

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL EDITORIAL PAGE

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

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

Portland, June 8. The city election is over. Lane was elected Mayor by a handsome majority. The Portland Journal scored its third campaign victory over the Oregonian. The fourth important office in this state has been given to the Democrats by Republican mismanagement. So far as the Republican party is concerned **IT IS BETTER OFF WITH WILLIAMS DEFEATED THAN WITH HIM ELECTED MAYOR FOR ANOTHER TERM.** With some of his leading appointees under indictment and contractors convicted of robbing the taxpayers and more corruption still to be threshed out Williams was in no condition to make the race, much less to give an administration that would have reflected credit on the party. So the Republicans in this city are better off without him, and the Democrats in the state are worse off with the responsibility of the city government resting on their shoulders. But it is a sad spectacle to contemplate for a man who has held the exalted positions in national affairs that Williams has, to be set down in his old age among bootleggers, gamblers, and the riffraff of the North End, and heaped with the ashes of defeat and wearing the sackcloth of defeat.

Unfortunately Portland political conditions control the affairs of the whole state, and this election makes history for the entire commonwealth. A close analysis and probing into the situation, **BY ASKING QUESTIONS OF LEADING REPUBLICANS HERE,** shows that it is not exactly looked upon as a defeat for the Republican party, but as a repudiation of the policies advocated by the leading and only Republican paper. In that respect the Republican party of Portland is unfortunate and there is a fine field here for a Republican paper. It would really be beneficial to the Republicans of the state if Mr. Scott could be given the appointment to some foreign post for life and that it be made a condition that in the meantime none of his family undertake to run a Republican paper in Oregon. This is said in all kindness, and yet it will be considered impertinent by those for whom it is well meant and by whom it should be kindly taken and considered. It is not often that anyone will give another such good, honest, frank advice as this and **IT SHOULD NOT BE LIGHTLY REJECTED.** A review of the political defeats suffered by the Republicans of Oregon will show that the Oregonian was closely identified with those disasters, and cannot entirely escape the blame for the obliteration of the Republican party in this state, as it confesses has been done. The confession of the Oregonian is not true so far as the party is concerned. It is a fact, though, that the Oregonian has obliterated itself as the Republican organ at Portland.

The day before the city election the tall tower publications asked the people to BELIEVE THAT IT WAS TO BE A SQUARE PARTY ISSUE between the Republican and Democratic parties. The election of Williams was to be a Republican victory, the election of Lane a Democratic victory. The Portland Journal disclaimed all political significance from a partisan standpoint. That is the way the people took it. The way the Oregonian waged the city campaign, Williams was to be elected by its special efforts, and at the same time it was saying nearly all the promi-

nent Republicans in the city were fighting for Lane. Then if Williams went in as mayor on that layout, Scott would have been the whole thing, supreme dictator in city politics, the only man to have the ear of the mayor, as McGinn is the only man who has Scott's ear. It would have been a Scott-McGinn administration, and they would have done business with all the other Republicans in the city. **THE TALL TOWER WAS TO BE THE WHOLE THING** and the city government would have practically emanated from that structure of brick and iron. So the city election was not a defeat for the Republican party, but for the narrow policy of rule or ruin by Scott. It was not the defeat of Republican principles but a severe blow to the dictatorial policies represented by the so-called holier-than-thou regime.

Neither McGinn nor Scott are personally popular at Portland, and it would be hard to tell WHICH ONE WOULD GET THE SMALLER VOTE on a popular contest. To let it leak through the cracks of the tall tower that Mayor Williams was to be their peculiar personal representative in the control of the city for four years more was plainly printed all over their newspapers and Republicans generally did not like the idea. All other prominent Republicans were to be rapped over the fingers and told to stand back—this is to be our mayor if he goes in, and he could not have been elected without being in exactly that position, and the Republicans did not object to Williams, but they did revolt at the idea of the management he would have over him. **THE NORTH END IS BAD ENOUGH, BUT THE TALL TOWER IS WORSE,** when it comes to being in complete control of a mayor, and the Republicans revolted at both. They snowed under the tall tower, Larry Sullivan of boarding house fame, and Mayor Williams, all at one shot. So up to date the program to make McGinn federal judge, to make Williams mayor, and to round up the whole city administration and all its patronage to make Scott senator to succeed Mitchell has fallen through. All the roasting of Jack Matthews failed to elect Williams. Matthews is on earth and is not in the employ of Scott as political agent as he was when the tall tower undertook to make Furnish governor and Scott senator. Well-informed Democrats are agreed that **IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL TO THE DEMOCRATS ALL OVER OREGON TO HAVE HAD WILLIAMS MAYOR AGAIN.** As it is the city council is Republican but the Democratic mayor will be responsible for the government of the city and will become the target of criticism in the next campaign.

