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BY HOFER BROS.



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OREGON'S EVIL GENIUS.

What is the peculiar brand of evil genius that is pursuing Oregon anyhow?

After breaking up the lethargy of the ages and beginning general state development, now we are to be indicted as a nest of unworthy land stealers.

For the first time we get a big appropriation and have a delegation working in political harmony, when all are to be branded and retired from usefulness.

A few years ago we lumbered along with a one-legged representation in the senate and two congressmen who could not agree on anything.

Then when we began to build the canal at The Dalles and open the Columbia and prepare to hold a world's fair, the interior department starts a war on the whole state.

Then we give President Roosevelt forty thousand and fire the opening gun in his triumphant Presidential campaign only to have John Hall summarily removed and the merry war goes on.

Are we then so much more corrupt politically and lacking in general honesty and integrity than the other Pacific Coast states that all the infamy of the land fraud business is to be heaped on poor old Oregon?

What crime have our forefathers committed that all the harsh things should come our way? Say, Mr. President, can't you shy a few bricks at one of the other states in the Union? We've had about all the bad advertising we can stand up under and keep in the happy family of progress and expansion.

Of course, Oregon gets a whole lot of advertising out of it all. The whole world is learning where we are and that there must be rich resources here which everybody is trying to steal.

But they will not stop! They are even talking of coming up to Salem and standing up some of our prominent citizens, getting old honored citizens out of bed at midnight and sending the cold shivers down their backs.

Oregon has only this consolation. We are not being forgotten. It is better to be indicted and even prosecuted than to be forgotten in this strenuous age of the world.

A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Senator Brownell has again introduced his bill for a convention to revise the constitution of Oregon.

He has had that bill before the legislature a number of times and at the last session it came very near passing.

It passed the senate with almost no opposition and in the house it lacked but one vote of passing.

Public sentiment has increased in favor of the bill and the chances are Oregon will see a constitutional convention at last.

The amendment of the constitution by adding the initiative and the referendum have left the ancient document somewhat demoralized.

The decision of the supreme court that only one amendment can be submitted while others are pending makes revision almost indispensable.

The old Oregon constitution was drawn up by able men. It is a very ably written document. It is short and generally clear.

But many of its provisions have been outgrown. Some are obsolete, and others are respected neither in letter or spirit.

The constitution of a state is a living organism. Parts of it are always going into oblivion and other parts are coming into existence.

So the legislature had probably bet-

ter take the bull by the horns and make provisions for a new constitution.

Fifty years is about as long as any of the state constitutions last. Senator Brownell's bill should meet with no opposition.

THE FLAT SALARY REFORM.

This reform, first championed by The Journal three years ago, will probably be enacted at this session.

Bills have been introduced in both houses, and while they differ in detail, the principle involved should carry and go into effect.

The flat salary bill passed the house at the last session, but failed in the senate for lack of one vote on the last night of the session.

Senator Pierce then voiced the true sentiment of those who advocate this reform—pass any kind of a flat salary law.

Any kind of a flat salary law, that fixes fairly just salaries, will be more just and equitable than the present system.

It cannot well be less constitutional than the present method of compensation. As originally designed it was expected that the fees collected would defray expenses of clerical aid required. But such has not been the result.

A NEEDED AMENDMENT.

The constitution of Oregon may be entirely displaced with a new instrument drawn up by a constitutional convention.

But in case that is not done then the constitution should be amended so that any number of amendments can be introduced.

Under the decision of the supreme court, if an amendment is pending then only one amendment can be offered at one session.

This continually blocks the rapid amendment of the constitution, and makes it impossible to keep that instrument up to date.

The wise founders of our commonwealth were doubtless actuated by patriotic motives in making this restriction on rapid amendment.

If some member will have this amendment drawn up and introduced he will be conferring a favor on the people, even if there is a constitutional convention ordered.

SCAN THE LAND BILLS CAREFULLY.

The present attorney-general seems disposed to give the state land board and the state generally the best of his advice on land matters.

He says the state has suffered the great losses of school lands and swamp lands and mineral base on account of laws previously passed that made the frauds possible.

For this reason the members of the legislature better scan very closely the land laws introduced at this session.

Who can doubt that new and plausible legislation will be offered behind which some great fraud is lurking?

None of these land bills are devised or promoted without some interest being behind them. Is the interest unselfish? That is the question to be asked in every instance.

