

The Caldwell Tribune.

VOL. 21, NO. 43

CALDWELL, IDAHO, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1905

WEEKLY, \$2.00 PER YEAR

THE DAY HAS COME FOR ACTION.

Caldwell to Boom--Pointers Worthy of Consideration.

From estimates of contractors and builders and interviews with people who are making preparations, we learn that between one and two hundred houses will be built here during present year. Ten or twelve residences, begun since the first of January, are now in various stages of construction. These facts again dispose us to urge the necessity of public improvements. Extraordinary efforts should be made this year to open up and improve new streets. Attention is called to the fact that Kimball is the only feasible street traversing the breadth of the town, and Third south the only practicable one traversing its length. Every other street in Caldwell, before getting out of town, is interrupted by a bridgeless section of Indian creek, an impassable irrigation canal or a strip of wild land, or disappears in a quagmire. The public thoroughfares should not be suffered to remain in this condition for another year. It retards the growth of the town, depreciates property values, interferes with business and generally disgraces the community. Accompanying improvement of streets should be extension of the city water works. Sooner or later this must be done, and it should be done now because it will operate as an inducement to strangers seeking to build homes, as well as encourage those already here to improve their properties. The street lighting ought also to be extended. There is a large section of the town paying taxes for water and light for the benefit of others. That is charitable, but it isn't business, and, moreover, it isn't necessary. Then, again, the building of a respectable city hall ought to be pushed. All these things are necessary to the growth and stability of the town.

Right now is a critical period in the affairs of Caldwell. Right now the status of the town may be settled for all time. Right now an impetus may be given to its growth and development that may carry it forward for years to come. For a good many years the irrigation problem presented difficulties and created uncertainties. That is now solved and practically settled. The surrounding country is going forward by leaps and bounds. This town must keep pace. In fact it must lead, or soon it will be outgrown and outclassed by its neighbors. Don't make the fatal mistake of lying supinely down and shouting, "Caldwell is all right." The trail from Chicago to Portland is littered with the remains of towns whose inhabitants stood around yelling, "We are all right." Today they are as melancholy spectacles as ill-kept graveyards. Eternal push is the price of supremacy.

In passing, we want to suggest some important facts. Three years ago, all kinds of property in Caldwell was worth less than half of what it is today. In other words, the people were upon the average fifty per cent poorer than now. Again, three years ago property, in town, was worth 50 per cent less than it was ten years before that. So we may see that in the matter of finance, the community went steadily down hill for nine or ten years, touched the bottom about three years ago and then slowly and painfully began the upward climb. Meantime, until within the last year, other towns round about out climbed Caldwell. Nampa, Emmett, Payette and Parma, all made comparatively more progress. Caldwell had acquired a sort of Rip

Van Winkle status. She was expunged from railroad maps. She slipped from the memory of commercial travelers. She—she went sound asleep. If she ever does that again it, will be all up with her. Property values will go so low that they cannot get up again in a thousand years. The magic city will descend to that humble and miserable state which may best be described as a suburb of Nampa or Notus.

THE CAUSE OF IT

North Idaho papers, especially the able and astute Lewiston Tribune, are trying to make believe that they think we were joshing when we recorded the fact that people were moving down here from the Lewiston and Palouse countries, because, as they believe, the conditions for agricultural enterprise are better here than there. Now, we assure our esteemed northern contemporaries that we were quite serious and related nothing but exact truth. Those people may be found scattered from American Falls to Caldwell. We have personally met representatives of five or six different families and only a few days ago some of them spoke to us about renting a farm. We believe that one cause of this emigration from the north is the very high price reached by the available lands, particularly in the vicinity of Lewiston. We are told that what little land there is in Nez Perce county is very valuable, being held anywhere from \$500 to \$1500 the acre. We are glad to publish this very flattering information. The Palouse country is unquestionably peculiarly adapted to the raising of wheat and oats, but can never amount to much for diversified and intensive farming. That is its principal drawback. Down here the conditions are so different. Land here is very cheap and abundant compared to what it is in Nez Perce county, and while things do not come quite as early as they do in Vinland and other especially favored localities right around Lewiston, we raise substantially everything they do there and the yield is practically as great. The Palouse will always be a great wheat country and the conditions there tend to encourage immense holdings. It takes about 600 acres to make a moderate farm, and 160 yields a bare living to an average family. Here 160 acres is a big farm and 40 acres will support a large family in comfort and a small one in luxury. Facts like these, naturally impel people to come here from all sections of the country. There is nothing extraordinary about it; but if north Idaho is going to take it to heart, we shall endeavor to stop it, or, by way of recompense, ship up there some people we don't need here.

