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WANTS OLD SYSTEM BACK

The Oregon Voter again regrets that railroads are under the control of the commissions and hampered by government interference with their business. It pathetically asks: "But how can railroads pay higher wages unless rates are permitted to be raised proportionately?" Then it adds: "Take either horn of the dilemma—either pay higher freight rates for the sake of paying higher wages, or continue to punish both labor and capital by trying to limit rates."

The Voter seems to be of the opinion that railroad employes on one side and railroad owners on the other are the only persons concerned in the matter. It ignores the producer who has to send his wares over the roads to the markets of the country and the consumer who has generally to pay the freight bills no matter how large.

The great American public wants the railroads treated fairly. They want them to earn a just and fair return on their investments and they want railroad employes paid fair and just wages. Whenever the public through its representatives, the state or national officials, do anything that interferes with either of these things they are overstepping the bounds of their authority. The question is "Have they done so?"

It is claimed the demands of the employes if complied with would cost the railroads \$100,000,000 a year. The sum of the cost to the roads has nothing to do with the matter, the questions being would the granting of the demands without increasing the rates permitted to be charged reduce the interest on the money invested in the roads below an honest and just return on the same? The other: are the demands of the men reasonable and just? Are the wages now paid below what should be paid for the work?

It is for settling just such questions as these the interstate railroad commissions are created, and it is well to wait their report on the matter before discussing it seriously.

It may be stated in passing that it is a well known fact that if the railroads were permitted to raise rates at their own sweet will, they would concede the men's demands, and so raise rates as to meet the extra \$100,000,000 and some \$500,000,000 more just to be on the safe side. This vast sum would simply be swiped from the consumer who having no one else to pass the bill along to would be compelled to pay it himself. That is the system the Voter would have us return to.

The editing business down at Klamath seems to have some of the hilarity of the good old days when it was anyone's privilege to whip the editor on any old occasion—if he could. A few days ago Miss Catherine Prehm, editor of the Merrill Record, made the statement in her paper that "An armed guard had to be placed around the jail to protect A. Ernest Lawrence, following his acquittal on the charge of murdering Mrs. Alma Kuehne at Dood Hollow." George Bradnack, editor of the Merrill Times contradicted this statement. Due to complications arising from these contradictory statements Miss Prehm lost her temper and it is alleged undertook to horsewhip Bradnack who like Villa, fled. It is claimed Miss Prehm was arrested by the city marshal while trying to break open a door and get at the offending Bradnack. Evidently the lady is new at the editing game or she would not take offense at a little thing like that, but then you see this equal suffrage business puts some queer notions in the dear little pates of some of the sisters, they understanding it means that they have the same rights as men—and many more.

"A primrose on the river's brim
A yellow primrose was to him,
'Twas that and nothing more."

That it what some poet wrote about it but he did not write it on "Primrose Day." Had he done so the last line would have read:

"'Twas that and two bits more."

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RATE QUESTION OPENS BIG FIELD

Behold what a great blaze a little fire kindleth, says the proverb. The present discussion of preferred rates for Portland is a case illustrating this. To be exact the allowing of the terminal rate to Astoria, out of which grew the present demand on Portland's part for special rates, lower than Astoria or Sound points was the real starter of the fire, the cause for Portland's later demand.

The question once opened apparently has no place where it can be closed again, if Portland's contention is allowed, without re-arranging all the freight tariffs to the coast and changing the system of fixing them.

On the face of the returns it looks as though Portland should have lower rates than Astoria or Sound points. The haul is shorter, the price should be less. But if this is conceded why will not The Dalles be entitled to lower rates on transcontinental freight than Portland? The haul is shorter, why not the price lower?

Concede this to The Dalles and La Grande also has a right to lower rates than The Dalles, and so on indefinitely.

Under the present system the length of the haul is not taken into consideration in making the rates. Terminal rates are one thing and rates to intermediate points are decided another. As we understand it the rate on through freight from the east to The Dalles, Pendleton, LaGrande, and other smaller towns east of Portland is the through rate to Portland plus the local rate back from Portland. Under this system the place having the shortest haul would pay the highest freight. This at least used to be the system years ago, and it always seemed an unjust way of fixing rates. However that was what was expected from the railroads in the old days, for if they had done anything on a basis of justice most of us would have not been surprised to see the stars falling soon afterward.

However the game is on and where it will terminate is one of those things that only the future and the railroad commissions can disclose.

Portland is having much worry over her schools. No one seems satisfied with the way they are conducted, but there seems to be a wide divergence of opinion as to the cause of unsatisfactory conditions. Some seem to think there is "too much board," while others think there is "a superfluity of superintendent." Perhaps a compromise of the two opinions would be nearer the truth than either alone.

