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BY HOFER BROS.



HAS OREGON ENTERED UPON A REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD?

While the Republican party has just carried Oregon by 24,000 plurality, and that party has had unbroken power in the legislature, it is a fact that THE ONLY REFORMS UNDERTAKEN IN THIS STATE FOR FIVE YEARS PAST ARE UNREPUBLICAN AND REVOLUTIONARY.

While the Republicans have enacted minor reforms and improvements, the great changes in the governmental policies, and the only constitutional changes have come from POPULIST, SOCIALISTIC AND PROHIBITION SOURCES.

The initiative and referendum was the pet hobby of the Populist party, forced upon TRUCKLING POLITICIANS KNEELING AT THE DEATHBED OF POPULISM.

The only state in the union to adopt THE CENTERPIECE OF THE POPULIST CRAZYQUILT, Oregon has already reaped the harvest in two freak measures—Local Option and Direct Primaries.

At the first shake of the political dice-box Oregon threw axes in drawing out of the Pandora's box of Direct Legislation these TWO MISCONCEIVED ILL-DIGESTED, TROUBLE-PRODUCING MEASURES.

WE ESCAPED WOMAN SUFFERAGE BY A HAIR'S BREADTH. Mrs. Dunsen's mounted female suffrage cavalry, riding straddlewise, came within a few hundred of having enough petitioners to have that question submitted to a popular vote.

WHO CAN DOUBT THE RESULT UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM?

Anyone who can obtain petitioners enough under direct legislation can submit the most surprising and revolutionary propositions.

THE INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM LAW provides that the bill to be voted on can go out with a campaign argument in favor of it.

The voter reads the stump speech that heads the bill. It seems plausible and HE CUTS READING THE REST AND VOTES FOR IT.

Colorado is the farthest advanced of any western state in the development of revolutionary policies and crazy experimentalism.

OREGON IS FAST FOLLOWING IN THAT DIRECTION. If Oregon had the woman suffrage law and the eight-hour law we would be fully abreast of Colorado with experiments and innovations and ready for the first movement that came along to throw the commonwealth out of balance and destroy its stability.

If the Initiative and Referendum is to be tested by the two first measures that have been forced upon the statute books in Oregon IT IS PREGNANT WITH EVIL.

Two preachers without pulpits, ministers without families, and PERSONS WITHOUT PERMANENT RESIDENCE ANYWHERE, come into the state, on salaries from somewhere and by a few months agitation force Local Option upon Oregon, and Oregon taxpayers and producers will have to pay the bill.

Another local politician, with no reputation BUT AS MANAGER OF A HANDFUL OF POPULISTS IN A SENATORIAL HOLDUP GAME, conjures up a direct nomination law that abolishes all political conventions and makes independent candidacies an impossibility. AND THE PEOPLE ADOPT THAT TOO.

THAT BILL IS A MONSTROUSITY, AN ABSURDITY, AND WILL BE SHOT FULL OF HOLES IN THE SUPREME COURT.

The cunningly worded and plausible stump-speech sent out to each voter with the bill did the business. NOT ONE OUT OF TEN EVER READ THE BILL HE VOTED FOR. HE VOTED ON SENTIMENT AND EMOTION.

THIS DIRECT PRIMARY LAW CARRIES THE ESSENCE OF REVOLUTIONARY POWER—abolishing the right of political public assembly, and centralizing and monopolizing political power on a list of voters who are to publicly declare their slavery to party in advance.

DIRECT NOMINATION BY LOCALITIES, EMANATING FROM THE PEOPLE AN ADDITIONAL RIGHT TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES, BUT ABROGATING NONE OF THEIR PRESENT RIGHTS OR PRIVILEGES, IS A SOUND PRINCIPLE. IT CAN BE SAFELY APPLIED TO CITIES.

THAT CUSTOM IS ESTABLISHED IN IOWA, OHIO, AND SOME OTHER STATES. BUT NOWHERE BUT IN OREGON HAS IT BEEN SOLEMNLY ENACTED INTO LAW THAT COUNTY, DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS SHALL BE ABOLISHED.

THOSE STATES GIVE THE PEOPLE ADDITIONAL RIGHTS BUT

TAKE AWAY NO EXISTING RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

THE RIGHT TO PEACEABLY ASSEMBLE AND ORGANIZE POLITICAL MOVEMENTS, TO MAKE PARTY DECLARATIONS, AND NAME CANDIDATES IN HARMONY WITH THOSE PRINCIPLES, IS A POLITICAL CUSTOM UNDERLYING CONSTITUTIONS AND ALL LAWS AND GOVERNMENTS THEMSELVES.

THE NEW DIRECT PRIMARY LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL BECAUSE IT PROPOSES TO SADDLE THE EXPENSE OF A SECOND ELECTION ON THE PEOPLE TO SELECT ONE SET OF OFFICERS.

