

**ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE**

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TELEPHONE 3-74

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JUNEAU, ALASKA, NOV. 11, 1912.

**VOTING FOR PRESIDENT.**

Our method of electing a President and Vice President is cumbersome and complicated, and we believe that the time is not far distant when these officers will be elected by the direct vote of the people.

Under our present system each political party nominates a number of electors in their respective states, corresponding to each state's representation in the Congress. The electors chosen then meet, usually in the January following the presidential election, in their respective states, their duties being defined clearly by the twelfth amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The electors vote by ballot for President and Vice President, and they are required to make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President and as Vice President, and of the number of votes for each, which list they are required to sign and certify, and transmit, (generally by one of their number chosen for that purpose) sealed, to the seat of government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate. On a day fixed, that official, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, opens all the certificates and votes are then counted, and the persons having the greatest number of votes for President and Vice President, respectively, are declared elected.

Provision is also made in the Constitution as to how a President and Vice President are chosen, should none receive a majority of the electoral vote, something, however, which has never happened in the history of the republic.

The votes of the electoral college may be cast for any person. There is nothing in law to compel them to vote for the candidates designated. It is simply a matter of honor with them, but be it said, has never been violated. This question caused considerable discussion prior to the late presidential contest, inasmuch as some electors on the Republican tickets of some states, in control of the Progressive party, declared their intention of voting for Roosevelt. If they were elected. But the matter, we believe, was finally amicably arranged in all the states, except California, where no Republican electors were voted for.

**A BROADER POLICY NEEDED.**

Reports that have reached The Empire from various Coast sections of Alaska, especially to the Westward—are to the effect that the people of those districts are looking hopefully forward to the inauguration of the Democratic administration. A correspondent writes:

"We are looking to Wilson with a hopeful feeling that he may understand and will relieve the unjust, iniquitous, and absolutely criminal condition which exists with regard to the use and development of some of the most important natural resources of Alaska. We have reason to hope that the Democratic party will not abandon the fundamental principles of honesty in dealing with the people of Alaska, and with the fruits—results of many years of struggle and privation—which they have believed belong to them.

"If this policy is adopted by the new administration, and if it can receive favorable consideration at the hands of Congress, . . . I see no reason why Alaska will not advance by leaps and bounds in material and economic prosperity. Alaska asks but the removal of the cruel hand from her throat, and she will awake from her condition of suspended animation and will deck her hills and valleys with the flowers of industry."

We share our friend's hopes. We do not think that Alaska has had a square deal under preceding federal administrations. A more liberal policy is demanded. Alaska's resources, we claim, should be for the legitimate use of Alaskans—those who have given of their brawn, brain and capital to make them serviceable to mankind. If the incoming Democratic administration fails to treat Alaska with more consideration than has been shown in the past, we may well despair. But we hope for a new era which shall redound to the benefit of Alaska's remotest bounds. If the narrow, jug-handled policy of recent years be continued, we shall be

ready to denounce it as vigorously as it is within our power to do so.

But we are hoping, and, we believe, Alaskans, who are so vitally interested, will not hope in vain.

**NEWSPAPERS AND THEIR USES.**

A newspaper is a reflex—and a good one—of the community in which it is published. It the town is alive and enterprising it may be taken for granted that the fact will be reflected in the newspaper's columns. This statement is general, and must be taken in its broadest sense.

This is an age of publicity, the world over. It is strictly an advertising era. The United States is the greatest country for advertising in the world. Its advertising people know their business and the merchant and business man know that it pays to advertise. It has become a necessity. Modern methods of business demand the greatest possible publicity because it pays. There is no sentiment in it, save that which brings grist to the mill.

The newspaper business is just as legitimate a business as the grocery or dry goods store, the shoe store or the foundry. It has, to be sure, undergone an evolution. The earliest printed newspapers, samples of which are in the British Museum. They are strange, indeed, but mightily interesting—but if their founders could see the metropolitan newspapers of today what a striking contrast they would witness.

The time has passed in most communities when a business man advertises merely for the sake of "helping out the paper." That is a relic of the "meal-ticket plan," when newspapers existed by surffiance rather than by merit or because they were of value to their communities. When a man advertises he expects, or should expect, results. And he will get results, if he advertises judiciously and truthfully.