One of the most effective means the Oregonian took for the defeat of Williams was throwing out the suggestion that the election of Lane in a strongly Republican city MEANT A SLAP IN THE FACE OF THE ROOSEVELT ADMINISTRATION for prosecuting the land frauds in Oregon. This writer pointed out that the affairs of the national administration had nothing whatever to do with the government of this city. It was mixing the babies up with a vengeance, and was saying to those who were being prosecuted and to their friends, that they must vote against Williams unless they wanted to uphold Roosevelt in prosecuting themselves—which men are not likely to do. If what the Oregonian said was true this strong Republican city has slapped the administration in the face by electing a Democratic mayor. The administration saved itself by not having Vice President Fairbanks make a speech for Williams when he was here to open the fair. He all but did it, but of course in such an indirect manner that it did Williams no good whatever. But that break of the tall tower COST WILLIAMS HUNDREDS OF VOTES, and there was no possible excuse for taking such a position by a

Republican paper that was trying to elect a Republican. Senator Mitchell and his friends were all loyally supporting Mayor Williams and did not deserve the rap they got from Scott.

The day after the city election the tall tower had this: **"THERE IS LAND."** Who is to blame any more than the Oregonian? It has been the only Republican paper in the only big city of the state. It has made or unmade the Republican party, so far as the official organ and spokesman of any party could do that. It has been edited alternately on the lines of free trade and of protection. It has played fast and loose with moral issues. In one issue it howls for the moral issues and in the next it calls those who speak for morality a pack of liars and political jackals. It pretended to oppose the U'ken direct primary law and yet had not the nerve to oppose that measure when it was up for adoption. It opened a war on the clergymen of Portland at a time when such a course converted every church into a political headquarters to force prohibition in the form of local option on the people. If there is no Republican party in Oregon its non-existence is at least partially due to the **POLITICAL LEADERSHIP OF THE ONLY ORGAN THE PARTY HAD IN THIS STATE.** **THE ONLY DEFEAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS MET WITH** in Oregon have been due to the political insincerity and imbecility of the tall tower. The first election of Penneyer as governor was due to its insane course in putting the Republican candidate in the attitude of championing coolie labor. It brought about the defeat of Col. Cornelius by putting him in the false attitude of opposing all the opposition to coolie labor. It wanted to have the troops called out to put down and run out of Oregon all who were opposed to the importation of more Chinese labor. It held out the idea that Portland was in the hands of a seething anti-Chinese mob and required federal troops to quell the riot. It falsely represented Republicanism as championing coolie labor when there was not a word in the platform to warrant any such position, and the only connection between Republicanism and the Mongolian empire was the possible access which the boss Chinaman and head of all the Six Companies might have had with **THE BUSINESS OFFICE UNDER THE TALL TOWER.** But the Oregonian made its fight in such a way that all those in the Republican party who opposed the introduction of coolie labor into our country supported Penneyer and fought one of the best men in the state. The result was the defeat of the Republican candidate for governor, and then it may be asked who wiped out the Republican party that time?

The Oregonian took up the fight for D. P. Thompson, who was the next Republican candidate for governor to go down under the magic influence of its support. **THE FULLEST AMPLITUDE OF ITS HEARTIEST LAUDATIONS** were shed on Mr. Thompson, while it lashed Penneyer with unstinted abuse and vituperation. The result was to slide another sound, loyal and true Republican into the ditch of defeat. Its more recent performances in the way of electing Chamberlain, of helping to defeat Dolph and Corbett, and still more recent its aid in selecting such rock-ribbed Democrats as Sheriff Word and District Attorney Manning are too familiar to require comment. The latest achievement of electing a Democratic mayor in a city that is from five to ten thousand Republican puts all the others in the shade, but it does not answer the question why this strongly Republican state has turned one office after another over to the Democrats, unless it is that **REPUBLICANS PREFER TO HAVE MEN OF THE OPPOSITE PARTY** in office to Republicans who would owe their election to the influence of the tall tower. They prefer Democracy to Scottocracy. They evi-

dently think the Republican party is better off and stronger without men in office who would be under the control of the Oregonian during their incumbency of office. If not, what other reason can be given for their defeating Republicans?

