

THE COLVILLE EXAMINER

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J. C. Harrigan, Editor and Manager

James J. Hill states that the railroads of the country need more support. The truth of this is evident with some roads, which not only need greater support, but better ballast and new rails.

The houses of national congress convened Monday. Joe Cannon of Illinois was re-elected speaker of the house by the votes of 207 congressmen. John Sharp Williams of Mississippi was the choice of the democratic minority.

Speaking to the caucus which nominated him, Speaker Cannon said "We must face the responsibility for government without regard to the past. * * * We are to be judged by the work of the present, not by the record of the past." This is indeed a genteel manner in which to absolve the republican congress from past responsibility. Of course republican legislators do not wish to be judged by the past. Throw the past onto the democrats. Or, if the years of inaction have produced results too severe to be laid at any one party's door, hand them around to the other parties. Give some to the populists. The fact that republicans have had practically continuous control for half a century need not be taken into account—if they are not to be judged by the past. Political justice is a thing curious and wonderful. Of course the common voter, the man away from Washington, may not fully understand all the intricacies of a case in which congress is not to be judged by its past. For their benefit the republican press committee is probably already active, and the explanation will be looked for with avidity.

The Portland Oregonian has left the ranks of republican supporters. In the announcement of this fact it says that "It is tired of the effort to appeal on principles political, social, financial, national and historic, to men who don't care for anything of the kind, but are actuated merely by selfish piques, petty desires and trifling personal ambitions." The Oregonian has many friends in the west who can realize the anomalous position in which a newspaper is placed in attempting to support the republican party and at the same time to preserve a measure of self respect in presenting to its readers the best interests of the people. Not only democrats but all other honest voters welcome the fearless, independent press, in which class the Oregonian now places itself.

Last week's issues of Colville papers contained

the following number of square inches of editorial, local and county news:

Reveille, Nov. 28, 287.

Statesman-Index, Nov. 29, 359½.

Examiner, Nov. 30, 658½.

The Reveille is on its 9th year of publication. The Index assumes credit for being on its 19th volume. Yet in its 5th issue the Examiner published more news than both of its competitors together.

Last week's issue of the Statesman-Inkeg bewails the fact that the Examiner has been and is publishing more home news than either of the other Colville papers. Owing to the worn-out type and poor presswork on the paper, the article was difficult to read, but from the general tenor of remarks where legible we judge that another slaughter of English was being made in an attempt to discredit the Examiner's statement. Inasmuch as the Examiner was neither started with the consent of the Inge or with intent to force it out of existence, remarks from it on this subject are desultory—though perhaps amusing for the reason that the Inge has been obliged to reduce expenses to a degree which will not allow it to exchange with the Examiner. Purely as a matter of information from a printer to a non-printer the writer offers the statement that last week the Examiner printed 5,589 ems of editorial, county and local news more than the Statesman-Index for the same week, and 11,469 ems more than its protegee the Reveille. This can be easily verified by consulting any printer. For the average reader a square inch basis is perfectly clear, hence its continued use in this paper.

Throughout the eastern and central states the effort of the republican party to handle the laboring vote is becoming apparent. Two methods are used, in manners best fitted to the different localities of operation. Wherever possible the strongest attempt is being made to rebind or reblind the eyes of wage earners that they may not see behind the curtain of republicanism. If at all possible their votes must again go to the support of republican congressmen. But the congressional scene shifts at the great play called "Republican Prosperity" carelessly let the curtain pole drop through the gaudy setting of the full dinner pail, and through the rent a house filled with spectators can see the crude stage settings in their reality. Millions of dollars worth of national bonds and rubber money have been thrust into the gap until new scenery can be obtained (to be paid for by the people). The audience is asked to trust the management a little longer and the political ushers are profuse in their apologies that the negligence or incompetence of house officials should have de-