A word more: Some people seem to think that a newspaper exists solely for their benefit. It is a public institution which they will patronize if they can do it without cost to themselves. That is to say that it is not a business affair. These are mistakes. It is. If you go into a grocery store and buy a sack of sugar you do not expect the grocer to give you a sack of flour with it do you? If you buy a pound of steak from your butcher, do you expect him to give a couple of mutton chops for breakfast? Yet, in a way, this is what some people expect of a newspaper. The newspaper is the greatest publicity agent in existence. Constantly it is advertising and working for its community, in a hundred ways, for which it neither asks nor expects credit or reward, save that which comes to it through the growth and up-building of its constituency.

A newspaper or other publication that has to beg for a living would be better dead. Such are of no value to any country or community.

**PARCELS POST AN INNOVATION.**

We believe that this part of Alaska is included in the parcels post zone. The parcels post law will go into operation on January 1 next. Probably it may be of great service to the people of the States, or a part of them, but we do not know how it will affect Alaska. If it aids the mail order houses it will work harm instead of good. As a matter of fact we have little use for these institutions, and ninety-nine times out of a hundred those who patronize them would save money and trouble by buying from the home merchant, even at a slight additional cost.

It is needless to point out that money sent outside to purchase goods never returns, while money spent in patronizing home industries stays where it is spent and is of benefit to the entire community. It is like an endless chain, and the "butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker," all get a little of it.

Patronizing one's home business houses, encouraging home industries by buying and using their products, builds up your town, increases the earning population, creates a civic pride and gives a community standing both at home and abroad.

With us the parcels post is an innovation, although in most European countries it has been an institution for many years. It has worked satisfactorily there, but the conditions there obtaining are much different than here. There, the farmer sends his garden truck, his eggs even, and his chickens—almost everything that he produces in fact—by the parcels post, and the proceeds are returned direct to him to be spent by him in his home village or town.

The parcels post will no doubt enter into competition to some extent, at least, with the big express companies of the country, to whose opposition is due the fact that the establishment of this system has been so long delayed in the United States.

Benj. Silverman, a mining man from Valdez, is on the Mariposa bound for the outside on business.

**SIDELIGHTS**

Juneau and this section of Alaska are receiving some deserved attention just now, and especially from mining men who have been here the past season. Thus Harvey P. Durant, of Chicago, who spent last summer in this district investigating mining properties in the interest of a Chicago mining syndicate, said recently in Seattle: "I believe that the Harris district, with Juneau as its center, is destined to be the most prosperous and permanent quartz country on the continent." Mr. Durant said. "Most of the ore is low grade, to be sure, but it is practically inexhaustible and this makes for permanence of the present prosperity of the country."

That is the kind of talk that counts. It attracts attention that is worth while. It gives people who are looking this way something real and tangible for their consideration. In a somewhat vague way it has been known, for lo, these many years that this was a promising quartz section, but many things have developed rapidly. It is true that the Alaska Treadwell Gold Mining Company has been steadily grinding out gold from low grade ore across the Gastineau, for many years. It has also been doing substantial development work and been always a leading factor in the mining enterprises of this region. On Douglas island it is known as the "old steady producer." And it is, and it will continue to be so indefinitely. Besides it and subsidiary companies give promise of great expansion in the immediate future.

Not much has been heard as yet of the turkey and Thanksgiving Day. Politics have been occupying the center of the stage at home, while Turkey-in-Europe is looming large in international affairs.

President-Elect Wilson has determined to dodge political callers and take a much-needed rest. Unceasingly the head that has to deal with the insistent clamor for public office. It was President Benjamin Harrison who regretted that there were not "offices enough to go round." Apparently Mr. Wilson will have to share the same regret.

Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, will be the twenty-eighth president of the United States. He was christened Thomas Woodrow and this reminds us of the fact that President Grant was christened Hiram Ulysses and Cleveland, Stephen Grover. Gen. William Henry Harrison was the oldest man elected to the Presidency and Roosevelt the youngest, Grant being the next youngest by six months. Cleveland was the only President married in the White House, and his second daughter the only President's child born therein. James Monroe's daughter (Mrs. Gouverneur), Grant's daughter (Mrs. Sartoris), and Roosevelt's daughter (Mrs. Longworth), were the only children of Presidents married in the White House. W. H. Harrison was the father of the largest family, six sons and four daughters.