THE BEGINNING

Yesterday Theodore Roosevelt discharged the last obligation assumed by him on the death of William McKinley. Today, he starts on a four years of administrative duties freed from any restraints which his pledge, made at the bier of his predecessor, may have imposed. Although Mr. Roosevelt has shown himself to be a man of soundest integrity, of unflinching courage and extraordinary ability, the country may not yet fully judge him, because, in the larger affairs of national policy, he has in great measure followed the lines laid down by his predecessor. How often he has felt obliged, by the terms of his solemn promise, to do this

without the full approval of his own judgment, no one but himself can tell, and whether good or bad has resulted from this unbroken fealty will never be known. But this we do know, faith has been kept. The pledge to carry out William McKinley's policies was made by an honest, loyal, capable man whose devoted past is a sufficient earnest of his noble future.

Today really marks the beginning of Theodore Roosevelt's administration. His commission now comes direct from the people. Faith in him is almost unlimited. Whatsoever he proposes will be sanctioned by 75 millions of enlightened people. Rarely ever was man believed in as Roosevelt is. Confidence in him is so complete and universal that one is inclined to pause and inquire if it is not transcending safe and reasonable bounds. Yet, while we pause and question, our own faith grows and strengthens. Somehow it is impossible to conceive of Theodore Roosevelt performing an act of unfaithfulness. It is impossible to think of him as doing anything except for the advantage, integrity and uplifting of the American people. None but a good man could inspire such sentiments, none but a great man could keep them aglow.

A COMPARISON

Showing How the Cœur d'Alenes are the Greatest Ore Producers

The enormous production of the Cœur d'Alenes is more fully appreciated when compared with the production of other great mining camps. As a matter of fact, there are but two mining camps in the west and Alaska, that produce a greater value than this district, a section not more than 10 by 20 miles in extent. They are Butte and Cripple creek.

In the year 1904 the actual smelter returns for ore shipped from the Cœur d'Alenes was \$12,317,375.

The great Black Hills district, in South Dakota, with 30,000 population, produced in that year, but \$7,169,400.

Park City, Utah, with the Ontario, Daly West and other great mines, produced but \$7,548,130, and this was figured upon a basis of price for lead and silver which if applied to the Cœur d'Alenes would add just a round million to its production.

Leadville, Colorado, and the district surrounding produced \$11,708,812.

The San Juan district in Colorado, embracing nine counties, produced \$7,632,690.

Nome and Alaska produced a little short of \$5,000,000.

The great Klondyke region, which interested the whole world, made a record in 1894, of \$10,300,000.

The production of both lead and zinc in the district which embraces southwest Missouri and southeastern Kansas, and which supports Joplin, Carthage and numerous other good cities, was a little more than \$11,000,000.

These are all good records, but it will be noted that all are short of the production of the Cœur d'Alenes.—Idaho Press.

THE BOSS

We haven't the honor of personally knowing Representative Grosvenor of Ohio, neither has he the misfortune of ever having heard of us. But that makes no difference. All we want of him is to thank him for having the courage to say a good, honest word for the political "boss"; and say it right out in meeting, in connection with his eulogy of the late Matthew Stanley Quay of Pennsylvania.

