

Seattle Wants Stewart for Post Master

No doubt one of the political matters to be settled, while President Roosevelt is in this city, is, who will be our next postmaster. If left to the people at large, or to the business community, there would be no question but that the present



HON. GEORGE M. STEWART. Postmaster, Seattle.

incumbent, Geo. M. Stewart, would be reappointed, but unfortunately, sometimes, public will, and public interests, are ruthlessly thrown aside for political causes. For political

reasons both of our U. S. senators are opposed to Mr. Stewart. He, however, has the support of Congressman Humphry, whose endorsement dates back to a time when Mr. Stewart was the only candidate in the field. While the naming of postmasters in the larger cities is considered a special prerogative of United States senators, yet the courtesy is usually and justly so, accorded a congressman, to name the postmaster in his home town. In this case, where Seattle's congressman is in entire accord with the business judgment and interests of the town, this right should be insisted upon and outsiders should not presume too far.

The Seattle Republican enters no fight against any man for the position as postmaster, but some valid reasons why Mr. Stewart should be continued might not be out of place. During his incumbency of the office the receipts have risen from \$138,000, Dec. 31, 1899, to \$277,000, Dec. 31, 1902, running now about \$300,000 a year. The carrier service has been increased from 32 to 62 men, and there are now 91 clerks in the office proper. When he assumed the office there were six substations in the city. In a little over three years, these have been increased to fifteen, with ten regular stations besides. As a result of Mr. Stewart's efforts, Seattle has been supplied with a special mail car, which delivers the mail to all suburban points and is of great convenience to the public. Beside the general growth of business, as indicated, requiring great executive ability and constant attention, to provide for, Seattle has been made the exchange office for the Australia, China and Japan mails; not only from the United States railroad lines, but from the Canadian Pacific route as well. This entails much added work and responsibility. All this increased business Mr. Stewart has provided for, and by his genius the service has been kept running smoothly and constantly improved, until it is now in a most splendid condition. In view of what Mr. Stewart has done for the mail service in this city and in view of what he may yet be able to do by virtue of his experience and thorough understanding of the situation, it seems as though mere political reasons ought not to influence a change at the end of the present term.

In this connection it might not be out of place to add that many of the best business men of the city have, unsolicited,

been to Mr. Stewart and proffered him their assistance and endorsement for reappointment, recognizing his worth to the community in the position. It is now up to them to make good use of the opportunity and see to it that the personal, political interests of those living in other parts of the state



W. J. COLKETT, Assistant Postmaster, Seattle.

do not control in the matter. Let a little of the Seattle spirit be manifested in this, and let the President know that we know what we want, and do not desire to be used as a cat's paw for either Tacoma or Walla Walla in the business of selecting our postmaster.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Woman's Place of Honor.

Mrs. Kate Trimble Woolsey, formerly of New York, has abandoned her native land and sought an asylum in England; because, as she puts it, "A place of honor for women is not anywhere found in the fabric of the American nation." This she said in a letter to President Roosevelt upbraiding him for not taking up the cudgel for women and giving her her proper place in public affairs of the nation, and continuing says, that there is nothing in his public utterances that recognizes even the presence of women as a factor in American political life. Mrs. Woolsey, evidently, in her extreme regrets that nature made a mistake in making her a woman, has overlooked and ignored the true place of woman in the American nation. President Roosevelt, while not directly by public utterance, possibly, but impliedly so, at least, has recognized woman as occupying the highest place of honor, the place most American women are content, yea proud to occupy, queens of the American homes. There is nothing inconsistent in Mr. Roosevelt's position. In his doctrine of good citizenship he pays a high compliment to American mothers and their possibilities for useful service, for it is only when women are sitting queens upon the home throne, can we expect the crop from the home nest to fulfill the highest ideal of good citizenship. It is not a question of ability, people have gotten away from the old idea that women should not be given the ballot, "cause they hain't capable," but if women were to take the place in the business and political world, evidently desired by Mrs. Woolsey, the home must be neglected and either race suicide or what would be worse, the leaving of the children in the home to irresponsible, incompetent care, to grow up to anything but good citizenship would be the result. When a woman has done her duty by her husband and children in aiding and instructing, in counseling, advising and directing, and thus through husband and sons made the world better for having lived in it, she has done a greater and nobler work than she who possibly has sat among the sons of men and helped direct the affairs of state; and is much more in keeping with the eternal fitness of things. Mr. Roosevelt recognizes, as Mrs. Woolsey it seems does not, the true place of honor for women and does not care to be a party to her dethronement; which act would bring her down to the level of her vassals.

Let Alaska Be Alaska.

