

The Dalles Chronicle



VOL. VII.

THE DALLES, WASCO COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1897.

NUMBER 7.

FOR A REGISTRY LAW

Synopsis of the Bill Drawn Up by E. W. Bingham.

WILL PERFECT OUR VOTING SYSTEM

Emendations and Corrections of the First Tentative Effort—All Essential Details Given.

PORTLAND, Jan. 7.—(To the Editor.)—The following is a synopsis of the bill I have drafted for a registration law. It has been numerous copied and circulated, but I have improved and corrected it in several respects since the first draft at the suggestion of several persons. However, in its main features it is on the plan originally outlined in my communication in The Oregonian, June 2, 1896.

Every member of the legislature to whom I have submitted the bill seemed disposed to support it, without further amendment. Mr. James N. Davis and Mr. W. E. Thomas, members-elect from Multnomah county to the house, have undertaken to introduce it and secure its enactment in its present form, if possible, and I have turned it over to them.

That there may be a more correct and general understanding of its features, I ask you to print the following:

It is entitled "An act for the registration of electors, regulating the manner of conducting elections, providing for the prevention of frauds affecting the suffrage, and to prevent illegal voting."

By section 1 it is made the duty of the county clerk of each county, between May 1 and December 15, 1897, and biennially thereafter, to procure the registration books and blanks required by the act, the county commissioners to audit and pay the reasonable and necessary bills so incurred.

Section 2 particularly specifies how the registration books shall be arranged, printed and bound, and a blank shows how they shall be ruled and printed, so that the act, compete for the work. The books and blanks are all ruled, printed alike, but in various sizes, for use throughout the state. Section 3 likewise provides for two blanks for use under the provisions of the act.

By section 4 the clerk of the county court in counties which have no county clerk shall act as county clerk.

By section 5 it is made the duty of every elector to register with the county clerk of his county between the first Monday in January, 1898, and 5 o'clock P. M. of May 15, 1898, and biennially thereafter between said times.

Section 6 makes it the duty of each county clerk, free of charge, to register the electors applying. If the clerk refuses to register an elector, he may by mandamus compel the registration.

Section 7 sets forth the information the elector shall furnish, under oath, to the clerk, and what the clerk shall enter in the general register under the head of the particular precinct in which the elector resides. The information required and entered is as follows:

First—The registration number of the elector.

Second—The date of registration of the elector.

Third—The full name of the elector.

Fourth—Leave a blank space in which the judges of election shall enter in the precinct register the poll-book number of each elector when he has voted.

Fifth—The business or occupation of the elector.

Sixth—The age of the elector in years.

Seventh—The country of nativity.

Eighth—If naturalized, the time, the place and court of naturalization or declaration, as evidenced by the legal proof thereof exhibited by the elector.

Ninth—The actual and precise place of residence of the elector at the time of his registering, stating first the precinct, and in the country, the section, township and range; in cities or towns having streets, by specifying the name of the town or city, the street or other location of and dwelling-place of the elector, with the number of such dwelling, if the same has a number; if not, then with such description of the place that it can be readily ascertained and identified.

If the elector be not the head or proprietor of the house, then it must show that fact, and upon what floor thereof and what room such elector occupies in such house.

Tenth—The fact whether or not the elector desiring to be registered is able to write his name and mark his ballot, and if he cannot do both, then the nature of such disability must be entered.

Eleventh—The elector shall then, next following the afore-administered oath,

sign his name in the presence of the clerk or of the deputy acting, in the general register, upon the same line where the preceding information is written, and the registering officer shall then sign his own name upon the said line, and add any remarks required by this act or appropriate thereto, for the information of the judges of election. If the elector registered by the clerk in person, he shall so sign his own name in attestation thereof, and if the elector is registered by a deputy, then, in addition to the name of the clerk, the particular deputy actually registering the elector shall sign his name at the length in attestation thereof. If the elector declares he is unable to mark his ballot or sign his name, he shall state why, and the clerk shall enter upon the register the reasons. If the elector's inability to sign is apparent in consequence of some physical infirmity, such as blindness or loss of limb incapacitating the elector from writing, he shall so state the fact. But if the disability is stated to be the illiteracy of the elector, the clerk shall in addition to stating that fact, enter as full a description of the physical peculiarities of the elector as possible, giving his height, approximate weight, complexion, color of hair and eyes, and any visible marks or scars and their location, and attest the same.