WHAT IS IT TO THE TAXPAYER THAT HALF A DOZEN INDIVIDUALS IN SOME POLITICAL PARTY ARE STRUGGLING WITH EACH OTHER FOR THE POSSIBLE CHANCE OF BECOMING A MERE CANDIDATE ON ONE PARTY TICKET OR THE OTHER?

WHAT VALUE RECEIVED DOES THE TAXPAYER GET FOR HIS MONEY OUT OF THIS DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION?

THE NOMINEE OF THE DIRECT PRIMARY MAY BE DEFEATED BY THE OTHER PARTY, OR HE MAY DECIDE NOT TO RUN. BUT HIS CAPRICE COSTS MONEY. WHERE WILL THE TAXPAYER EVER GET ANY SERVICE IN RETURN FOR HIS TAXES?

If the taxpayer belongs to any party that costs less than 25 per cent of the vote, this paying taxes for the primary election WILL BE HIS ONLY POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION. He must change quarters, and publicly declare it, or be shut out.

Primary elections to nominate candidates should not be held at public expense, ANY MORE THAN ANY OTHER PARTY CAUCUS, PRIMARY OR CONVENTION.

Of course, such a revolutionary, abortive, rudimentary, obnoxious, miscarriage in the way of proposed legislation WILL BE SHOT FULL OF HOLES WHEN IT GETS BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT.

There are some things that cannot be done by popular vote. You cannot hang a man by general election.

The purpose of this article is not to discuss the details of Direct Legislation, Local Option or Direct Nomination. It is to call attention to the departure from orderly legislative reforms and to show THE ADVANCE IN THE DIRECTION OF CHAOTIC DISORDERLY NON-REFORM.

Oregon should call a halt before sentimentalism has gone to seed. That is what ails Colorado. There political institutions are undermined.

There stability has been knocked into a cocked hat. Colorado politicians yielded to the demands of the nostrum vending demagogues until their streams of STATESMANSHIP ARE SPREAD OUT THIN AND SHALLOW, LIKE THE EVER-WIDENING WATERS OF THE RIVER PLATTE, UNTIL THEY HAVE LOST THEMSELVES IN THE SHIFTING SANDBARS AND QUICKSANDS ON THE TRACKLESS DESERTS OF IRRESPONSIBLE CRAVING FOR EXPERIMENTALISM.

COLORADO HAS REACHED A POINT WHERE THE STABILITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH IS GONE. SHALL OREGON FOLLOW HER EXAMPLE?

COLORADO CANNOT PULL HERSELF TOGETHER AND ESTABLISH THE "STATUS QUO" OF SELF-RESPECTING STATEHOOD WITHOUT A BLOODY REVOLUTION. LET OREGON PAUSE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

PARKER AND THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

The Democratic rule has brought forth a colt. His name is Alton B. Parker, of New York.

He is a lawyer, and has held a judgeship nearly all of his life. HIS NOMINATION IS THE APOTHEOSIS OF JUDICIAL OFFICIALISM.

Unwilling to trust a Democrat who came from the masses of their party THE LEADERS HAVE ENTHRONED A REPRESENTATIVE OF PLETHORIC OFFICIALISM. HE IS SILENT AS A TOADSTOOL ON ALL LIVING ISSUES.

With belated wisdom Bryan declared that Nebraska did not insist on any man for the nomination this time.

Had he taken that position in 1900 BRYAN WOULD HAVE BEEN THE UNANIMOUS NOMINEE TODAY, and would stand a better chance of election than Parker will ever have.

Better belated wisdom than never any wisdom at all. But enforced modesty gives a politician no credit.

Farewell Bryan! Up with Parker, the Democrat, who takes a swim in the Hudson river every morning. THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS TAKEN A BATH.

From Cleveland, the master of the party, we are descended to Parker, who "IS CONTENT TO BE ITS SERVANT."

That is the real secret of his popularity with Hill and the spoils leaders of the Democratic party. HE

IS TO BE THEIR SERVANT, NOT THEIR BOSS. CLEVELAND WAS ALWAYS MASTER OF HIS PARTY.

The hopeless struggle of the second Bryan campaign has given place to the possible dream of success and a President who will be a servant of the leaders. Hence great jubilation.

And the animals went wild with enthusiasm in the big ring of the main circus at St. Louis.

BRYAN, WHO WAS ALL TALK, HAS BEEN SUPERCEDED BY PARKER, WHO IS ALL SILENCE.

Bryan's last speech was made at St. Louis. His prolonged speech for ten years will be succeeded by one prolonged silence.

IN SILENCE IS DEMOCRATIC SAFETY.

PARKER WILL CONTINUE HIS SILENCE.

IF HE IS DEFEATED HE WILL REMAIN SILENT FOR FOUR YEARS AND AGAIN BECOME THE SILENT CANDIDATE.

IN SILENCE THERE IS STRENGTH. SPEECH IS SILVER, BUT SILENCE IS GOLDEN, IS HIS MOTTO.

Like Peter the Silent, in Irving's Knickerbocker, Parker the Silent was silent even as to platform.