By the death of Vice President Sherman a few days ago, Secretary of State Philander Chase Knox became Vice President and he will preside over the next session of the United States Senate. The Presidential succession is fixed by law, which provides that "in case of the removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the President and Vice President, then the Secretary of State shall act as President until the disability of the President or Vice President is removed or a President elected. If there be no Secretary of State, then the Secretary of the Treasury will act; and the remainder of the order of succession is as follows: The Secretary of War, Attorney General, Postmaster General, Secretary of the Navy, and Secretary of the Interior."

It may be interesting to know that the Democratic party of today claims lineal descent from the first Republican party and President Jefferson as its founder.

**JUDGES AND HUMANITY.**

New Theory of Justice Terrible Strain on the Judge.

Being our brother's keeper isn't of course, possible in a broad sense for most of us. We have to delegate this responsibility, and we are just coming to understand that a heavy burden we lay on those to whom we delegate it, says the Chicago Record-Herald.

Federal Judge Carpenter, after hearing a number of touching pleas for clemency, was obliged to abandon the bench until he could recover his poise. Judge Goodnow recently begged to be relieved of duty in the court of domestic relations, after having presided over the court for less

than a year and a half. The constant gloom by which we are surrounded darkened his whole outlook on life, he said. He added:

"It's a constant war between wisdom and sympathy."

Being a judge was certainly much simpler and easier in the old days before we began to talk of the responsibility of society for much of our vice and crime. It is one thing to act as umpire and decide contested points of law. It is quite another to think of one's self as a moral doctor and diagnostician and to feel obliged to treat not the symptoms but the disease. There can be no doubt that our courts are rapidly becoming "humanized," and the result has been almost pure gain. But is there no way of equalizing the strain which their additional responsibilities throw upon the judges?

**WHO KNOWS THESE MEN?**

The Governor's office has received inquiries for the following persons: C. L. Musselman, left Seattle about nine years ago for Klondike region and not heard from since. Was then about 18 years of age. Brother desires to communicate with him.

Frank Tammer, of Cincinnati, O. Reported to have been killed in a snowslide in Alaska about June 14, 1912. Sister anxious for news.

Albert Larsen and Oscar Glatz have been bound over to the grand jury at Fairbanks to answer to a charge of larceny from a house. Of late there have been many burglaries committed on the creeks and in Fairbanks.

Bill Casey is wearing a big smile this morning. He got the deed for the Marvy Huff property on Chicken Ridge, for which he opened negotiations some time ago. Mr. Casey says the house and furniture are worth a great deal more than the price at which he bought the place outright.

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Leaves Treadwell for Douglas and Juneau—8:25 a. m., 9:25 a. m., \*\*12:00 noon, 1:40 p. m., 3:25 p. m., \*\*4:55 p. m., 6:55 p. m., 8:25 p. m., 9:25 p. m., 11:25 p. m.  
Leaves Douglas for Juneau—8:30 a. m., 9:30 a. m., \*\*12:05 p. m., 1:45 p. m., 3:30 p. m., \*\*4:45 p. m., 7:05 p. m., 8:30 p. m., 9:30 p. m., 11:00 p. m.  
\*On Sundays this trip is omitted.  
\*\*This trip to Sheep Creek daily except 4:30 p. m. trip on Saturday, which is omitted and trips leaving Juneau at 6:30 p. m. and 11:00 are made instead, and Sheep Creek trips at 11:00 a. m., 6:30 p. m., and 11:00 p. m.

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The Alaska Flyer **S. S. HUMBOLDT** The Alaska Flyer  
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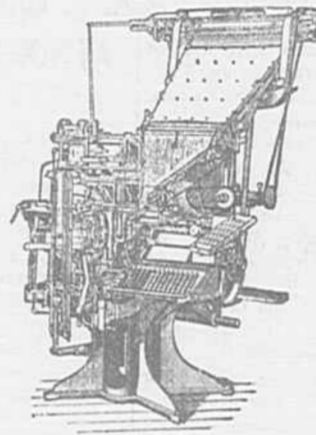
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