

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL EDITORIAL PAGE

FEDERAL, STATE AND CITY OF PORTLAND POLITICS WRITTEN ON THE SPOT

Searchlight Information Given in This Newspaper About Oregon Public Men and Circumstances

(The Daily Capital Journal Editorial Headquarters at the New Lange Hotel, Sixth and Washington Streets.)

Portland, May 25th.

The editor of this paper wishes it distinctly understood that he is not a candidate for any office. **HE PREFERS FREEDOM TO SPEAK OF THINGS AS THEY APPEAR TO HIM**, to entering to any set of bosses for office. If there is anything on this earth that ought to disgust **HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY, THE SOVEREIGN AMERICAN CITIZEN**, it is the good-lord, good-devil politician chasing after every office that comes across the range of his mental vision. When the people get one of these fellows into office they haven't got anything worth mentioning. I would rather be a king on the throne of a small country newspaper that is earning me an honest living than sell out a single conviction or the right to express it to get any office. So all the aspirants for state and county offices can sail in and count me out. Not one of them in the office of congressman or United States senator will be as happy as I will be out of them.

Quite a bunch of candidates are getting into the field for nominations. Dr. Withycombe, who was state veterinarian under Penney, and director of the government experiment station, shows quite a following at the Granges for governor. He was at the Pendleton Good Roads Convention with Governor Chamberlain. Both made speeches, and Chamberlain was able to capture the crowd more completely than Withycombe. It will take quite a strong, meaningful man, different from what the tall tower influences have allowed to get before the people, **TO HOLD HIS OWN WITH A KEEN, PRACTICAL LAWYER AND POLITICIAN LIKE CHAMBERLAIN**. And he would divide the Grange vote with any man.

John Daly, who, as surveyor-general, is getting \$1800 a year, would take the office of secretary of state at \$5000, if the Republicans would nominate him. Hon. F. T. Wrightman, of Marion county, who was sheriff, and is corporation clerk, would also take this office. Claud Hatch is talked of for state treasurer. That is a most important office. A great deal of revenue could be secured from the half million or more idle surplus cash held by the state. It is stated that Ladd & Bush's bank, at Portland, and other large banks at Portland hold hundreds of thousands of dollars of state funds. The Ladd & Bush bank at Portland **PAYS FOUR PER CENT ON TIME DEPOSITS**, and at that rate an average surplus of half a million should bring the state \$20,000 a year. I saw a bunch of Ladd & Bush time certificates in a country bank the other day, all drawing four per cent. I was told they financed such concerns as the Portland Flouring Mills Co. to the amount of millions and made good rates of interest. Of course, these are only hearsay stories, yet **WHEN BANKERS TELL THEM, THEY MUST CONTAIN SOME TRUTH**.

SUPPOSE I OUGHT NOT TO PUBLISH SUCH THINGS. But I honestly believe that the state treasury should be handled for the sole benefit of the taxpayers, and not for the treasurer or any bank or group of banks. I assume that any candidate of the Republican party would do his duty by the people, under the law, as he found it, and would not blame him or the Ladd & Bush bank at Portland, or any other bank for handling the funds under the laws, as they find them. The main fact to be kept in view is to get a treasurer and secretary of state **WHO WOULD NOT BE PLEDGED AND EVERLASTINGLY TIED UP TO CONTINUE THE ANCIENT GRAFT**, but get men who would help break it.

THE INFLUENCE OF THESE STATE OFFICIALS OVER THE LEGISLATURE IS ENORMOUS. They can help pass laws to reform these departments or they can kill all such efforts at reform. Let it be more discussed, what aspirants for office propose to do for the people after they get into office. **THE RIGHT KIND OF MEN IN THESE OFFICES** of secretary of state and treasurer would not only make those offices produce much revenue to the state, but would reduce taxes. All that I am saying is not personal as to present incumbents of those offices, or as to would-be incumbents. I am only using their aspirations **AS A PEG TO HANG A LITTLE FREE TALK UPON** about these departments of state.

