

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.

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MEN—NOT MORE LEGISLATION.

It looks like some kind of a rate law would be passed this winter, though we are afraid such a law will not in its practical results meet the expectation of the people. Our own idea is that what we want just now is not so much more law, as a more rigid enforcement of the laws we have.

If the president could personally look after all the details of the executive departments, they would be enforced, but that is impossible, and in the mean time too often the men directly charged with the enforcement of the laws care more to get their names in the paper, telling in vigorous language what they are going to do, than they do for actual results.

The law can be made stronger against trusts, illegal combination of capital, discrimination and rebates on the part of corporations than it has been for years. Congress has made ample appropriations of money for vigorous prosecutions, but yet nothing has been done. One thing we do sadly need is able and more vigorous executive officers, properly enforcing the laws we have, and there will be less demand for additional legislation. The rate law is desirable. It would give the commissioners power to do great good, but whether good or evil resulted would after all depend largely on the personnel of the commission. The old lines:

"Men whom the best of office will not kill,
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy,
Men who possess opinions and a will
Men who have honor, men who will not lie."

These are the kind of men wanted now.

Perhaps we are pessimistic, but it seems to me that this is the age of little men. Just now the prerequisite to official favor is graduation from some reputable college. Of course, that does not hurt a man, but it does not make him either. There are many really big men in public life today, but there are so many of the narrow man, small fry, that it seems the average is decidedly lower. However, that is a problem that will work itself out, and work itself out correctly, if we as a people are capable of self government.

Things promise to be pretty lively in Washington this winter. Congress has a good many big propositions to deal with, and let us hope that wisdom will control and the best possible results be obtained.

A LITTLE TALK ON BOSSISM.

(Albany Argus, Saturday, Dec. 2.)
Editor Argus:

Throw Them Aside.

"There is a world of political good sense in your recent comment upon the willingness of Col. R. Hofer of Salem to serve as the mouthpiece of the Republican party, and when you say that there are some people who will ask to see the colonel's credentials you voice the sentiments of a large majority of the Republicans of this part of the state. HOFER worked for years against the Republican party and NOW ASSUMES TO DICTATE THE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES OF THAT PARTY. NOT ONLY THAT BUT HE PROPOSES TO SELECT THE PARTY'S CANDIDATES, FROM CONGRESSMAN DOWN TO CONSTABLE. A candidate not of his choosing is unworthy, in his opinion. The time has come for Republicans to set aside politicians of this type and ACCEPT AS THEIR LEADERS ONLY MEN WHO HAVE BEEN LONG IN

The prudent, far-seeing man lays the foundation of a fortune much as a mason builds a brick wall—a brick at a time. The man who will not lay the first brick because it falls short of a complete wall, will not make much progress. Many people live up their incomes and decline to save because the amount available to start with appears too small. Remember you can start a savings account with us with only one dollar, and when once started it is sure to grow. Many a fortune has resulted from such a beginning. Begin saving today.

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THE FAITHFUL SERVICE OF THE PARTY.

"REPUBLICAN VOTER"

There is a purpose in admitting the above to the columns of the Albany Argus.

The purpose is not to warn Republicans against a man who has at times slackened a little in his zeal for Republicanism.

It is to put him among the class known as political bosses, dictators and machine leaders.

If "Republican Voter" could be unmasked he would be found to be some man who has practiced "venereal politics" to a finish.

He would be found to be one of those selfish creatures, whose Republicanism is equal parts DESIRE FOR PLUNDER AND PETTY GRAFTING.

He has a right, small and imperceptible anonymous creature, as he is, to clamor for any kind of leadership that suits him.

He may want for leaders "only men who have been long in the faithful service of the party." HE COULD PROBABLY WORK THEM.

But who are they in Oregon? Why don't he name them and let the people have the benefit of their leadership if they want it?

This is his proposition, as he seeks to throw mud at another man whom he seeks to set up in an unenviable light.

He says Hofer seeks to dictate the principles and policies of the Republican party. Where is his proof?

Some years ago Hofer did step out and dictate a platform that all parties accepted in Marion county.

It was that this county could be RUN FOR FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR FOR CURRENT EXPENSES, AND IT WAS DONE.

That kind of dictatorship would be a godsend to some other counties in the state and to the state of Oregon itself.

The anonymous Argus gelding could not quit grafting long enough to think of anything in that line.

Marion has been for years the best administered county in the state because of honest leadership.

Hofer was accused of dictating a city administration that resulted in the overthrow of those who were running things.

