

HOFER BROS., Publishers and Proprietors

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THE JOURNAL STANDS FOR PROGRESS, DEVELOPMENT, GOOD GOVERNMENT, AND NO DEGRADATION LABOR.

THE GRAND ARMY'S RECESSIONAL.

Down from the choir with feeble step and slow,
Singing their brave recessional, they go,
Gray, broken choristers of war,
Bearing aloft before their age dimmed eyes,
As 'twere their cross for sign, of sacrifice
The flag which they in battle bore—

Down from the choir where late their hoarse throats sang
Till all the sky arched vast cathedral rang
With echoes of their rough made song,
Where roared the organ's deep artillery
And screamed the slender pipe's dread minstrelsy
In fierce debate of right and wrong.

Down past the altar, bright with flowers, they tread
The aisles 'neath which in sleep their comrades dead
Keep bivouac after their red strife,
Their own ranks thinner growing as they march
Into the shadows of the narrow arch
Which hides the lasting from this life.

Soon, soon, will pass the last gray pilgrim through
Of that thin line in surplises of blue
Winding as some tired stream a-sea;
Soon, soon, will sound upon our list'ning ears
His last son's quaver as he disappears
Beyond our answering litany.

And soon the faint antiphonal refrain,
Which memory repeats in sweetened strain,
Will come, as from some far cloud shore;
Then for a space, the hush of unspoke prayer,
And we who've knelt shall rise with heart to dare
The thing in peace they sang in war.

—John Finley in Scribner's Magazine.

TARDY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF A GREAT WRONG.

A sheep-killing dog that raids the flocks of a neighborhood for a series of years becomes an object of general detestation and the target of all the neighborhood shotguns.

A newspaper that poses for the last fifty years as the only sausage-stuffing machine for cramming the people with intelligence about state affairs, HAS GOT ITSELF INTO A VERY LAMENTABLE ATTITUDE.

Of course, it can continue to stuff its readers with misinformation. It can refrain from ever enlightening them by never printing when the other fellow throws daylight into its cerebellum.

But its attitude in the long run by that policy will be ABOUT THE SAME HIGH STATUS OF POPULARITY OF THE SHEEP-KILLING DOG.

For a newspaper that has fought the supreme court, the state super-as the Oregonian has it has now made a confession.

We will take a few brainological pellets from an editorial on the Sunday page, and dissect them:

NO. 1. "THE ONLY OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN TURNING ANY FEES INTO THE STATE TREASURY IS THE SECRETARY OF STATE."

That is not a fact. The clerk of the supreme court, the state superintendent of schools the treasurer himself, and the governor and some other officials have been turning in fees.

We shall leave the computation of the amounts to the leathery conscience of the Oregonian when it gets ready, assuring it when it does compile the fees they collect WE SHALL GIVE THEM A CAREFUL REVISION.

NO. 2. The Oregonian admits that the secretary (just one official), has in the first four months under the flat salary law turned in \$4658.50 in fees to the state treasury (THAT HE USED TO KEEP AND SHOVE INTO HIS POCKET).

THANKS FOR THAT ADMISSION OF A LITTLE PETTY GRAB OF \$4658.50.

Next, the great and puissant and once only Oregonian figures out that while the secretary of state has collected and turned over \$4658.50 in the past four months, he will not do nearly so much the rest of the year. **IT WILL BE CUT DOWN FOR THE WHOLE YEAR TO \$10,000, OR LESS.**

If the Oregonian couldn't figure that down, why the one state official would be turning in fees of \$14,000 a year in round figures, **THAT HE USED TO SHOVE DOWN INTO HIS POCKETS, IN DEFIANCE OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.**

As the Oregonian condoned that and fought the adoption of the flat salary law, ridiculed it and advised the Republican candidate, **A MR. BILL FURNISH OF UMATILLA COUNTY TO SPIT UPON IT,** (and he was too good a man to have ever taken such fatal advice,) we wish to quote the constitution of Oregon, to show that the secretary of state really took money in defiance of the constitution, and took one item of \$14,000 annually:

Article XIII, Section 1, Salaries of State Officers.