The folly of the Oregonian hoping to elect Williams mayor and at the same time **FIGHTING THE BIGGEST AND OLDEST AND WEALTHIEST FAMILIES OF PORTLAND,** calling them plutocrats and hypocrites and religious frauds, and denouncing their pastor, Rev. Hill, of the First Presbyterian church, as a quack doctor of divinity,—all this is too assinine to be called journalism. These big wealthy families of Portland are the people who have made Portland, made the Exposition, and made the Oregonian what it is. They all know the Oregonian held up the National Republican committee in 1900, when it had burned both McKinley and Mark Hanna to a crisp for a year, and only let up when it got enough out of the national campaign fund to pay off the mortgage on the tall tower. It is well-known that the Oregonian, a St. Paul newspaper, and a Chicago newspaper got the better part of a million of cold cash out of that committee. **THOSE THINGS CANNOT BE PROVEN, BUT THEY CANNOT BE SUCCESSFULLY DENIED.** The mortgage on the tall tower was wiped out, Mark Hanna and McKinley were Christians of the highest and purest type forever afterward. That fact staring them in the face has taught the millionaires of Portland a lesson and they have invested some of their shekels in an opposition daily paper, which is cheaper than getting into the clutches of Scott and Pitcock. They remember the fate of Hanna and McKinley. These people who own and control the great corporations and banking houses that are the backbone of Portland, who employ several thousand people, **WERE FAIRLY LAMBASTED INTO SUPPORTING LANE** by the frantic efforts of the Oregonian to drive them into line for Williams in a manner that to have voted for him would have been to sacrifice all self respect. The leaders went around saying vote for Williams, but they saw to it that the voters voted for Lane. So the attack for a week preceding the city election on the first families of Portland was about as bad work as could be done to elect Williams. It was the most effective work that could have been done to elect Lane.

My friend, J. F. Dellinger, of the Astorian, has this summary of the case: A man who has the support and endorsement of the Oregonian, is doomed to defeat, is a statement made for a long time prior to the municipal election in Portland. Whether this was from a political or moral standpoint is not stated, but probably a little of both. It is a well-known fact that Mr. Scott is a candidate for the United States senate and has been conspicuous as a dictator on municipal affairs in Portland. **THE OREGONIAN ATTEMPTED TO CARRY WATER ON BOTH SHOULDERS.** It had been pandering to the church element by advocating a closed town, and supported a man or mayor, whom it is understood was in favor of an open town. It lost its influence and incidentally the election. To listen to the Oregonian charging the mayorality election up to the land fraud cases, shows what the people think of persecution. The Oregonian even concedes the election of a Democratic governor next year. **THE ONLY WAY TO STOP IT IS TO SQUELCH THE MAN IN THE TOWER.**

The preparations for the land fraud trials are going on, and it is now expected to have them well under way by the 20th of this month. The death of Judge Dellinger has made it necessary to have some of the preliminaries gone over again. The United States marshal who displaced Matthews has

all his deputies instructed to take a full hand in bringing all the guilty to justice. Matthews was fired because **HE WOULD NOT MAKE HIS DEPUTIES ACT AS SPIES AND DETECTIVES.** They served papers and arrested persons without fear or favor, but would not take the part of persecuting and helping to convict right and left, as suggested by the officers of the court over him. The feeling is very strong in Oregon that anyone who has committed a fraud or violated a law shall be convicted, high or low, but there is also a feeling which every true American has that every man is entitled to a fair trial and a conviction by due process of law and not by unusual methods which do violence to the spirit of our institutions, one of which is expressed in the aphorism that every man is entitled to be considered innocent until he has been found guilty in a public court by a jury of his peers and after a fair trial. The Journal has in all its history contended for this principle **AS ONE OF THE CORNER-STONES OF LIBERTY.**

The Oregonian has had several whacks at Justice Bean, who is recommended among others for the federal judgeship. It does not say that he is unfit or that he would be unfair, but it has its strikers put the judge in the attitude of being a partisan of Senator Mitchell. Its own candidate, Henry E. McGinn, being out of the race, it seeks to make impossible the appointment of the man on whom seems to be centered the best thought of the state. Bean at least would not cheapen that office and that seems to be an offense with the Oregonian. Following shows the drift of the fight it is putting up against Bean:

(Baker City Maverick.) United States Senator Fulton is fighting Hon. H. E. McGinn for federal judge. Fulton's choice is Judge Bean. The Oregonian, in commenting on the senator's activity, **COULD NOT REFRAIN FROM PUTTING IN A KNOCK** by saying, in effect, that while Judge Bean has never been offensively partisan, still he is known to have been intimately identified with that faction of the Republican party in Oregon, which has been dominant for so many years. In other words, the Oregonian would make it appear that Bean is a Mitchell man, and therefore **PERSONA NON GRATA WITH THE ADMINISTRATION.** Which is important, if true.

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