Section 8 requires the clerk to then enter the same information in the separate precinct register, which is alphabetically indexed and arranged, for the use of the judges conducting the election in that precinct. The elector signs both books, if he is able to write his name.

Section 9 provides that any elector who is unable for any reason to register with the county clerk between January and May 15th, biennially, may do so by filling up the blank "A," signing it three times and swearing to the same, and by having two freeholders of the county sign and swear to the second affidavit thereon, to the effect that they are personally acquainted with the elector and his residence, as stated, and by filling the same with the county clerk within the 4½ months allowed for registering. Upon registering the elector, the clerk will paste one of the signatures of the elector in each registration book.

Section 10 provides a blank, "B," whereby an elector who, after registering, has changed his residence before election, may conveniently have his registration canceled, and by using the blank "A" have himself re-registered in his proper precinct.

Section 11 prescribes that no elector shall register a second time until his former registration is canceled, and none but electors shall register at all.

Section 12 provides the respective county clerks shall close their registers at 5 o'clock p. m., on May 15, 1898, and biennially thereafter.

Section 13 makes the registers all public records, and all citizens are allowed to inspect the same and make copies or extracts therefrom, free of charge.

Section 14 provides that, notwithstanding the elector is registered in the precinct in which he applies to vote, he may be challenged, whereupon he must take the oath prescribed in blank "A," and sign the same, if able, and in the discretion of the judges he may be required to produce one or more freeholders of the county to subscribe to the second oath on the blank, identifying the elector and his residence, but they cannot require more than six such witnesses.

Section 15 obviates the objections of the supreme court of Oregon, announced in its design entitled White vs. Commissioners, 13 Or., 317 (10 Pac., 484), construing the registration acts of 1885 unconstitutional. Upon the advice of many persons, I reduced the number of witnesses necessary to enable an elector not registered to vote, from twelve freeholders to six freeholders. This I think is an all-important section. Although I thought, under section 790, (3) of Hill's Laws of Oregon, the judges had the right to issue subpoenas, I added the authority, upon suggestion. This section requires an elector who is not registered in the precinct in which he applies to vote, to sign (if able) an oath, and produce before the judges six freeholders of the county, and have them take and subscribe the second oath on the same blank "A," to the effect that they are each personally acquainted with the elector and his residence, as stated in his oath above, and believe his other statements to be true. For the purposes of the act, the judges may issue subpoenas and administer oaths.

Section 16 directs the separate precinct registers to be forwarded by each county clerk to the respective polling-places as other election supplies are sent, under the present Australian ballot law.

Section 17 is penal, and punishes willful violations of the act, as in the act of 1891, by fine not less than \$500, or im-

prisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year.

I hope the bill will be enacted.

E. W. BINGHAM.

BLOWN TO SEA IN A SMALL YAWL.

The Disastrous Coasting Voyage of Two Mariners.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 8.—As the United States revenue cutter Boutwell was approaching the mouth of St. John's river late last evening the lookout discovered a cat-rigged boat flying a signal of distress. One of the Boutwell's boats sent to investigate found a sailor in the bottom of the yawl. He was unconscious and his mouth was on his naked forearm as though he had tried to drink his own blood.

He proved to be Captain Charles Herman, of Providence, R. I. On November 21, accompanied by Charles Gladding, he set out in the yawl Cocheo for a cruise along the coast of Florida. When they left Charleston on December 26, they were blown out to sea. Their provisions and water were soon exhausted.

Last Friday, Herman thinks it was, the lighthouse of Anastasia island was sighted. By this time Gladding was crazy, and put off for shore in a boat attached to the Cocheo, and undoubtedly was lost. Herman remembers nothing else, and must have become unconscious shortly after Gladding left. The Cocheo then drifted up the coast with its unconscious master until discovered by the Boutwell.

Herman weighed 180 pounds when he left Providence. He now weighs only 110, and is so weak he can hardly raise his head.

NEVER MIND THE EDITOR.

