

SPEECH OF CHARLES B. GALLOWAY

At the Annual Reunion at Champog on the Anniversary of Oregon's Saving to the United States

Charles V. Galloway said in part: Mr. Chairman, ladies, gentlemen and friends—At this time my thoughts run back in memory to a similar occasion five years ago, when we had assembled at this place to dedicate this simple yet enduring monument and to pledge that the name and fame of this spot and the stand that was here taken, and the purpose here accomplished by the pioneer builders of Oregon, shall never be forgotten by a grateful people. It was a beautiful day. All nature was in her kindest and gentlest humor. The air was mild, balmy and fragrant with the breath of river and woodland and meadow. And the people, they came up the river and down the river, over the hills and across the prairie. As I mingled with that throng, and looked upon it, it occurred to me, how fitting to the occasion would have been the remark of Bob Taylor, of Tennessee, who on arising to address an immense audience, surveying the throng before him, paused for a moment, then exclaimed in a tone indicative of astonishment, "Good God, where did all you folks come from!"

It seems that there is oftentimes a sort of fitness in things and in events. A sort of destiny that directs the course of individuals and others things, and possibly this eternal fitness applied to the selection of this spot. Possibly our pioneer forefather who here made the first provisional government, had some sort of premonition that this was a most agreeable and convenient location for future generations of Oregonians to assemble and commemorate their performance. I think, however, it is proper to say that we are here, not so much on account of the selection of the spot by our distinguished forefathers, but rather on account of the interest that has been manifested in the birthplace of our first provisional government, Champog. Possibly that distinguished patriarch, F. X. Matthieu, who is dearly loved by all, can tell us whether in the selection of this place as the birthplace of the new government, such a thought as this was in mind.

With each recurring year since that time, five years ago, we have come either in memory or in person to this Plymouth Rock of the west to celebrate the anniversary of the establishment of the first American civil institutions and the first American government on the Pacific coast. Friends—contrary to the expectations that our worthy chairman has dealth out to you, it is not my purpose to go into details now regarding the events preceding and the events following, occasioning and occasioned by the establishment of the provisional government. I need mention only very briefly these things which are familiar to you. The supremacy of the British interests through the domination of the Hudson Bay company prior to 1840; the growing American influence through the advent of American missionaries and settlers in the late thirties and early forties; you know all about the ecclesiastical jealousies and the commercial and industrial cross purposes. You know all

about the differences and difficulties that were all around them; difference in nationality and difference in government allegiance. All these things are familiar to you. I need not mention what labor, what shrewd maneuvering and by what a close shave the result which permits us to indulge in today's celebration was accomplished. The humble endeavors of this provisional government, the crude simplicity of its surroundings, its rugged effectiveness and honesty. All these have been dwelt upon in terms more accurate than any that I might employ. I shall content myself today as one of more recent generation of Oregonians, one who has been privileged to enjoy in common with thousands, yes, with millions yet unborn, to opportunities and privileges, the fruits of rugged and heroic pioneer labors nobly performed, to offer only a reverential tribute.

There are certain attributes of character that distinguished the handful of Americans here who had the foresight to see and to accomplish a purpose—that of establishing an American institution and an American ideal for this Oregon of ours. I shall mention what appeared to me to be some of the best characteristics of these pioneers who made and carried out the provisional government. In the first place they were animated by a spirit of justice, of fair dealing, of common, every day honesty. Indicatory to this let me call your attention briefly to a few points regarding Ewing Young. He was an important figure among the earliest of Oregon's American pioneers. He was a native of Tennessee. A man who came here in the early thirties from California along with Hall J. Kelly. He was the first American settler on the west side of the Willamette river, and, if for no other reason, that he was the first Yamhiller, he was deserving of consideration. Ewing Young introduced into this valley the longhorned cattle from California. He built the first sawmill in the Chehalis valley, or what is now Yamhill county. He died February 15, 1841, leaving considerable property and without known legal heirs or claimants. He left no will, but had there been one there was no court to take judicial cognizance of it. Being without the pale of any law the settlers could easily have divided the estate among themselves without anyone being the wiser, or without the right of such disposition being disputed. But these pioneers of the Willamette valley were not men of such character. They decided this case in accordance with the principles of the highest justice, in accordance with a deep seated purpose of doing to every man as he would wish to be done by. When Ewing Young was buried, the settlers then began to organize a court and a government. A committee to adopt a constitution and a code of laws was appointed. At last Dr. Ira L. Babcock was elected supreme judge and George W. LeBreton clerk of court and probate recorder. Babcock's first official act was on April 15, 1841, when he appointed Rev. David Leslie "ad-

ministrator of the estate of Ewing Young, deceased, intestate," and in a short time the estate was administered and netted about \$4000. The money was loaned out and later, in 1844, it was paid into the treasury of the provisional government, which was pledged to refund the same to the heirs or creditors of Young whenever they should appear. Fifteen hundred dollars of the money was appropriated for the building of a jail at Oregon City, the first west of the Missouri river. I don't know what use they had for it, but they were probably providing for future contingencies. And so you can see that this first effort for the establishment of government in Oregon was for the purpose of doing justice to a dead man. This was one of the primary reasons for the organization of the provisional government and his estate gave the treasury its first funds. It might here be said that in 1854 an heir in the person of a son appeared, and, 22 years after this estate came into the possession of the probate court, over \$5000 to the exact cent was paid to the assignees of this heir. Now, my friends, could there ever have been more scrupulous justice and fidelity, notwithstanding unusual difficulties?

