

Washington Standard

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CITY OFFICIAL PAPER

THE TIMES' LITTLE SPASM.

Getting its tip through a booze-soaked brain warped through years of dissipation and consort with denizens of the underworld, the Seattle Times has seen fit during the past week to hold the city of Olympia and the county of Thurston up to the scorn of the entire state, to misrepresent it as the source of all corruption, a hot-bed of vice, conspiracy and connivance to assist criminals in evading the law, and to evolve from this a campaign for the removal of the state capital to a more "respectable" location. All this because the sheriff of this county, through admitted carelessness, let a couple of prisoners escape from the county jail.

The Seattle Times would have you think that the people of Olympia conspired together to aid the escape of Gillies and Roberts, that the county officials were directly involved in the affair, and that the entire city and county are glad that they did get away; but the Seattle Times, unless its view of the situation is so entirely perverted by this booze-soaked, dissipated brain that all truth is gone out of it, knows better than that. The charitable view of its position—and it is not entitled to one bit of charity—is that it reached the point where it had to throw a fit about something and selected this situation as the object of its little spasm.

If any newspaper ever dealt any community absolute injustice or ever wilfully misrepresented and perverted generally known and easily obtainable facts, the Seattle Times has so treated Olympia. The carelessness and negligence of one official cannot rightly be blamed upon the entire community; the assistance that was given these prisoners by one or two outsiders cannot properly be held to be, nor is it by any means, the attitude of the city and the county, or of its other officials. Likewise all the insinuations and suggestions as to official conspiracy to aid the prisoners are, of course, an absolute lie, the alcoholic dream of a constantly soused reporter.

Olympia, to our mind, need not fear the Times' little spasm—but it should not forget it. It will make no progress in its booze-conceived revival of agitation to remove the capital—that was settled long ago; but it has attempted to besmirch the city's name and reputation, without just cause and upon distorted and untrue statements, and the people of Olympia should not forget that—some day it may come in handy.

LISTER AND THE CAPITOL PLANS.

Suggestions that Governor Lister tacitly acquiesces in the Times' little spasm come, of course, from those who really do not know the situation or else are prompted by some vindictive desire, for the record plainly shows that he sought to go as far as a Republican legislature would let him go with the new development, until the state supreme court halted all progress by declaring the capitol bond issue unconstitutional. We will all agree that he can neither be blamed for what a Republican legislature does nor for a supreme court decision.

The state of Washington had not acquired all of Capitol Point for its building purposes, as the plans designed, until Lister took charge of the situation; it had not had the streets closed up so the whole tract could be laid out in one park, until Lister had this done through the capitol commission. And the warrant indebtedness against the general fund would have been taken up, the Temple of Justice—an unsightly hang-over from a Republican administration—would have been completed and the two blocks of property for the Main street entrance would have been completed and the two blocks of property been purchased, if the bond issue had not been knocked out by the supreme court, for this work was well under way and all arrangements for its completion had been made, when the decision was given.

But in other ways, in which his efforts were not blocked on the one hand by a Republican legislature which refused to authorize more than a third of the proposed bond issue or by a court which held that bond issue illegal, Governor Lister has demonstrated his friendliness toward Olympia as the Capital City, in the form which counts. More of the state departments are located in Olympia now than ever before, having been moved here in the last three and one-half years from other cities, and these additions of offices previously maintained outside have meant more residents for the city of Olympia and a larger payroll for the city. Such actions count for much; talk is cheap.

Anyone who tells you Governor Lister is hos-

tile to Olympia and wants to see the capital removed, doesn't know what he is talking about.

A FEATURE OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The longshoremen's strike in the Seattle and Tacoma harbors has served to precipitate an issue in the coming state campaign, an issue that is very apt to be the predominating one unless that strike is settled right soon, and an issue which in all events will have an important bearing upon the campaign—the issue of the open shop. And the present prospects are that the fight this is bound to precipitate will be state-wide in character, if waged at all, and will likewise be intensely and bitterly fought.

Indications of its appearance in the gubernatorial campaign are to be seen in the flamboyant announcement of one of the Republican candidates for the nomination, in declaring he would not have the union label on his printing; assurance that it is lying dormant in the plans of several, at least, of the others, is to be gathered from their previous business relations and particularly from the business in which most of them have been engaged, lumbering, while another—and incidentally the one who now appears to be the most popular of the seven aspirants—has been quite closely affiliated with the manufacturers' association during his comparatively short residence in the state.