Instead of running ten thousand dollars a year in debt the city began paying off and living within its means.

Incompetent leaders had contracted debts that it will take generations to pay. HOFER DIDN'T DO IT.

This may sound personal and egotistic to many, but the writer has been lied about and misrepresented for his connection with public affairs before.

We propose to smoke and burn and scald each anonymous creature, that shows up with stuff worth noticing, out of his cowardly hole.

Hofer has done nothing to be ashamed of in his going on sixteen years connection with Oregon Journalism.

His only cause for shame and blushing arises from occasionally standing up for some unworthy leader.

If the people will forgive him he will try and not do it in the future. Some of them deserve to go to political oblivion and be covered with the quicklime of forgetfulness.

The city of Salem and Marion county are well governed, but it has been accomplished by dictation, not originating with the politicians who sneak into office in guise of party loyalty to steal all they can get.

In the Salem school district was it Hofer who dictated policies that made the grafters have more of the creepy feelings?

The district was a year and a half behind in its current expenses and was paying MORE FOR INTEREST THAN FOR EDUCATION.

The district was put on a cash basis and the endless chain of finance in the interest of a little financial ring was broken.

As in the city, popular loans were floated and the people furnished four per cent money until the district got out of debt.

Like the city and the county, the school district had been plunged into an insolvent condition.

What the state of Oregon needs is a little dictation on the same line INSTEAD OF HAVING THE HIGHEST STATE TAX IN THE WEST.

It will never have that kind of dictation at the hands of the kind of leaders the Argus anonymous sloop guzzler wants restored.

Come out and be honest and say you want to rob the people. A stage robber is a gentleman compared to the man who parades loyalty to rob his

fellow man—the soulless stand patter for plunder.

Hofer is not afraid to have his record aired—public or private—or the records of the men examined, whom he has helped put in office.

Let all the grafters howl and the horse thieves in politics curse but HE HAS NEVER PROMOTED THEIR GAME IF HE KNEW IT.

He served one term in the legislature ten years ago, and what is the record?

Less laws were enacted than at any session since then, and not one of them was declared unconstitutional.

The total appropriations were smaller and the tax levy following WAS LOWER THAN FOR ANY YEAR SINCE.

This statement will cause some of the animals to roar and roast Hofer. YOU CAN NEVER SUIT THE GRAFTER.

Wouldn't it be a godsend to have a little more of this kind of dictation in the interest of good government?

Every year the official class exhaust themselves showing how much worse off the state might be AND EACH YEAR STATE TAXES GROW.

The charge that Hofer is trying to "dictate the principles and policies of the party" is false.

Hofer did not even attend the peace conference and offer useless resolutions already forgotten.

The way to fight the grafters is not with paper wads. Fight the devil of graft with his own fire—cut off his graft right behind the ears.

The way to kill grafting is to PUT MEN ON GUARD WHO WILL NOT PROTECT THE GRAFT and it will die of natural attrition of common sense.

Paper wad resolutions are ridiculous. Who remembers anything in the platform adopted at the peace conference?

Who would pay any attention to the fulmination of principles that might come from political machines in Oregon?

THE PEOPLE HAVE RISEN ABOVE SUCH ROT. The people want men whose personal honor and integrity does not have to be defended from behind a rampart of red fire and stink pots.

The charge that Hofer is trying to nominate every man on the ticket comes with poor grace from a caricature of manhood who has probably helped nominate more thieves than honest men and weeps because his monopoly is broken.

His itch for office has been so perennial that his false public consciousness cannot adjust itself to the new conditions.

He sees what he deems an obstacle to playing his conception of "politics." He must strike at Hofer. Hofer has not been true to the party this bogus

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patriot loves so much for what there is in it.

If Hofer hasn't done any good it hasn't been for lack of disposition. If he hasn't cut every dollar of graft out of the state government, he has tried to cut it out of the city, county and school governments.

Where has Hofer ever dug up a rotten egg candidate and palmed him off on the public. THE PEOPLE COULD STAND A LITTLE MORE OF THAT KIND OF DICTATION IN OREGON POLITICS.

The cry of dictation comes from those who have made the name of Republicanism almost a farce.

Men who will only support the ticket when they own the chattels put up for public office to serve their private graft are not Republicans.

Men who in the name of Republicanism serve corporations, plunder public lands and rob the school funds are worse than horse thieves.

The horse thief don't disgrace the name of an honorable political organization with any pretext of allegiance to its principles.

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