I would like to call your attention to the sentiment of patriotism which animated these founders of the provisional government. Here were a handful of Americans by birthright or by inclination. They were men from every state in the union—every state then in the union. These men had been practically neglected, practically forsaken by the government to which they offered allegiance. They had wandered over 2000 miles. They were the kind of Americans who, under all circumstances "stay put," as the President would say.

And let us not forget the other men whose names are not engraven on the monument here. These 50 men who voted "No" and rode away, were they not patriots also? Were they not faithful to the government that claimed their allegiance as well as the Americans to the Americans to the American government? What of the glorious and grand character of Dr. John McLaughlin? Was he any the less a grand character simply because his interests and the interests of the government here represented were not the same? These men are as good Americans as any other patriots of the original Oregon. With prejudice and jealousy mellowed by time we can now look back upon the Oregonians of the thirties and the forties and see that they were all patriots. It matters not whether they were Catholic or Protestant, English, American or Canadian, they were patriots nevertheless.

Now there was another particular character of these original pioneers of Oregon. These men who established and carried out the provisions of this first government were educated men. They were uneducated, however, many of them, unlettered and untutored in the ways of learning, but they were all educated in what I deem the true significance of that term. Education don't necessarily mean the loading of the mind with a lot of literary lumber; it don't mean storing it with dates and quotations. But these men had minds that were trained in the school of hard knocks; they had minds trained to see the right, trained to see the right in every way. Uneducated as they were in the ways of polite learning, they were, nevertheless, educated men.

Now, friends, I know there are a lot of other speakers to follow, so I shall not take much more of your time in a discussion of a subject in this manner. There are victors of peace no less than those of war. There are heroes in the ordinary walks of life that are no less heroes than those who play their parts amid the clash of arms; and the grandest heroes of all time, the grandest heroes of any nation, are the pioneer men and women who have carried the American ideals and the American home from the Atlantic to the Pacific; across the Alleghenies, over and through the valleys of the Ohio, the Mississippi and the Missouri, over the Rockies, down the Columbia, over the Cascades and to the bar of the Western ocean. These men and these women accomplished a conquest of peace, yet irresistible—the greatest conquest ever accomplished, and these people, this handful of Americans that here established the first civil government, the founders of our original Oregon, these men are the grandest heroes that history can ever record.

Friends, there are many of us here who may never return to a similar anniversary. As time is measured, it will return to another occasion of this kind. But this will not be forgotten as long as memory lasts among the people of Oregon; as long as the people of Oregon are a grateful people they can never forget the monument out there and what it represents. It may show the marks of age and the weather, the names and words here inscribed may be obliterated, but as long as Oregon lasts, as long as Mt. Hood touches the sky, as long as a river flows down to the sea,

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and as long as there is an F. X. Matthieu native son, we shall have these occasions, and we will honor our pioneer heroes.

You all know of that beautiful poem, the production of a remarkable character, Samuel L. Simpson, "Beautiful Willamette." Here by this beautiful flowing river, I am tempted to recite to you, or to give the lines of, this beautiful poem of that songster and poet of heroes.

Here he closed by reciting "Beautiful Willamette,"

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R. C. BROWN—Candidate for secretary of state, resides at Roseburg, Oregon. He is now the secretary of the Socialist party of Oregon.

W. W. MYRES—Candidate for congress in the First district, is a substantial farmer of Clackamas county. Was a soldier and son of a Mexican soldier, and a representative of the people.

A. M. PAUL—Candidate for congress from Second district, is a self made man. He is also an old soldier and is a believer in freedom from the oppression of the great corporations.

GEO. R. COOK—Candidate for state treasurer. A resident of Astoria, is an old soldier—one of the boys who gave the best days of his life for the preservation of our country, and now seeks the emancipation of the wage slave system, and laboring men should cast their vote for him.

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W. S. RICHARDS—Candidate for dairy, food and labor commissioner. Was born in Illinois. He is a first class master mechanic and superintendent of the chair and furniture factory at Albany. He is just the man to fill the place. Be sure and vote for him.

MARCUS W. ROBBINS—For supreme judge, is now a resident of Grants Pass, and for five years has been a practicing attorney.

C. C. BRIX—Candidate for attorney general. He came to Oregon in 1903. He is also an expert stenographer and attorney at law.

J. E. HOSMER—Candidate for state school superintendent. He is a graduate of the law schools, and was a former editor of the Silverton Appeal, and is now practicing law at Portland.

B. F. RAMP—Candidate for state senator stands for the common people and their interests.

Z. T. BOGARD—Candidate for state senator. He is a man of sound judgment. Has been a farmer the best part of his life. Opposes grafts. Favor election of all officers by the people.

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Poultry—Average old best
14 1/2 c; mixed chickens, 13@14 1/2 c; young chickens, 12@13 1/2 c; turkey, 15@16 1/2 c; turkey, 18c; geese, live, pound, 10c; dressed, per pound, 10@11 1/2 c; pigeons, \$1@1 1/2 c; squabs 1 1/2 c.
Pork—Dressed—6@6 1/2 c.
Beef—Dressed, 6@6 1/2 c.
Mutton—Dressed—6@7c.
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5 1/2 @ 7c.
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