The proposition to divide Alaska into two parts and name one part Lincoln and the other Seward sounds very well from a sentimental point of view, but is wholly devoid of sense or good taste. In the first place neither is a good name for a state. In the next place Alaska is an ideal name and has so long been associated with our northwestern possessions that it would be hard to disassociate the land from the name, even if it were desirable so to do, but it is not, on the other hand every reasonable argument is for its retention. When the territory is divided, as no doubt it should be, let one part be called Alaska and the other

some equally euphonious name. The name of a person applied to a state is void of significance. This country has been quite fortunate in the naming of states, only once has it made the mistake to apply the cognomen of an individual, and that was in the naming of our own glorious state of Washington. The state would have been just as glorious if named Cascadia, Olympia, Rainier, Tacoma or any other name of a local flavor, and the honored name of Washington would not have been cheapened by the familiarity that brings contempt. Speak of Washington today and one thinks first not of the Father of His Country, but of Washington City or the state of Washington. The name of Lincoln is far too sacred to be bandied about and profaned by applying it to so common a thing as a state. Let us not multiply the name and thus detract from the luster that attached to the great emancipator.

Immigration Laws Responsible.

More trouble is brewing for Uncle Sam because of his lax immigration laws. Some years ago the Mafia a mysterious, secret organization of Italians, caused considerable trouble in New Orleans, because of murders and other atrocities committed. They seem to have broken out again in New York City, where many Italian are flocking. It is away past the time when the bars should be put up against undesirable foreigners, and to neglect it longer is exceedingly dangerous if not suicidal.

Gen. Baldwin Not Guilty.

Another false statement has been chased to earth by the war department and another maligned army officer exonerated. Not long since a newspaper report was made that Gen. Baldwin, late from the Philippine Islands, had made a slighting remark about Negro and Filipino soldiers, expressing a disregard as to whether they were killed or not. The war department took it up and after an investigation, report the statement wholly untrue and without foundation in fact. It seems strange how such stories get started. Some people seem to have but little to do except to stir up strife about, or because of, the colored people. The facts are they are among Uncle Sam's honest, best and most loyal soldiers, and their traducers will accomplish nothing by trying to discredit them, even in such a roundabout way as in the Gen. Baldwin case.

Oregon's Great Mistake.

Oregon is in danger of losing the Lewis and Clark centennial exposition planned to be held in Portland in 1905 through the operation of that relic of Populism, which was permitted to become a law in that state. We refer to the democratic initiative and referendum that was one of the primal principles of that once popular cult, Populism. The Republicans of Oregon have long been noted for eccentricities and just why they stepped into so foolish a trap as to go back on the republican, or representative form of government to the extent of enacting into law the democratic, or government by the people idea, as this initiative and referendum amounts to, is hard to under-

stand. Organized labor in Portland is strong, and for some real or fancied grievance there is a big war on and to enforce their demands or from pure spite the labor leaders are invoking the referendum law, as to whether the state shall appropriate \$500,000 towards the exposition. There is a strong probability that they will defeat the appropriation, kill the fair and incidentally deprive laboring men and artisans of that city of the opportunity to earn the vast amount of money such an enterprise would afford. This loss, however, seems to count as nothing compared with an opportunity to "get even" with capital. It, however, affords an opportunity to prove the utter foolishness, even viciousness of the referendum law. There seems to be no disposition to invoke it except as an act of negation.

Not More Children But Better Parents.

Before the members of an organization called the Mothers and Fathers Club, of Boston, Mary A. Livermore spoke of "Child Culture" recently, and took issue with President Roosevelt and President Eliot on the race suicide question. She said: "We need to listen more, to talk more about the culture of fathers and mothers than we do to the culture of the child, it seems to me. There are two mighty factors that enter into the making of individuals and of nations. These factors are heredity and environment. There are men and women who are unfit to be the parents of children. At the present time we have got to depend upon environment. In many cases it is better to take children away from their natural parents so that they may have a chance to do better. The need is not more children, but better ones. It would not be race suicide if we were to have more homes into which only two or three children were born. Quality and character signify more than a horde." President Roosevelt and Mrs. Livermore are both right. Race suicide should not be permitted, but that need not imply large families as is intimated above small families of well trained children are of much more value to the world, than are large ones, allowed to "come up" like Topsy in the corn patch, or our city streets. Mrs. Livermore strikes the keynote when she says we need to talk more of the culture of fathers and mothers. Let the parents of the land look to the heredity, the environment and the home teaching of the children, and keep them within the influence of the home, then we may hope to see a higher order of life and character and the depopulation of jails and almshouses.

"Seattle permits the President to visit Everett strictly under the direction of Seattle, and then tries to get he City of Smokestacks to feel grateful to it. Such an exhibition of modesty moves to tears or laughter, according to the disposition of the beholder."—Tacoma Ledger.

In view of the fact that that is just the position Tacoma took with regard to the President's visit to Seattle, it comes with very poor grace, to say the least, for Tacoma to throw slurs at Seattle. The less braying Tacoma papers do over the boorish actions of its entertainment committees, headed by Senator Foster, the fewer people, possibly, will recognize the long ears and the true nature of the animals behind the editorial desks. Seattle, for the sake of harmony, yielded to Tacoma's unusual demand. It is about time now for them to cease rubbing it in, or people will conclude that they do not understand the first principles of gentlemanliness.