Has Teddy really arrived back in the United States? It was reported some days ago he would land somewhere on the Atlantic coast that evening. But as Mt. Lassen has not broken out, nor any earthquake movements been reported on this coast, it is not likely he has yet stepped ashore.

The grip has one peculiarity that is to its credit. It permits a man to visit hell without going to the trouble of dying first, and sort of viewing out that much exploited country populated entirely through its immigration system.

The Oregonian paragrapher says "no matter if the feet of the co-eds are bad—that is not all of them. Their heads are level, and that is enough." But are they level? Is so why do they wear the goat-foot shoe?

Virgil describing Dido, remarked: "She stands a goddess and she walks a queen." Had Dido worn shoes with lead pencil heels and pointed toes it is a safe bet the remark would never have been made about her.

A good many politicians are like the vermiform appendix. No use has ever been found for them and the body politic is never quite safe until they are removed.



PAYING BILLS

There's nothing more pleasant than paying your bills, than paying your bills at the time when they're due; it sends through your heart most enjoyable thrills, to know that there's nothing charged up against you. You're making the wheels of your village go round, you're giving the workers the best kind of aid, when you dig from your wallet the shilling and pound, and pay up your bills in the palace of trade. You're filling the soul of the merchant with glee, you're bidding the banker to weep never more, you're hanging new wreaths on your family tree, when you pay up your bills at the defunny store. That man is a hindrance and hurt to his town, a brake on the wheels of his own neighborhood, who views the collector with withering frown, who doesn't pay up when the paying is good.



A STRONG, MEAN THIEF

Vancouver, Wash., Mar. 28.—Mrs. P. Gilman today was willing to award the title of champion mean man and justly-deserving dismissed 49 cases, considerably strong man to a thief who stole two 1/2 lbs. from her and women who had pleaded guilty to front porch. The palmer was over four feet high, in large wooden buckets and all in which interested attorneys did very heavy.

HIS BUSY DAY

Vancouver, Wash., Mar. 28.—Establishing what is believed to be a record in administering justice, Judge Black today dismissed 49 cases, considerably strong man to a thief who stole two 1/2 lbs. from her and women who had pleaded guilty to front porch. The palmer was over four feet high, in large wooden buckets and all in which interested attorneys did very heavy.

OPEN FORUM

THE KINDERGARTEN.

To the Editor: It is sometimes argued by those who are opposed to and finance that the kindergarten, although an excellent system of education, is a great luxury; that it demands two teachers in a classroom instead of one, and that it requires a special and expensive equipment.

In spite of these charges, supporting them to be true, the kindergarten might still be economically justified. It would only be necessary to prove that the exceptional value of the education was a warrant for the exceptional expense—"good things come high."

A system of education that ignores the fundamental concepts which underlie the kindergarten may cost less money to run, but there is a larger economy of human intellect, human power, and human character, that in the end serve the state more profitably than any fiscal scheme, however shrewd and far-reaching. The kindergarten, regarded economically, is a plant that yields large returns for the capital invested, it is a conservator of human wealth.

HOI-TENSE OR U.T.

"THE KEY TO POWER"

Editor Journal: For two thousand years in the name of Christianity the world has listened to a gospel of the brotherhood of man; the gospel of power, a gospel of deliverance, of liberty, of enlightenment. And yet, there is neither brotherhood, nor power, nor deliverance, liberty nor enlightenment. Paganism was founded upon the authority of the institution, state or church. The basic value, or the basis of value, in such a regime is property. The dominant influence under such a regime is the authority of the institution, what the institution authorizes. Here is found the root of the divine right of priest and king, of church and state. The individual, or even the people on mass, are of little or no consequence. It is for them to slave and obey (quit and obey). They were simply the best of slaves to support the master-classes, the nobility and the hierarchy.

What the moral, political, intellectual, economic and spiritual conditions of the people were is obvious. Slavery, the result of ignorance, fear, superstition, degeneracy and degradation are the natural conditions under such a system. This is the fruit by which the tree is known and must be judged. If we wish to ascertain the real character, nature, value and influence of any system of religion or philosophy we need only inquire into and examine the moral and social conditions of any people living under said influence be that ancient Rome, medieval Europe or modern Mexico. The fruit will ever be true to the tree, and the tree will always spring from the seed from which it grows. A very simple, yet inflexible rule. Never lose sight of this rule when seeking after causes of things.

Now, some people feel that the Christianity of Jesus (there are at least two distinct kinds of Christianity, that of Jesus and that of the church) is diametrically opposed to Paganism (in purpose, method).