The "open shop" campaign has already started in San Francisco and the business interests of that city have contributed a fund of close to half a million dollars to carry on the fight. The situation in this state has hardly reached that point and it is altogether possible that the present flurry will die before it assumes more serious prospects, but the undercurrent of opinion among those who are watching all the influences apt to figure in the coming campaign lays considerable stress upon the likelihood of an "open shop" fight.

An interesting sidelight on it is that, judging from the comments made at the State Press Association meeting in Ellensburg the latter part of last week, most of the proprietors of the smaller papers of the state favor the "open shop" argument.

THEY DIDN'T ELIMINATE.

Considerable whole-souled amusement could have been gathered by anyone who wanted to from the flustered efforts of some of the Republican editors at the meeting of the State Press Association last week, to eliminate some of the seven Republican candidates for governor. They didn't eliminate—they started a row—whence the flustering.

The eliminating process, of course, doesn't appeal to the politician, except insofar as it applies to the other fellow, and naturally the seven candidates and their dozen or fifteen press agents and managers, and their friends raised a holler when the suggestion came forth. And a few of the Republican editors—those already hitched to some candidate's star—joined in this self-same holler and the incipient racket reached the boiling over stage several times. That is as far as it got, however, and after the initial outbreak some of the leaders chipped in to try to smooth things over.

So far as the editors themselves gave evidence, George A. Lee seemed to be the most popular of the seven who graced the convention with their presence. This, of course, was father to the further opinion that he probably would get the nomination.

And, by the way, the people of Ellensburg most royally entertained the editors of the state at their annual gathering, leaving amongst them a most favorable impression and a feeling of gratitude that they had had the good sense to attend the gathering, the largest in the history of the organization.

The political race is on now in state and county, a large number of candidates having filed and "ponied up" the required fee. Several lively fights for nominations are already under way among the Republican candidates in this county, several more are promised, and exciting times are ahead. Politics will be our chief companion during the next few weeks.

Government encouragement to the dynamic dollar of the trader, rather than to the static dollar of the lender, may be said to have been the policy of the United States government ever since Woodrow Wilson took the administrative chair. And the opening of this program may be said to have taken place on the day when the president frowned on the Chinese loan negotiators; the consummation of it, on the day when congress authorized foreign branch banking.

The Republican editors of the state don't want President Wilson to appoint C. B. Kegley, master of the Washington State Grange, on the federal farm loan board authorized by the rural credit legislation just passed, and, through their association, entered a formal protest asking Senator Jones to block the appointment if it be made. The fact that the farmers of this and twenty-four other states want him in that office doesn't make any difference, of course.

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WHAT OUR FATHERS READ ABOUT IN THIS PAPER FIFTY YEARS AGO

From The Washington Standard for July 21, 1866. Vol. VI. No. 37.

The government has awarded contracts for raising vessels in the river and harbor of Savannah which were sunk by the rebels to obstruct the channel.

There are 37,000 churches in the United States.

The Josie McNair arrived on Sunday morning last in tow of the Pioneer, her boiler being disabled so she could not carry full steam. She is a neat little craft, better designed for river navigation than the trade in which she is to be employed. Her machinery is being overhauled and her cabin enlarged.

Ottawa, C. W., July 11.—There was an exciting session of the Canadian parliament yesterday. The opposition assailed the government with great force and effect, and the project of annexation to the United States seems to gain favor.

The Pixley family, consisting of Misses Annie, Minnie, and Louisa, aged respectively 14, 9 and 7 years, gave entertainments at Washington hall Saturday and Monday evenings to fair audiences. Mrs. Pixley has opened a millinery shop on Washington street.

EDITORS TO CO-OPERATE.

Republican and Democratic Scribes Form Editorial Associations.

Associations composed of the Republican and the Democratic editors of the state, respectively, were organized in connection with the annual convention of the State Press Association at Ellensburg the latter part of last week, for fuller co-operation in the campaign this year.

The officers of the Democratic Editorial Association are: President, E. M. Conner, South Bend; vice president, W. W. Simpson, Hillyard; secretary, W. E. Chambers, Kirkland; treasurer, F. M. Brown, Colfax; executive committee, H. W. Mason, Seattle; B. E. West, Kent; J. C. Harrigan, Colville; William Goodyear, Pullman; Eagle Freshwater, Olympia.

The Royal Exchange Assurance company of London, England, obtained a judgment in the local superior court last week of \$113 and costs against Attorney P. C. Kibbe of Tenino, Attorneys Troy & Sturdevant of this city representing the English firm.

The casing of the old Crescent Oil company's well at Tenino was pulled out last week and was shipped to Orting, where a well is being drilled near the Soldiers' home.

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