Speaking of the great Pennsyl-

vanian, the great Ohioan said: "To use a modern expression, he was always on the firing line of political battle, and the term 'boss', which is so grossly misapplied in the discussion of American politics, from the standpoint in which it is usually used, would apply to him pre-eminently. But when you come to analyze what it takes to make a boss, when you study the men who have risen to that position in the newspaper estimation, you generally find a man of fine discernment of political questions, having a great knowledge of human character, and a profound believer in organization." After explaining that Miss Frances Willard possessed all the elements and in her field exercised many of the functions of a boss, Representative Grosvenor proceeded: "Now, if you will study the use of this term 'boss' in American politics you will find that when the person using it is talking about his friend or some one else whom he admires he always speaks of that one as an 'organizer', with great powers of organization; but when they do not not happen to be those, or they should happen to be individuals who have received some disastrous check of some ambition that they may have had, they fly very readily and profusely to the use of the word 'boss'; and 'bad boss' and all the prefixes to 'boss' that they can command."

That is plain truth, just as Senator Grosvenor stated it; but it is not all of the truth. If you will analyze the men or the newspapers who inveigh most against political bosses you will find always that they want to do all the bossing themselves and do it in the meanest and most arbitrary way imaginable, or they are such confounded weaklings that they can't stand alone and such despicable ingrates that they can't help but curse those they are obliged to lean against. It is a pretty safe rule whenever you hear anything howling about boss rule and railing against political bosses to put that thing down as an envious scrub or a moral dishrag.

HEYBURN AND SANTO DOMINGO

First to Propose Its Annexation to the United States

The following was telegraphed from Washington a few days ago:

"Noting what has happened in Santo Domingo of late, it occurs to me that the people of this country may have forgotten that the junior senator from Idaho, Hon. W. B. Heyburn, in December, 1903, introduced a joint resolution providing for the annexation of that country to the United States," said M. J. Dexter of San Francisco, at the New Willard.

"If I mistake not, a good many of the newspapers were inclined to chaff the Idaho senator for this, but the logic of events has shown him to be the possessor of a level head, and not only a wise but a farseeing legislator. I know a great deal about Santo Domingo, for I spent some years there, and I know it will be a colossal mistake, indeed, a crime, if Mr. Heyburn's idea is not carried out. This island is a picket post between our Atlantic ports and Panama, and is a strategic point absolutely essential to the United States."

THE Pocatello Advance announces, "The City Mulched." Well, now, we wonder what for they wanted to cover over a city like Pocatello with manure and stuff. Funny notions some people have, ain't it? Guess they are trying to protect the foundations from the balmy spring weather they have up there.

LOCAL OPTION BILL REJECTED.

The Legislature Turns Down the Proposed Enactment.

Through their representatives the people of Idaho have rejected a bill granting citizens the right to decide by vote whether intoxicating liquors should be sold as beverages within their respective political divisions. This action may be construed as meaning that a majority of the people of the State are in favor of unrestricted liquor traffic, or, strange as it may seem to the uninformed, it might with equal consistency be construed as meaning that a majority are in favor of absolute prohibition. The fact is, though, that you cannot tell anything about the state of the public mind on the liquor question by a vote on local option.

The most strict and zealous temperance people are radically opposed to local option, and they oppose it for exactly the same reasons that local optionists favor it. To illustrate: Representative Donaldson, the author of the defunct bill, argued for local option, (first) that it is not a purity, but a sanitary measure; (second) not a moral, but a political question, and (third) that it would tend to improve the character of the saloon; that is make the saloon respectable. You see, the local optionist does not put the liquor traffic in the category of crimes or immoralities. He says simply that those majorities to whom it is offensive should be permitted to banish it from their presence, and those majorities to whom it is desirable should be permitted to enjoy it. That looks like a fair proposition, but it must be confessed that it does not exemplify any principle of the moral law.