He was asked by David B. Hill what kind of a platform would he like to run upon. He replied:

"I AM ENTIRELY WILLING TO LEAVE THAT TO THE WISDOM OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY."

But a political party has no more wisdom than its leaders, and if he is not the leader, who is?

He would not even say that he favored or opposed a gold plank in the Democratic platform, until after he was nominated. He would leave that to the wisdom of the party. HE WOULD RUN ON ANY PLATFORM THE PARTY WOULD MAKE.

But Parker is excusable for his silence on the money question. That chasm in his party can only be closed by silence. AND PARKER WILL FURNISH THE CEMENT.

The gold plank was rejected because it would have been recognition of an existing fact.

IT WOULD SEEM THAT A MATTER TWICE DECISIVELY DECIDED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE could with safety be recognized even by the Democratic party.

BUT PARKER'S OPINIONS ARE WRAPPED IN MYSTERY. SILENCE IS ROUND ABOUT HIM.

His platform is Democratic "BECAUSE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY."

The hotel keeper was asked what were his political principles? "PRINCIPLES," he shouted, "I HAVEN'T GOT ANY, I'M IN THE HOTEL BUSINESS."

The silent Parker's platform declares its "DEVOTION TO THE ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF THE DEMOCRATIC FAITH."

What does that mean? THAT PARTY ONCE HAD FAITH IN SLAVERY AS THE CORNERSTONE OF FREE INSTITUTIONS. IT IS STILL DEVOTED TO THAT "ESSENTIAL OF DEMOCRATIC FAITH?"

That party ONCE HAD FAITH IN THE RIGHT OF STATES TO REBEL. IS IT STILL DEVOTED TO THAT ESSENTIAL OF DEMOCRATIC FAITH?

That party ONCE HAD FAITH IN THE RIGHT OF STATES TO SECEDE and withdraw from the Union. Has it still devotion to that "ESSENTIAL OF DEMOCRATIC FAITH?"

Wouldn't it have sounded just as well if the Parker platform had declared its devotion to the:

ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION, OF A REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

TO THE FLAG AND AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS.

That would have sounded infinitely better than "essential principles of Democratic faith."

The arker anything-to-win Democratic platform PUTS PARTY ABOVE COUNTRY IN THE FIRST PLANK OF ITS PLATFORM.

Taken all-in-all, the St. Louis convention has made the best of a difficult situation.

IT PUTS A SILENT CANDIDATE ON PRACTICALLY A SILENT PLATFORM.

Parker and his platform will be greeted with a great and prolonged silence by the voters.

A positive man, who has ideas and convictions, and is not afraid to act, still less to speak, would have been received with rejoicings.

GARRULITY HAS BEEN SUCCEEDED BY TIMIDITY—BRYAN BY PARKER.

Free silver fulminations from the breezy prairies of Nebraska have been displaced by the excessive fungus of Empire state conservatism.

"LARYNGEAL ACTIVITY" IS TO BE SUCCEEDED BY CLOSE-MOUTHED, PADLOCKED BEL-MONTEAN STATESMANSHIP.

Compare the silent obsequious of face-holding partisan Parker to the

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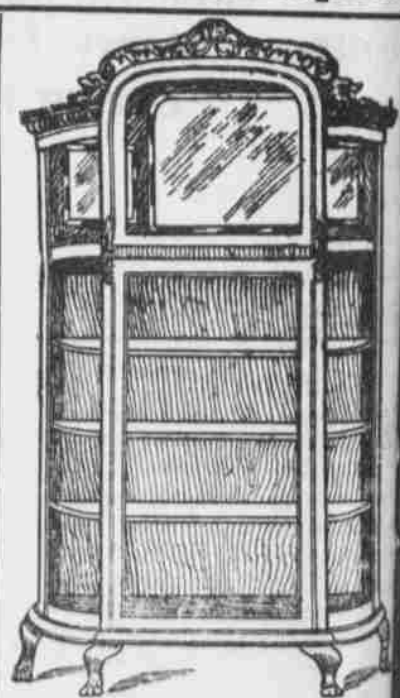
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X-RADIUMS

Democrats all admit that the money question is not paramount this year. But it is no fault of theirs that it is not.

Democrats are denouncing

Mr. Bryan for standing on the platform of his party. There is no other political organization in the world that places a premium on desertion.

Democrats promise to slough off the scabs of Populism and Socialism, but it will take a good deal of time for the sores to heal sufficiently to warrant them in appearing in public.

There is more prospect of the Republicans carrying Missouri than there is of their losing New York.

The Republican party found an empty treasury and a financial discredited government in 1897. These have

given place to a large accumulation of gold than has been seen elsewhere in any age, and a financial market that ranks first in the world's markets.

Veterans of the Civil War are convinced that the only way to escape the criticisms of the Democrats on the pension question is to

His last public appearance man was asked to preside over the Democratic platform

What? Did the Democrats form forget all about public frauds? Yes?