I honestly believe if the press would let all the information come out in its true perspective, we would get better conditions, better laws and better service out of the men we elect. **THE PEOPLE WANT BETTER RESULTS, AND WHY NOT ALL HELP GET THEM?**

State Game Warden Baker has been in Portland the past week. He has just convicted a man at McMinnville for killing a deer last January, and seems disposed to enforce the game law impartially. Recently he found his deputy at Portland screening some wealthy friends of his, who had been killing game out of season, and **DEMANDED HIS IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION**. Baker means the hodge-podge of legislation called the state game laws shall be enforced and respected if possible. He did not make those laws, but he took an oath to enforce them, as he found them on the books. This spring **HE CAUGHT ONE OF HIS OWN BONDSMEN VIOLATING THE GAME LAW** in Lane county, and started in to prosecute, but the judge would not stand for it.

The fight on Oregon land frauds began when Surveyor-General Meldrum was appointed. Much loose and careless work had been done. Hitchcock sent out Inspector Greene, and Meldrum told him to go to the red hot place. Well, he didn't go, but proceeded to dig up casual information about defective records and technical violations by persons taking up public lands in Oregon. Then Hermann locked horns with Hitchcock, and that concentrated the attention of the department upon Oregon still more. The best informed say **OREGON HAS BEEN THE LEAST GUILTY OF LAND FRAUDS OF ANY COAST STATE. WE CANNOT HOLD A CANDLE TO WASHINGTON OR CALIFORNIA**. But we have had to stand the whole brunt of the attack. We have got the bad reputation, the evil reports, the unsavory advertising. All the indictments and trials and convictions have been here. All the manifestations of Hineyism have been here.

I want to call attention to the contrast between the work that John Manning is doing and that which Heney did. When a malevolent distorted grand jury indicted Mayor Williams and other good men on mere technical or constructive offenses, he discharged the grand jury and dismissed the indictments. Then Manning proceeded to get indictments of contractors and other real offenders. **HE MADE NO GRAND-STAND PLAYS**, did not give out what he was going to do in the newspaper, did not publish indictments

before they were made, did not demand special officers, or bulldoze jurors who would not agree to convict, but has gone ahead fairly and impartially to do his duty. In other words District Attorney Manning has conducted trials in a gentlemanly, orderly manner, has not asked any unfair advantage over accused men, in order to convict them. He seems satisfied to give every man his day in court, a fair trial, and he has been securing convictions that will stick. The failure of Heney to secure conviction in the Sorensen case, his reprimand of the jurors, **HIS DRAGGING THOSE INTO COURT WHO STOOD OUT AGAINST A VERDICT**, are all fresh in the minds of the people, and are being contrasted with District Attorney Manning's **MORE EFFECTIVE, IF LESS PYROTECHNIC DISPLAYS AS A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR**.

Whether the President would appoint Judge Lowell or Justice Beas would not make much difference. Both are clean, capable, honest men for the place. **BOTH WOULD DO THEIR DUTY AT ENFORCING THE LAWS IN GENERAL**. Whether they would take the **WESTERN VIEW** of public land matters, or the **WASHINGTON VIEW** is uncertain. The Washington view seems to be that land administration has been particularly lax in Oregon, that frauds have been far-reaching, and corruption and crookedness general. **THAT THE PRESIDENT BELIEVES IN GOING TO THE BOTTOM IN OREGON NO ONE CAN DOUBT**. Right there Mr. Heney steps in and says, I want no Oregon politicians for judge. Therefore, Senator Fulton will hardly be allowed to name the judge. Fulton is one of the dominant machine faction. Any friend of his would be a friend of the rest of the delegation. **NO SUCH MAN IS WANTED**. Chances are Mr. Heney will submit a man to Mr. Fulton, to take or leave.

There has been stopping at the Hotel Portland for a few days Chas. H. Robb, assistant attorney-general of the United States. I have not met him, because I do not stop at the Waldorf-Astoria of the Oregon four hundred. Not being on the government payroll, I stop at one of the cheaper hotels, where herd the traveling men, cattle-punchers and country produce dealers from the cow counties. So far I have to take the Oregonian for it that this special agent of the government is "here to confer with Mr. Heney in regard to the appointment of a federal judge to succeed Bellinger." Mr. Heney is the non-resident U. S. district attorney sent here to try the land fraud cases.