A Kansas Man's Opinion of the Newspaper Business.

"It takes money to run a newspaper."—Kansas Times.

What an exaggeration; what a whopper. It has been disproved a thousand times; it is a clean case of airy fancy. It doesn't take money to run a newspaper. It can run without money. It is a charitable institution, a begging concern, a highway robber. B'Godfory, a newspaper is the child of the air a creature of a dream. It can go on and on, when any other concern would be in the hands of a receiver and wound up with cobwebs in the windows.

It takes wind to run a newspaper; it takes gall to run a newspaper. It takes a scintillating, acrobatic imagination, and a half dozen white shirts and a railroad pass to run a newspaper. But money—heavens to Betsy and six hands round, who ever needed money in conducting a newspaper? Kind words are the medium of exchange that do the business for the editor—kind words and church social tickets. When you see an editor with money, watch him. He'll be paying his bills and disgracing his profession. Never give money to an editor. Make him trade it opt. He likes to swap.

Then when you die, after having stood around for years and sneered at the editor and his little jim crow paper, be sure and have your wife send in for three extra copies by one of your weeping children, and when she reads the generous and touching notice about you, forewarn her to neglect to send fifteen cents to the editor. It would overwhelm him. Money is a corrupt thing. The editor knows it, and what he wants is your heartfelt thanks. Then he can thank the printers and they can thank their grocers.

Take your job work to the job offices, and then come and ask for half rates for the church notices. Get your lodge letter-heads and stationary printed out of town, and then flood the editor with beautiful thoughts in resolutions of respect and cards of thanks. They make such spiky reading, and when you pick it up filed with these mortuary articles, you are so proud of your little local paper!

But money—scorn the filthy thing. Don't let the pure, innocent editor know anything about it. Keep that for sordid trades people who charge for their wares. The editor gives his bounty away. The Lord loves a cheerful giver. He'll take care of the editor. Don't worry about the editor. He has a charter from the state to act as door-mat for the community. He will get the paper out somehow, and stand up for the town and whoop it up for you when you run for office, and lie about your pigeon-toed daughter's tacky wedding, and blow about your big-footed sons, when they get a \$4-a-week job, and weep over your shriveled soul when it is released from your grasping body, and smile at your giddy wife's second marriage. Don't worry about the editor, he'll get on. The Lord knows how—but somehow.

You'll be surprised when you try Hoe Cake soap, and wish we had told you sooner. It is made by patented process.

THE SHORT LINE SOLD

Separation of Union Pacific and Its Branches.

FIGURING ON THE POPE'S SUCCESSOR

Japanese Orange Pickers Hanged by Their Necks Until Nearly Dead. Then Told to "Git."

SALT LAKE, Jan. 9.—The sale of the Oregon Short Line & Utah Northern railway, under the consolidated mortgage of August 1, 1889, was made today under direction of John B. Cleland, court commissioner, Samuel Carr, Walter C. Oakman and Henry G. Nicholls, representing the reorganization committee, purchased the property, for \$5,447,500. The Utah Southern road was bid in by the same parties for \$763,000. They also purchased the Utah Southern extension, for \$975,000. W. H. Bancroft will be general manager of the company.

The transfer of the Oregon Short Line & Utah Northern, with property lying in five of the Western states, was of great interest to railroad men in the intermountain country. The events were the legal forms by which the sub-branches of the Union Pacific trunk system were foreclosed and bid in by the holders of liens upon them, and are to be followed by a reorganization of the officers and employes of the lines involved.

The sale took place at the county building, at 10 o'clock this morning, the special master in chancery, W. B. Cornish, of St. Paul, acting as auctioneer. He read in the presence of the assembled crowd, which included many prominent railroad men, the notice of the sale published by order of the court, which was a lengthy document, and then asked for bids.

The first sale covered the property north of Salt Lake. The next two sales took place at the Union Pacific depot, and covered the property south of this city. There was no competition in the bidding. Henry G. Nicholls, who acted for the purchasing committee, put up his check for \$250,000, as provided in the order of sale.

NO COOLIE LABOR WANTED.

