

state has had ample time to observe closely the workings of the law and its good and bad effects. For sometime past, however, dissatisfaction has been expressed with the direct primary system. It is being officially attacked by various political bodies.

Direct attack was made on the primary system at a meeting held in Portland, Ore., and, among other things, the primary was charged with being a seed in Oregon.

Fixing Declared Needed

Even the original champions of the primary system, who ardently advocated it some years ago have now modified their views and say that the law needs "fixing." The primary did away with the party caucus and raised a crop of lesser leaders to no party organization. The state of Washington, which has the primary system after the Oregon way, is now in revolt against its primary law and law makers, through their leaders, are inclined to provide amendments. Experience has demonstrated the necessity of a change.

In the last ten days many county central committees have been organizing in Oregon. They have adopted resolutions demanding the abolition of the primary or its modification. One county—Umatilla—has come out with resolutions offering re-organization of and re-statement of the primary law.

Present System Opposed

Lane county republicans have resolved itself as "opposed to the present primary system as written on statute books in Oregon."

Union county republicans also favors a change in the law and approves the New York plan, which had the same effect as Roosevelt. The state committee from Union county, Bruce, has been instructed to urge the committee the need of a change in the present primary law and that organization at the end that a campaign of education regarding the New York plan started in Oregon.

Benton county republicans have gone on record with the belief that "the primary system in Oregon is inimical to party government; that it encourages the state and county as a candidate; that it tends to encourage the state's best men to enter public service; that it is immensely advantageous to the state and disadvantageous to the individual; and that it encourages self-seeking and prevents men to run for office."

Taxation Increase Cited

Douglas county republicans also holds that the primary system is largely responsible for the increase in taxation in Oregon. They say that every vote cast in Douglas county has cost the taxpayers of the county approximately \$1.00. Also, Douglas republicans, the growing factions and factions, by giving the party vote at the election and it is also keeping political parties by preventing them from advocating a platform to require office-holders. Douglas wants a change in the law with a party platform.

Marion county republicans also holds the heavy cost of taxation as a reason for the primary and says: "We are asking the people of any of the counties of the primary system to give up its value in giving the party a right to choose their choice of candidates and to hold county and state elections, not only with the primary but as being vital to the maintenance of our own party and as being vital to the maintenance of popular government." Formal resolutions on the primary were adopted in the county of the Tillamook county committee, but members individually, expressed their views as strongly favoring a change in the law. A similar change was developed in Yamhill county.

Expense Main Indictment

Thus far the main indictment against the primary are its expense, its disruption of party organization, its waste of money, its permitting candidates to run on any sort of platform, its care to put forth without responsibility to party and the state, which permits candidates to get into the field by secret means and yet which prevents parties from doing that.

Apparently, when the republican central committee meets in the future, the matter of the primary law will be taken up in a similar manner with, possibly, a request for the legislature to make a suitable amendment to the primary law. The primary law, however, as it stands, will require a change in the electorate.

ON DOCK DOES BIG DAMAGE

(By Associated Press)
SEASIDE, ORE., June 11.—A fire on the docks of the Seaside company at the foot of the street bridge did damage estimated at \$15,000 and threatened the Municipal building. The fire, which broke out at 11:30 p. m., was routed out of the building. The fire which broke out to have started in a fuel company building before it was discovered. E. Rash, landlady of the building, who was sleeping in the house, was rescued from the flames bursting through the window. The occupants of the building were aroused and fled but had no time to save personal effects.