"The governor shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The secretary of state shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The treasurer of state shall receive an annual salary of eight hundred dollars. The judges of the supreme court shall each receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars. **THEY SHALL RECEIVE NO FEES OR PERQUISITES WHATSOEVER FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY DUTIES CONNECTED WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICES;** and the compensation of officers, if not fixed by this constitution, shall be provided by law."

Only its own rawhide conscience will limit the extent to which the Oregonian will keep its own readers ignorant on matters **IN WHICH IT SEEMS TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN KEEPING THEM IN THE DARK.**

But its Sunday editorial makes such belated admissions, and disapproves what it has been claiming for many years, that we call attention to its next admission.

NO. 3. "ALL THE OTHER FEES AND PERQUISITES HAVE BEEN CUT OFF EFFECTING A SAVING OF ABOUT \$9835."

Remember this is referring to this same office of secretary of state, which is putting \$14,000 a year into the treasury.

Add \$14,000 and \$9835, and don't you get pretty **NEARLY \$25,000 EACH YEAR SAVED ON ONE OFFICE BY THE FLAT SALARY LAW?**

What the other officers are turning into the treasury in the shape of fees under the flat salary will appear later, when the Oregonian gets another belated Sunday spasm of admissions.

\$14,000 IN, AND \$9835 NOT GOING OUT!

The Capital Journal in contending for a flat salary law claimed that it would save the people of the state fifty thousand dollars a year.

The Oregonian denied this. While the Republicans promised a flat salary law in their platform in 1902, **UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE OREGONIAN THE LEGISLATIVE PLEDGE-BREAKERS POSTPONED THE REFORM FOUR YEARS.**

That postponement at a low estimate cost the people of Oregon fifty thousand dollars a year, or \$200,000 in four years.

The Oregonian's advice is always "expensive." It comes high to the people who pay for it, **BUT IT IS VALUABLE TO THE OTHER FELLOW.**

Of course, it would be impertinent to ask the Oregonian, how much was its share of the \$200,000 graft "in violation of the constitution?" It should be remarked in concluding what we hope is an inoffensive and gentlemanly review of this matter, that the same violation of the implied reform promised in the constitution **IS BEING CARRIED ON FOR FOUR YEARS BY DELAYING PUTTING THE STATE PRINTER ON A FLAT SALARY.**

There is another \$25,000 yearly graft going to the bow-wows. These little \$100,000 and \$200,000 rake-offs make our mushroom millionaires.

After the people have forced the adoption of the flat salary law, after amending the constitution to salary the state printer, after the Republican party has been bunkoed out of its control of the governorship by the Oregonian for eight years, that paper admits that **THE FLAT SALARY IS MAKING ONE STATE OFFICE COUGH UP \$25,000 A YEAR.**

In a few years it will be telling how much is being saved by by putting the state printer on a flat salary.

Once in a while its columns will be used to tell what vicious demagogic sheets The Capital Journal, and its little namesake down the creek are.

In the meantime the people will draw their own conclusions and perhaps wipe the rest of the Republican party in Oregon off the slate politically speaking, **IN ORDER TO GET RID OF THE DOMINATION OF THE OREGONIAN IN STATE AFFAIRS.**

But popular reforms will go on. They can be delayed but they cannot be made impossible, with the power of a few independent newspapers to enlighten the independent voter.

WILL HAVE TIMBER CRUISED.

Assessor Rice will add several millions to the Marion county assessment rolls by having the timber lands held for speculation in this county cruised.

Since the Beals bill in the late legislature was defeated it is up to Marion county to follow suit of a number of other counties throughout the state and have the timber area of this county cruised so that the timber holders would pay their just proportion of taxes.