The really sound, uncompromising temperance people argue against local option in this wise: The system ignores the moral element in law; it sets up majority rule as the origin of right. The very enactment of a local option law means that the crime side of the liquor traffic is denied, because communities, if they choose, are allowed by the State to license the traffic; it hopes to make the traffic more respectable, hence more tolerable; it is a compromise with the devil. And, again, local option, like license, makes revenues local, but expends general, interesting the local community in gaining the revenue of license, thus promoting local selfishness. It impregnably fortifies the liquor traffic from within, while it can be assailed only from without. Forty-four States are powerless against one. A treaty of non-interference stands with the world outside. Finally, local option scatters and disintegrates the temperance forces, prevents unity of purpose and effort and thereby effectually militates against State and National prohibition.

Now, you see, for anything we know to the contrary, those 27 representatives who voted against local option may have correctly represented a constituency of devoted prohibitionists. We believe some of those members did indicate that they would vote for straight prohibition but could not bring themselves to compromise with vice. However, that may be, this much is evident, the advocates of local option have no rightful claim to moral superiority. They put themselves in the attitude of cheerfully meeting sin half way and shaking hands with it. At any rate, that is the way orthodox temperance people look at it. Local option and high license are much of the same order. The latter provides that intoxicants may be manufactured and sold by any one who is able to pay the

price and the former provides that intoxicants may be made and dispensed in any community that can muster a majority of one. Fundamentally, local option rests for justification on the doctrine that might is right.

TO HON. ERY JOHNSON

Good sir, we condole with you in the defeat of your benevolent purpose to ameliorate railroad rates. Notwithstanding that we knew disaster would overtake your noble effort, yet, the catastrophe fills us with sorrow. Our heart is heavy and our eyes are dim with incontinent tears. And, by the mother of Moses, you will find plenty of other flabby scrubs like us who, now that the battle is over, will lament with you like a four-ply widow, but who, five minutes before the vote was taken, were dancing like puppets to the music of Freddy Plaisted.

Your colleagues did not support you as you deserved, and that was because so many of them enjoyed what we Frenchmen from Cardiganshire call *carte blanche* for railroad fare for themselves, their ancestors to the root of the genealogical tree and for posterity even unto the fourth generation. It was good to see the generosity of the statesmen in the matter of fetching to the capital droves of their constituency. And it touched the soul the way the statesmen would run off home, a matter of six or seven hundred miles, every Saturday evening so as to be on hand Sunday morning to look after their Sabbath schools. Contemplation of such piety tends to spiritualize and uplift humanity. We feel better already.

The newspapers of the State did not support you at all. Those mighty and boisterous engines of reform and sanguinary champions of the oppressed were as silent on the rate bill as the ghost of Parker's campaign. Do you know why? It is a great secret. We would not venture to squeal on anybody but ourself. We didn't dare come to your aid. Of course it was cowardice and selfishness that prevented. We were with you in spirit. It don't cost anything to be with you in spirit. We make a specialty of that kind of moral force in troublous times. It seems like we get lots of help, too. Well, you see, it is this way: We like to have a little transportation ourself. It is so convenient, you know. And what sense would there be in risking the loss of it for the benefit of a public that wouldn't care a tinker's dam what became of us afterwards?

DUKE M. FARSON, the Chicago millionaire, Sunday School teacher and all around financier was in Pocatello recently, looking after his interests, and, according to some authorities, doing a little politics that may have a bearing on the future representation of Idaho in the United States Senate.

Social Event

Mrs. P. A. Devers was a very charming hostess at a luncheon Wednesday afternoon in honor of her sister, Mrs. M. J. Devers of Caldwell. The afternoon was most pleasantly spent at cards, the ladies' first prize being captured by Mrs. A. I. Wilson and the consolation prize by Mrs. J. H. Shawhan. Before departing, Mrs. Wilson very graciously presented her favor to the guest of honor, Mrs. M. J. Devers. The hostess then served the guests with an elegant lunch.—Payette Independent.