Of course, the **FEDERAL JUDICIARY MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE PEOPLE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE**. A man sent here to prosecute must make suggestions to another government official who is sent here to investigate as to who is a proper man for judge. They stop at the Waldorf-Astoria at \$10 a day and get into touch with a select few of the Four Hundred and agree on a man for life to transact business for the people. They may soon select a man who will be a **PERFECT TOOL OF THE GREAT CORPORATIONS**. Under the magic influence of the tall tower they may select **AN EXTREME REPRESENTATIVE OF CAPITALISM**, or he may be the choice of a small faction of the Republican party. Whatever they say goes. They may decide to name a man for Oregon like Johnny Barrett, whom nobody knows.

The great free people of an independent commonwealth are declared incapable of even recommending a proper man for federal judge. It must be done for them by imported agents. Above all, Oregon's representatives in Congress and the Senate are not to be consulted or considered. If it is true that Mr. Hitchcock, of the interior department, objected to Mr. Dimmick, of Coos county, as an official of the Roseburg land office **BECAUSE HE WAS A FRIEND OF MITCHELL**, it is probable that Mr. Moody, of the law de-

partment will object to any man who is or has been a friend of Mitchell **FOR FEDERAL JUDGE**. Does it not seem as if there were a strong desire on the part of the powers that be to get rid of the present delegation in Congress, and make room for others? And who are to be the others, the people of Oregon are asking. Will the new Senators and new Congressmen who are to displace Mitchell, Hermann and Williamson **HAVE TO BE HITCHCOCK MEN**, who favor putting us all under forest reserves? Shall the new federal judge be an Attorney-General Moody man? Shall the big timber and cattle syndicates be protected in stealing lands, or five or six hundred of my constituents in Marion county who are trying to grab a quarter section of land somewhere in Oregon? **WHOSE OX SHALL BE GORED? WHOSE CATTLE ARE WE ANYWAY?** If I had my way I would name men who would protect the bona fide residents of Oregon as against such a lustrated, triple-plated steal as the Northern Pacific, getting 500,000 acres of the finest unsurveyed timber lands in Oregon. As Lawyer Cotton, of the O. R. & N. Co., says: "It all **DEPENDS ON WHOSE S-N-O-F-A BUTCHER YOU ARE ANYWAY**."

It may be set down as irrevocable, that Senator Charles W. Fulton, of Oregon, **WILL NOT CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF HENRY E. MCGINN**, to succeed Judge Bellinger. Mr. Fulton lives at Astoria and has donned his warpaint and feathers, and they are not chicken feathers, but plucked from the tail of the fishing eagle, a bird that proudly floats over the waters of the Columbia. He will not lie down like the lamb inside of **THE LION, WHOSE LAIR IS IN THE TALL TOWER**, and be made mincemeat of in the Heney-Scott-McGinn political meat-chopper. He will not consent to the confirmation of Heney's man, Reed, for marshal, or Heney's man, McGinn, for federal judge. If these things are done they must be done over the defiant protest of the junior senator from Oregon, reinforced by such public sentiment as may exist in Oregon now or hereafter. That Fulton is capable of putting up a fight has been shown on several occasions. When he helped the sheriff of Clatsop county capture some housebreakers and shot a man dead in his tracks who would have killed the officer. He showed it when he put up the fight for senator against the Scott-Geer-McGinn combination in the legislature of 1903, **WINNING OUT AGAINST THE CORPORATION SACK WITHOUT A DOLLAR OR THE EMPLOYMENT OF CORRUPTIVE METHODS**. All that is history and it looks as if **ANOTHER CHAPTER WOULD BE ADDED**. If Fulton does stand up and fight for his right as a man, a senator and a Republican, he will command respect even of the influences hostile to Oregon. So far it does not appear that Fulton has been turned down by the administration. The Reed appointment was sprung on the President after Congress had adjourned and when there was not time to confer. The Reed job will last one summer. Fulton has secured personal friends of his in the Silverton post-office, and at least one in the Roseburg land office—Col. B. J. Eddy. It is an interesting situation as the matter stands, and Oregon politics double discounts the plays of Julius Caesar by Shakespeare.

