?

The city of Salem is to be congratulated upon having elected a solid and harmonious delegation to the legislature.

What's the matter with a business man like Tom Kay, Jr., for speaker of the House?

American Trade With Canada.

There has been considerable discussion as to the feasibility of establishing reciprocal trade relations with Canada. Possibly it may be found advantageous, some time in the future, to do so. In the meantime, however, our trade with the Dominion is getting along pretty well without the aid of a reciprocity treaty, and notwithstanding the fact of Canada's preferential tariff of one-third in favor of Great Britain.

Statistics recently issued by the treasury department show that during the first nine months of the current fiscal year the increase in the purchases from us by British North America was larger than the increased purchases of any other political division of the Western Hemisphere. For the first nine months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, our sales to British North America aggregated \$69,763,595. For the corresponding period of 1901 they were \$77,894,138. And for the first nine months of the present fiscal year they amounted to \$80,999,004.

This is a healthy and gratifying increase, especially when it is remembered that our general exports have decreased considerably during the past year. Our sales to Mexico during the first nine months of the current fiscal year increased only about \$2,000,000, while the increase of our trade with the West Indies during the same period amounted to only \$1,000,000. There was a decrease of some \$4,000,000 in our trade with South American countries, and of \$300,000 with the Central American states during the same period, as compared to the first nine months of the preceding year.

The steady increase of our Canadian trade may be strikingly illustrated by going back to 1897—the year in which the dominion government made its first preferential tariff reduction (amounting to 12½ per cent.) in favor of Great Britain. Although this preferential was subsequently raised to 33-1/3 per cent, it has not been sufficient to check the increase of our sales to Canada. These, for the first nine months of the fiscal year 1897, amounted to \$46,752,958, as compared to \$80,999,004 for the corresponding period of the present year, an increase of about 75 per cent.

Better evidence than this of the world-conquering qualities of American goods and American enterprise could hardly be adduced. The figures above cited show that the people of the dominion want our products and will have them in spite of preferential tariffs or other artificial barriers. They also show, quite as clearly, that American enterprise will find a way to enter the markets where our goods are wanted, in spite of unfavorable tariff conditions.

A reciprocity treaty between a country of large population and one of comparatively small population necessarily carries with it an element of unfairness. The more populous country offers a correspondingly larger market. Reciprocity between the United States and Canada would open to the Canadians a market having nearly 80,000,000 consumers while it would open to the United States a market having only about 5,000,000 consumers. The oneness of reciprocity on such terms is obvious. The time has evidently not yet arrived for making radical changes in our tariff relations with Canada. But in the meantime, as above noted, our trade with the dominion is moving along very satisfactorily.

The French visitors that went horse racing with President Roosevelt in a rain storm last Sunday have a concrete idea of his strenuousity that will keep them for a few days.

The duel in the dark was a favorite with duellists. Two men were locked in a dark room and crawled stealthily from corner to corner, until some false step made one of them the target for bullet or blade.

Life is a duel in the dark with disease. One false step, one mistake, and the attack comes swift and sudden. The mistake which commonly opens the way for an attack by disease is neglect of the symptoms of stomach trouble. When eating is followed by undue fullness, belchings, sour or bitter risings, etc., disease is attacking the stomach.

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