Japanese Citrus Pickers Roughly Handled in a California Colony.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 9.—Residents of Orangevale, the new citrus colony in the southeastern part of this country, are determined not to allow coolie labor upon any of the farms or in any of the orchards. Last summer a crowd of Chinese laborers was driven out after being roughly handled. One day last week a tract-owner named C. G. Roof hired six Japanese to work on his place. Night before last, according to an account brought down today, 15 citizens with gunnysacks over their heads called on the Japanese. A rope was put around each of the little brown men's necks, and their captors started for a big oak tree some distance away. Roof came out and remonstrated, when a rope was thrown around his neck, his captors saying "A man was never better than than the men he employed." Roof's wife became hysterical, and the little children were so frightened that they let the husband and father go. The Japanese were taken to a big oak, their hands tied behind them, and then strung up to a limb. They allowed them to kick and struggle until life was almost extinct, and then lowered them. This they repeated several times. When they were satisfied with what they had done, they made the Japanese pack up their traps and leave the colony, warning them that, if they or any other of their countrymen ever came to the colony again, they would hang them up and leave them for the coroner to cut down.

AFFAIRS IN GERMANY.

The Emperor Anxious to Reorganize the Army.

BERLIN, Jan. 9.—(Copyright, 1897, by the Associated Press.)—Emperor William, on Tuesday, held a council of war, at which General von Gossler, the minister of war, and General Blumenthal, Waldersee and Winterfeld were present. His majesty supplemented his recent address to the generals on New Year's day by directing attention to the reorganization of the German artillery. After pointing out the similar movement in France, his majesty asked for the opinion of those present. The exact decisions of the council are variously given. From Vienna it is announced that the same question is being discussed by the Austrian military authorities. But military writers on the German press,

especially on the liberal organs, urge the government to await some definite action on the part of France before committing the German army to a specific type of a field gun.

Emperor William's duelling decree led general comment in the German press during the past week, and it is the opinion of the newspapers that the decree does not go far enough. The famous Leipzig university professor, Carl Binding, criticizes the decree in a historical article in the Deutsche Justice Zeitung. He denounces duelling as a relic of barbarism, and says:

"He who, after seducing a man's wife and destroying a happy union, crowns his infamy by putting a bullet into his victim's heart, is a murderer. Wherin lies the honor of such a man? To a guillotine with, and no honorable confinement in a fortress."

THE DEPOT ROBBERY.

Thieves Who Entered Salem Station Have Not Been Caught.

SALEM, Jan. 10.—The mail pouch and Wells-Fargo express box, taken from the Southern Pacific depot last night, were found today. The mail pouch was found 300 yards west of the depot. The mail pouch was cut open, but there being no registered letters or valuable packages, the papers and letters were left. The express box was broken open by withdrawing the lock staple. There were no articles in it of value except a package of India paints, which the burglar took for his bounty.

In the express-room, the burglars left an iron pin two feet long. It is very much like spikes used by circus in pinning down tents. It evidently was used in drawing the staple from the door of the baggage-room, through which entrance was made.

The express company's messenger sleeps in the station-room, but the messenger does not retire until after the overland train passes at 11. He had delivered the treasure-box and returned to town when the burglary was committed.

The United States mail is taken from the Salem office at 8:30, and delivered at the station baggage-room, where it remains unattended until the arrival of the 11 o'clock train. Some patrons of the Salem office think the government is slack in leaving the mail so easy a prey for burglars, especially during night hours.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.

European Powers Figuring on His Successor.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—In spite of official denials, the reports that the health of the pope is very delicate are confirmed by private advices. According to news from Rome received by Cardinal Richard, the archbishop of Paris, the condition of the pope is very serious. The death of Cardinal San Felice greatly affected his holiness, as San Felice was Pope Leo's probable successor to the pontificate, and he regarded the decubitus as the possible means of bringing about a reconciliation between the quinal and the vatican. Emperor William, when he visited Naples last spring, asked Cardinal San Felice what attitude he would take if elected pope, but the distinguished prelate declined to be drawn out.

In view of the condition of Pope Leo's health, it is stated that some of the powers have already signified their wishes regarding the succession, France, Belgium and Portugal favoring Cardinal Parichhi, the vicar-general of his holiness, while Spain and Austria support Cardinal Nannutelli, the prefect of the congregational index.