Columns and columns have been written about General Manager Worthington, who was sent to Portland a few months ago by Mr. Harriman, and who is now said to have been hired to manage one of the Gould roads. He was a sub-official, (superintendent of supply department) in the Chicago offices of the Harriman lines. Great things as usual were expected of him in Oregon, when **IN REALITY HE HAD NO MORE THAN MERELY PERFUNCTORY AUTHOR-**

ITY to sign reports, and go out on jollies and junkets about the state. His successor is Mr. Buckingham, of Salt Lake, and the Oregonian suggests that he will probably be removed as soon as he learns anything about conditions. Mr. Calvin, who was at Portland a few months took a **SOFT SPOKEN INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENT** work, but never had any real authority or enthusiasm for extension work. Mr. Markham was brought back from Texas and all true friends of these railroads rejoiced that here was a man coming back who would do something for the development of the state. But as soon as the Gould lines learned of his qualities through this newspaper, **THEY HIRED HIM AWAY**. A first class, progressive railroad man in big demand and can get employment on almost his own terms. **THERE IS REALLY A GRAND FIELD FOR SUCH MEN IN OREGON**. A later report has it that Worthington is to be superintendent of a terminal system at Pittsburgh, and we may look for some **EXALTED SPOTTER OF PEANUT VENDERS** to be made minister plenipotentiary of the Harriman syndicate in Oregon. Really, if Mr. Harriman could look through undimmed glasses he would put a general manager to developing his Oregon properties along progressive lines, and he would find this a wonderful state. If he doesn't he is quite likely to conclude we are a wonderful people.

It has all been determined over and over again that **NO TRANSCONTINENTAL LINE SHALL BE PERMITTED TO BUILD TO THE PACIFIC COAST**. All friction between the Northern Securities group and the Harriman lines is to be avoided. There will be no rushes of any line to get into new territory in the Northwest. Oregon extensions, if any, will be small and unimportant. **THERE IS PEACE ON THE WABASH**. We are all to be farmed out in the Great Pacific Northwest into pretty little cabbage patches. Jim Hill and Harriman each solemnly promises to confine his activities to his individual truck garden. The greater problems of development are not to concern them. Foolish pioneer railroad builders, **WHO PROJECTED LINES INTO NEW COUNTRIES**, like the Goulds and Vanderbilts, Villards, Stanfords and Huntingtons, and awaited prospective developments to make them millionaires are out-of-date. The new policy is to hold what you have, **LET THE COUNTRY DEVELOP WITHOUT YOU, AND SQUEEZE EVERY LAST DOLLAR OUT OF THE SITUATION**. The people are bound to produce and consume and multiply. We owe them nothing, but are here to carry them back and forth and put on all the traffic will bear. In the meantime as fast as the property will earn dividends, **ISSUE MORE STOCKS AND BONDS**. Keep out competition. Divide the territory. Prevent unprofitable construction. Absorb earnings with high salaries and in rebuilding broken down lines in other states. That is the mind picture that was revealed to me by a conversation between some of the minor officials of the "system" on a Pullman palace car the other day where I had a seat and was grinding out copy for the Journal readers, I give it for what it is worth. It sounds to me like a straight tip from the regions of high finance, where the gentlemen who parcel our country out like a checkerboard are moved about like pawns by King Rockefeller, or dance the can can to the Wall Street fiddle of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., the New York agents of the foreign bondholders. Well, **WE ARE A GREAT COUNTRY, AND HARRIMAN, HILL, ET AL ARE STRICTLY IT**.

Dr. Harry Lane is putting up a snappy fight for the mayorality of Portland. **WHETHER YOU LIKE PORTLAND, WHETHER YOU LIKE HIM OR NOT, HIS SPEECHES ARE RACY**. He seems to think it makes a slight difference whether one row of bricks or two or three go into a sewer wall. He throws down the gauntlet to the dive-keeper and the walking delegate and for the prostitute who leads a fuzzy blanketed poodle by a string. He asks the support of the women and that is always good politics. In talking with those who cater to the sporting element I learn that they blame Tom Word, the Democratic sheriff, **FOR WHATEVER THERE IS OF A CLOSED TOWN**. They say Blazier, who keeps some of the largest places of amusement, spent \$10,000 to elect Word and **HIS HOUSE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST CLOSED UP**. These men say Williams is their friend and the champion of an open town. Jos. Fones, a policeman, says there has been great improvement under Williams. The policemen do not get drunk and gamble as they used to do. A saloonman on Washington street says he is forced to close at midnight, while the big concert saloons and gambling places are allowed to run all night. He has lost \$2000 the past year and curses the Williams administration. Jerry Lushick,