At the present time the timber holders are not paying taxes anywhere **IN PROPORTION TO THE VALUES THEY HOLD THEIR LAND AT.**

It was just the other day that we were informed from reliable sources that Mr. So and So was offered \$5000 for a quarter section of timber. The assessed valuation is **NO WHERE IN PROPORTION TO WHAT THE TILLABLE LANDS ARE ASSESSED AT.**

This is no fault of the assessor, because he has every year gradually raised on the valuation but the raise has not been in proportion with the increase in valuations of these holdings.

Washington county on the west side has five competent cruisers in the timber **MAKING ESTIMATES OF THE TIMBER AREA OF THAT COUNTY.**

Clatsop, Benton, Linn, Clackamas, Lane and Polk are all having their timber cruised, or have had it done.

It is now up to the assessor of Marion county to do likewise and place assessed valuation on these timber owners' claims **IN PROPORTION TO WHAT THEY ARE WORTH TO THE HOLDERS.**

The county court should make the assessor a liberal allowance for this purpose.

WILL TRY THE GALVESTON PLAN.

Lewiston, Idaho, is the first city in the west to adopt the Galveston form of city government.

Several in the south have taken it up and each report it **A GREAT IMPROVEMENT OVER THE OLD METHOD.**

After the disaster at Galveston a few years ago the city was almost a wreck.

Several of the citizens who desired to stay and help rebuild the town of their choice went before the legislature of Texas and had the charter abolished, establishing in its stead a new and distinct form of government.

The new plan had officers and directors elected **THE SAME AS IF IT WERE A PRIVATE CORPORATION.**

The head of the directorate attends to the duties that usually devolve upon a mayor and the other members of the commission fill the positions of treasurer, comptroller, city engineer and street and sewer superintendent.

The five appoint a police judge, city attorney, chief of police and other officials.

The business of the city is run the same as if it were the individual business of these five men, but it is compulsory that every official act

must be published, **WHICH FORTIFIES THE VENTURE AGAINST GRAFT IN ALL OF ITS FORMS.**

The merit of a new move is to be determined by the success which followed its workings.

It has been successful in Galveston and Houston and several other southern towns.

Recently the Iowa state legislature passed an act **WHICH PERMITS CITIES OF THAT STATE TO ADOPT THE GALVESTON PLAN IF THEY CHOOSE.**

Lewiston is the first city to bring the idea across the Rocky mountains.

That city has had a rapid growth the past few years and now has a population of about 10,000.

Recently a new charter was adopted, that went into effect Thursday. This new charter completely changes the old recognized form of city government.

IT PLACES THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY DIRECTLY IN THE HANDS OF THE PEOPLE.

It provides for the initiative and referendum, the recall, and gives the city the right to own and construct public utilities of all sorts and empowers the city authorities to fix and regulate the price for gas, power and street car fares.

There are six councilmen who with the mayor exercise all legislative functions and each of whom fills some one of the executive offices of the city.

ALL ARE ELECTED AT LARGE, thus doing away with the ward councilman.

One councilman is police commissioner and gets pay for his double duties of legislator for the city and the head of the police department.

In the same way another councilman will be fire commissioner, the third will be street commissioner, the fourth commissioner of public works, the fifth the water works and the sixth the commissioner of finance and revenue.

Because they are not elected by wards **IT IS POSSIBLE TO PICK THE BEST MATERIAL FOR EACH PLACE.**

Franchises may be granted limited to a life of 25 years, after which they may be acquired by the city at a fair valuation for the tangible property, no allowance whatever to be made for any value derived through the franchise.

Public service corporations are forbidden to in any way contribute to campaign funds and twenty-five per cent of the voters petitioning at any time, **MAY DEMAND A RECALL OF ANY OFFICIAL NOT PERFORMING HIS DUTIES SATISFACTORILY TO THE PEOPLE.**

While it is an innovation, Lewiston's new charter provides for the running of a city on such practical lines that its operation will be watched with the greatest interest all over the United States.

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W. A. MOORES, Recorder.

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