ANTI-CIGARETTE CAMPAIGN.

The Lincoln School Pupils Are Addressed by General Superintendent—Other Meetings Planned.

The active campaign against the cigarette in Salem was inaugurated this morning by Prof. Traver, in the public school system. Dr. Struble, the general superintendent of the International League, addressed the pupils of the Lincoln school, meeting them in two general assemblies. The young people were much interested in the remarks of the lecturer, and the outlook is favorable for a large enrollment in the league membership. A second meeting in this school will be held tomorrow afternoon at the close of school at which time the officers of the league will be chosen, and steps taken for permanent organization. Tomorrow morning the lecturer will speak before the pupils of the Park school, and in the afternoon in the Central schools.

This afternoon a conference is being held with the ministers, looking to the holding of a popular public meeting at some central auditorium next Sunday. It is expected that this meeting will be largely attended by the young leaguers and their friends.

Circuit Court Proceedings.

Judge Barnett this morning held a short session of department No. 1 of the circuit court, and postponed the case of C. P. King, charged with larceny from a building, until the next regular term of court, on motion of District Attorney McNary. H. J. Digger is attorney for defendant.

The Ryan case was also postponed until next Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, when it will probably reach a final conclusion.

For Sale.

Hot home-made chicken tamales at the Noble saloon. Phone Main 81. 1-16-35

X-RAYS

He skates on thin ice who skates on speculation.

Vanity will hold no mortgage that flattery will not conceal.

He fights with the pen whose pen is mightier than his sword.

Merit sometimes needs an introduction, but never recommendation.

Well, the Chamberlain message was something of a roast in its way.

Hash is the committee of the whole in the parliament of the legislative boarding-house menu.

The bills have been introduced; the committees have been organized, and now the battle may begin.

For one of the boys from the cow counties Henry Sonnemann hasn't done so very badly on the committees.

Don't speak your mind too freely, for it may be what you term your mind is not the real thing after all.

There are some who shudder at the idea of giving 30 days before the legislature meets to have bills printed.

Col. Maehen, of Portland, favors establishment of a merchant marine. If any Col. favors it that ought to settle the matter.

The legislators who wanted to get on the ways and means, the railroad, the judiciary and the printing committee were legion.

A Minnesota man has two stomachs. Perhaps Rockefeller would trade him a can of oil for one of them if it is in good working condition.

It's all right to have an ambition, but don't get into the front pages of the newspapers with it until you have the votes to land the office.

Senators Farrar and Hobson seem to have had the political sagacity to get into positions on the committees where they can be of some use to their constituents.

Well, Jos. G. Graham was not overlooked in the appointments to good places on the committees. He has about four of the best committees in the house.

It is purely accidental, of course, but hard on the members, that two of the handsomest members, Vawter of Jackson and Flint of Washington should occupy seats together.

The average legislator can now truthfully tell that applicant for a committee clerkship that he did not get onto the right committee or he could have fixed the matter all right.

If we were to announce that you could get this paper 30 days for the price of seven beers, every descendant of Adam would know that meant 35 cents. But if we were to say that it would be sent three months for the price of a hymn book, half of them wouldn't know whether we had raised the subscription rate or were giving the paper away.

The Western Lady, of Portland, Oregon, edited and published by a man, has reached the third number and has for a title page this week a determined-looking party with a snub nose and well-developed and firmly modeled chin that looks like a projectoscope that was liable to go off at any moment. One of the leading editorials informs the suffering and submerged sex that a stenographer possessed of good looks does not need a diploma from a business college or to be able to spell well. There is also a leading article on the pretty Pettigrew girl whose picture is worn in the lockets of fourteen young men in the town where she lives. Such pernicious influences are what prejudices many men against giving women the ballot and to feel that the safe-guard of the Republic would be overthrown if they were allowed to vote.

This writer goes a great deal on the Salvation Army, so far as their reaching a degraded class who cannot be aroused to a maddening desire for respectability in any other way. But the last number of the War Cry has a title page that exposes the ancient superstition that women must go to man for wisdom. The picture represents the Queen of Sheba coming to old King Solomon anxiously searching for the wise article—a queen in search of wisdom. She is a stunning fine-looking woman and old Sol is sitting on his throne wrapped up in solemnity and a yellow hare-blanket with a red border. His whiskered majesty fairly drools with wisdom, but we would not be afraid to bet that there are forty young women hanging around the Oregon legislature who would not have to go to old Solomon to get wise and some of them could come pretty near making a fool of the old man. The War Cry ought to know that women of today have outgrown Solomon.