In Paganism the authority of the institution is the supreme emphasis because the very foundation. "What the institution authorizes" is the only law. Not so with Jesus. With him the individual is the great emphasis. Man is the cornerstone of the living temple of God, for the temple is humanity itself. The spiritual nature, the divine capacity and possibility of the human soul (man) is the chief concern of Jesus. Not what any institution authorizes, but, what each individual realizes is the keynote of a gospel by which is Deliverance. The key to all power is not external authority but inner reality; not the voice of church or state, of pope or king, but the voice of God. The voice of man-made authority has never been into bondage. The voice of the spirit (God in man) is the only way to liberty, because it is the voice of deliverance.

Every great struggle for liberty has been by a people quickened by a mighty spiritual impulse, by a glorious vision of faith, by a great awakening and always against the binding power of institutionalized authority of king or priest. It is the history of liberty, be it political or religious, the inspiration and the opposition is ever the same.

Under the old monarchial regime the king or pope ruled absolutely, in a republican form of government, in a democracy, the sovereign power resided in the people. In a monarchy (political or ecclesiastical) the institution was master, in a republic the institution and its officers are the servant of the people (some officers—elected by the vote of the people, seem to overlook this important distinction).

The key of power in democracy, in Christianity lies within the individual, not the institution. Man is the key and cornerstone of the higher life of liberty. It is the I in man which is the divine element. I am, the light; I am, the way; I am, the key to the Inner Kingdom by which is all power. Paul called it "the Christ in You." Jesus called it "the Inner Kingdom." Spiritual realization is the path to life and liberty; institutional authorization is a shadow unto bondage. Light is life, shadow is death.

RICHARD F. FISCHER,
Minister of Unitarian Church.

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Cavalry Remounts Needed On Border—Can't Be Got—Ten Officers Admit

(By United Press.)
San Antonio, Mar. 28.—The European war has stripped the United States of good horses that today United States army officers have admitted a serious shortage of cavalry remounts.

General Funston has combed Texas without result for available animals capable of standing up under hard campaigning. The horsemasters of France, Italy and Great Britain have swept Texas bare of cavalry animals.

St. Louis, Kansas City, Atlanta, Chicago and smaller horse markets now are being investigated by army officers in the hope of obtaining a sufficient supply in a hurry. Here also, however, the army men found that the buyers for the warring nations of Europe had preceded them.

American cavalry regiments are reported to be short of remounts needed in real campaign work and should many be lost in fighting the problem would become grave. State cavalry regiments, too, are reported as generally deficient in cavalry animals.

This is considered important for, in case the Mexican campaign develops and the need arises to send all the regular cavalry into the southern republic, national guard cavalry regiments probably will be the first to be called for border patrol work.

NEW ROUTE FOR CANADIAN GRAIN THROUGH PANAMA CANAL

Winnipeg, Man., Mar. 28.—Changes costing \$7,500,000, made in Manitoba's elevators during the year, are being completed today. The amount was spent with a view of moving the majority of the grain to the western Canadian coast, through the Panama canal to Europe.

The Rangy and Rawboned Colonel George Dodd

(By United Press.)
Washington, Mar. 28.—Rangy, rawboned and "hard looking," is the way friends of Col. George A. Dodd describe the man personally in charge of the flying cavalry column, forming the edge of the wedge driven into Mexico.

Col. Dodd is 64, but when he retires this year he will leave active service as physically fit as when he got his sheepskin at West Point. His hobby is physical training. He instituted the army's "monkey drill," or setting up exercises.

Dodd has seen much field service, most of it in the southwest Indian campaigns. His work there and in the Aguinidino campaign in the Philippines and northern Luzon was chiefly responsible for his getting his present job.

Colonel Dodd was commandant of the United States barracks at Columbus, Ohio, for four years. Last September he was transferred to Douglas, Arizona. Colonel Dodd was wounded at Santiago, July 1, 1898. He is a recognized authority on cavalry and is author of a book on training and handling cavalry horses and men.

When the great flood came in 1913, Dodd acted promptly by having his men clean up and aid the stricken west side of Columbus. Colonel Dodd is a West Pointer from Pennsylvania. His first active service was in suppressing the Chinese uprising under Little Wolf in Nebraska in the 70's.

For 27 years Dodd was attached to the Third cavalry. While at Fort Riley, Kansas, he developed his command to such technical proficiency that the troop was in demand for exhibition purposes in the east. His troopers exhibited at Madison Square Garden, New York, and also in Boston and Washington.

In 1908 Dodd was commissioned as colonel. Colonel Dodd comes from a military family. His father an officer, was killed in the Civil war. However, none of his three sons have entered the army. Of Dodd's three daughters two have married army officers.

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