THE SULTAN HUMILIATED.

Italian Ambassador Insisted on a Written Promise.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—A Constantinople dispatch to the Standard says the rumors of a massacre of Christians at Trebizond, which originated by the statement that an Italian gunboat had been ordered thither, are untrue. It appears that an Italian subject named Marini was secretly shipped to Trebizond for exile to Erzeroum. The Italian ambassador, Signor Pansa, demanded his immediate return to Constantinople for proper trial, and threatened to send gunboats to the porte gave a written promise of compliance.

The incident has caused a sensation at Constantinople on account of the belief that Italy was backed by the powers. A Daily News dispatch from Rome on the subject says:

"Everybody remarks that the sultan has never had such a humiliation as for an ambassador to openly refuse to accept his promise, but to insist upon a written confirmation."

Dalles-Moro Stage

Leaves the Umatilla house 8 a. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. DOUGLAS ALLEN, Prop.

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CONVENED AT SALEM.

Oregon State Legislature Meets in Biennial Session.

SALEM, Jan. 11.—The 19th biennial session of the Oregon state legislature convened today. There was no contest for presiding officer in the senate, and temporary organization was soon effected. In the Republican caucus just before the senate was called to order, Simon, of Multnomah, received an unanimous vote for president. Permanent organization of the senate will be made this afternoon.

The house accomplished nothing beyond the election of a temporary speaker and clerk. The contest for speaker of the house is growing very warm, and threatens to involve the United States senatorship. The fight is now between Bourne, of Multnomah, and Benson, of Josephine. It now seems improbable that the house will be organized today. The Benson men are working hard to get a caucus, but so far have been unable to get the necessary members.

Riddle's friends are charging that Senator Mitchell is working in the interest of Benson, and threaten to retaliate. There is not much change in the senatorial contest. The Mitchell men say they have forty-seven signatures for the caucus, one more than is necessary. The anti-Mitchell men characterize the claim as a big bluff. They further say that some of those who signed will take their names off.

IN THE SENATE.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 11.—The senate was called to order at 11:30 o'clock by Patterson, of Marion, who placed Gowan, of Harney, in nomination for temporary president. There being no opposition, Gowan took the chair. Temporary organization was then completed by the election of the following officers: Chief clerk, S. L. Moorhead; assistant clerk, J. A. Wilson; calendar clerk, S. B. Mason; reading clerk, William Rasmus; sergeant-at-arms, C. B. Cronso; door-keeper, J. E. Blundell; mailing clerk, H. H. Humphrey.

Selling, of Multnomah; McClung, of Lane; Patterson, of Marion; Dufur, of Wasco, and King, of Baker, were appointed a committee of five on credentials. The senate then took a recess till 2 p. m.

IN THE HOUSE.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 11.—At the hour of noon, Clerk Moody, of the last house of representatives, mounted the rostrum of the house of representatives and declared the lower house of the 19th biennial session of the Oregon legislature in session. He called for nominations for the office of temporary speaker.

Barkley, of Marion, placed in nomination Representative Davis, of Umatilla county, and Benson, of Josephine, placed in nomination Smith, of Marion. Davis was elected by a viva voce vote, and Ralph E. Moody, of Multnomah was then placed in nomination and duly elected temporary chief clerk.

On motion of Thomas, of Multnomah, the temporary speaker appointed a committee of five on credentials: Barkley, of Marion; Stanley, of Union; Thomas, of Multnomah; U'Ren, of Clackamas; Bilyeu, of Lane. The house then adjourned till 4 p. m. to give the Republican members a chance to caucus.

Did You Ever.

Try Electric Bitters as a remedy for your troubles? If not, get a bottle now and get relief. This medicine has been found to be peculiarly adapted to the relief and cure of all Female Complaints, exerting a wonderful direct influence in giving strength and tone to the organs. If you have Loss of Appetite, Constipation, Headache, Fainting Spells, or are Nervous, Sleepless, Excitable, Melancholy or troubled with Dizzy Spells, Electric Bitters in the medicine you need. Health and Strength are guaranteed by its use. Large bottles only fifty cents and \$1.00 at Blakely & Houghton, Druggist.