the Greek oyster house man, who has been in Portland for twenty years, says **THE TOWN IS DEAD BECAUSE THE SPORTING ELEMENT ARE UNDER THE BAN OF TOM WORD AND THAT WILLIAMS IS ALL RIGHT**. A bunch of sports who follow the race track arrived on the boat from Frisco Thursday morning and told me Portland was the best town on the coast after the Bay City for their profession. I figure it all up that **WILLIAMS GETS ANY REPUBLICAN VOTES** he will be elected by from 100 to 5000 majority. For he certainly is solid with the sporting classes. On the other hand Dan Vollmer, a Salem man who holds a chair in one of the big barbershops, says there is the same talk and feeling in the air there was when Word and Manning and Chamberlain were elected. He says the race will be close and Lane may win. He says the independent voters who get no graft out of politics are all for Lane. Now, there you have all I have heard on the subject at Portland, circulating not in the Arlington or Commercial clubs, but among the mudsill element of society, **DOWN AMONG THE COMMON SUBSTRATUM OF SOCIETY**, where people are more apt to have real feelings and express honest thoughts.

It is characteristic of the Portland Fair management to bid for popularity with other states, **FEELING THAT OREGON BELONGS TO THEM ANYHOW**. The matter of state pride does not enter into their calculations. Washington in many respects is more to them than Oregon. So it happens that the Washington Agricultural College cadets get a prominent place in the official parade at the opening of the Lewis and Clark Fair, **AND THE OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE CADETS ARE LEFT OUT**. Some of the Oregon friends of that school are up in arms and say the Oregon Farmers' College shall be represented. The Oregon college cadets are a larger, finer, better-drilled body of men. But they were not invited, not officially recognized, and if they get into the forced put, **AND THEY WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO MARCH BEHIND THE WASHINGTON BOYS**. At the State Grange, Grand Master Leedy's official report deplors the lack of a suitable girl's dormitory at the State Agricultural college. He says **THE PRESENT GIRLS' DORMITORY IS A DISGRACE TO THE STATE**. This was applauded and shows what will happen when it comes to voting on the general appropriation bill now tied up with the referendum. It carries an appropriation for a girls' dormitory at the Corvallis school. All the farmers interested in that school will vote for the bill to get that. Each county that has an institution provided for by an appropriation will do the same **AND THE BILL WILL PASS**. In the meantime it will be tied up for two years. Over a million of taxes will be collected and piled up in the state treasury to be loaned out to the banks. The same banks will advance the money to carry the expenses of the state. They will buy claims against the state at a discount, and in the end **REAP A DOUBLE HARVEST OF THE DISCOUNT AND INTEREST**. In the end the taxpayer will pay the whole bill. All the schools will run on and be provided for. Capital will be diverted from legitimate channels, improvements will be delayed and the state injured.

It is a dear school of politics we are learning the lessons of government in. But if the people cannot accomplish reforms in any other way **THEY WILL ACCOMPLISH THEM IN THIS WAY**. If I am any good at guessing the next legislature will be run on different lines.

The failure of proper state pride to provide a suitable Oregon mining exhibit again displays the disposition of the Portland fair managers to cater to other states more than their own. Oregon puts up the \$500,000 for Portland to **BOOST PORTLAND AND OTHER STATES**. One would have thought that with our undeveloped mineral wealth, a state mining exhibit filling a whole building would have been in order. But not so. The space in the mining building was sold to concessions. An addition is erected and that not half big enough. **THE OREGON MINERAL EXHIBITS WILL BE CREDIBLE BUT INSIGNIFICANT** to what they should have been. So it goes. But we should be thankful that we are permitted to exhibit at all.

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We have purchased a new shop just west of the Y. M. C. A. building. Work of all kinds done promptly, first-class and reasonable.

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