ANY
SUIT
in the
STORE
\$10

What would you do if you were a big Clothier and had more stock on hand than you could sell this season.

Would you keep your money tied up until next year---let the stock get rusty---get tired of showing it---start next season with a half new stock?

Or would you say: "We'll lose a little money now; bring in some people who haven't been buying of us; make them happy; and when they come next year show them something they have never seen before, here or anywhere else?"

You've answered our question. We're after you, not for today alone: but for as long as you live.

G. W. Johnson & Co.

Clothiers Hatters Furnishers

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The county attorneys' law will doubtless pass at this session. It would be a great saving to the state.

Farmer Peter McArthur, as chief clerk of the legislature. The farmers can't say they were not recognized.

The speaker is business. His committees are announced a week earlier than in 1903. Harris made them public January 21st.

Speaker Mills arrived with his committee tightly buttoned on the inside of his coat. For a little while he was the most interesting person in the house.

Speaker Mills is somewhat of a parliamentarian himself. He asked the house clerks to enter no more committee reports as having been "received." Reports are "received" as soon as they are submitted to the house. Reports are either "approved," adopted, rejected or laid on the table.

Instead of building a new asylum building, would it not be just as well to change the law a little, and not make it so easy to send old people and hysterical women to the asylum? A reputable physician says that about one-third of the people kept there at the expense of the state are not insane by a scientific definition of the term.

Walter Lyon, who was private secretary to Governor Geer and manager of his senatorial candidacy, and present editor of a live Republican paper in Polk county, has this on the organization of the senate "The first one to weaken among the opposition was Senator Farrar, of Marion. T. B. Kay, the defeated candidate for speaker, is said to have influenced Farrar to give in, but this is hardly the fact. If there was any cause other than Farrar's inability to stand out against persuasion that moved him, it came from a higher power, politically, than Kay."

The legislature has but one course to pursue in the matter of the governor's

veto—it has its instructions from the Oregonian.

Advertises In the Dull Season



In an interview in the Meriden (Conn.) Journal, Henry C. Bibeau, grocer and one of the most successful merchants in that place, said:

"Of course every one knows that times are not as good just now as they were a little while ago, and a great many merchants are retrenching in their advertising, putting up the plea that they cannot afford increases. That is an entirely wrong view to take. Since the 1st of June I have tripled my advertising in the daily papers, and the results are surprisingly good. The time to retrench in your advertising is when your departments are doing all they can. It isn't necessary to advertise then.

"I am now using more space than I ever used, and the result is more than satisfactory.

"People always respond to good advertising, and one need have no fear of the efforts going amiss.

"I keep a separate record of each department and when one of them shows a falling off I give it a dose of medicine in the shape of ads, which always proves effective."

This direct testimony on an important point should interest advertisers who are in the habit of dropping out in the dull season.

SETTING THE PACE

Raymond Duncan, An American, Creates Sensation in Paris

Paris, Jan. 16.—Raymond Duncan of California, a brother of the famous dancer, Isador Duncan, has startled Paris by parading the boulevards attired in a classic Greek costume, with a tunic reaching to his knees, with bare legs and a wreath crowning his flowing hair. He several times narrowly escaped arrest by the police objecting to the costume as immodest. Mr. Duncan was recently married to a Greek girl.

Murder and Suicide.

Trinidad, Jan. 16.—During a sudden attack of insanity Frank House fatally wounded his wife, while the latter was lying in bed, and then blew out his own brains.

Will Investigate Miners' Strike.

Berlin, Jan. 19.—The minister of commerce has appointed commissioners to inquire into the coal miners' strike, with a view to interposing if necessary.

Decision Reversed.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The supreme court today reversed the decision of the district court of St. Louis, and granted Senator Burton, of Kansas, a new trial.

Clean Cooking

That's what we give our customers. We buy the best provisions and don't spoil them in cooking.

MAC
SMITH'S
CAFE

"A multitude of small expenditures make you poor; just so, a multitude of small savings make you rich."

The habit of saving is the direct road to prosperity. We solicit the accounts of those who wish to save a part of their income and place it where it will be earning something. Interest paid on deposits of one dollar or more, which can be made at any time.

Savings Department
Capital National Bank