

THE OREGON MIST.

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THE NEW BALLOT LAW.

At the coming election Oregon will vote under a new plan—the Australian Ballot System—which, by a bill passed at the last session of the legislature became a law in this state.

The new law will not hinder politicians or party organizations in exercising any of their legitimate political rights, but does take away the monopoly they have had in making the nominations and printing and distributing the ballots, which they abused, and it also requires the voting to be conducted in a room, so that voters may cast their ballots with secrecy.

MAKING NOMINATIONS.

Perhaps the principal objects aimed at in the recent law were to place all nominees on a fair and even footing and to compel every elector to vote secretly; therefore the substitution of the official ballot printed and distributed by the county clerk in each county for the old style or party tickets.

THE OFFICIAL BALLOT.

The county clerk in each county will print and distribute these official ballots containing the names of all the candidates for each office. They will be printed on two kinds of paper. Those designed to be voted will be printed on a good quality of white paper and will only be obtainable by voters after they have passed within the guard-rail in the polling place on the day of election.

IS A RADICAL CHANGE.

This is, as you see, a radical change from the old system, and it is hoped it will have the effect of electing candidates upon their merits—their fitness for the offices, and with less regard as to how they were nominated. It is thought that fully 90 per cent. of the ballots cast in Oregon at the last election were scratched; if so, it indicates that electors were dissatisfied with the nominations made by the regular party conventions.

WHAT THE VOTER MUST DO.

On election day, assuming that each voter has already seen one of the colored or sample ballots and has made up his mind how he wants to vote, all he will have to do will be to go to that polling place—that election precinct where he is entitled to vote—and enter the room. It is made unlawful to do any electioneering within fifty feet of any polling place, and he will not be disturbed or insulted as has often been the case in approaching the polls under the old system.

and on application to one of the clerks will receive one of the white ballots, the clerk having first taken the precaution to tear off a portion of the stub at the top of the ballot. Without leaving the enclosure the voter will then be obliged

TO SCRATCH OUT THE NAMES

of those candidates on the ballot, for each office, for whom he does not wish to vote, and fold the ballot in such a way that the remaining portion of the stub can be readily detached without any one seeing how he has scratched the ballot. He will then present his ballot to the chairman of the judges, as under the old system and if the judges are satisfied that it is the identical ballot which he just before received from the clerk and that he is entitled to vote at that polling place, his ballot will immediately go into the box, the chairman having previously detached the remaining portion of the stub. This stub is simply a margin about two inches wide at the top of the ball of, perforates so as to facilitate its removal and the clerk in issuing the ballot tears off one-half of the stub and passes it to the chairman and second clerk, who makes use of the portion torn off to identify the ballot when it is presented.

CAN VOTE RAPIDLY.

As soon as the voter has seen his ballot go into the box he is required to depart. At least ten voters may be engaged in scratching their ballots at the same time, and as fast as they are ready to vote they may present them to the chairman. Thus it is thought voters will not be occupied more than about five minutes in voting. Every candidate on the official ballot has a right to be present personally or by his agent, outside of the guard-rail, from the time of the opening of the polls until the count is completed and the returns certified. The new law provides for the appointment of three judges and two clerks for each polling place precisely as the old law directed, and they are to receive the same pay.

FOR A DAIRY ASSOCIATION.

The dairy industry of to-day is the greatest of all home industries in the United States, both directly by its beneficial returns of gold and golden food—and indirectly by its manifold benefits to all classes. The income from Oregon cows at present—taken as a whole—is negative, for the same reason as would be the income from a factory that run only three months in the year and still kept and paid the hands the whole year. It used to be the same way in the Eastern states years ago but the time has past. In a remarkably short time, many millions of dollars, formerly wasted and burned up, have been converted into valuable stock food and the enormous saving in freight and hauling can hardly be realized.

We can and we must double the income from the farms, but in order to do it we must know the requirements of the times—we should learn the why and wherefore as far as possible. It is like building a railroad—the roadbed must be surveyed, careful plans must be laid, and advantage must be taken of what experience has taught us of building and operating railroads most successfully. Training is a great factor in successful railroad-ing—it becomes of great importance to secure skilled men, in fact a necessity. So it is with dairying. Dairy schools, dairy literature, farmers' institutes and dairy associations must be planted, and planted firmly. Those institutions have quickly, surely, cheaply and permanently re-built prosperous dairy homes out of the forsaken run down wheat fields from ocean, and if we must look to them alone our guard against the fraudulent trespasser, oleomargarine.

Everybody interested in the organization of a dairy association is cordially invited to address me at Albany and to make suggestions with a view to promoting this greatly needed institution, and I will use my best endeavor to get all interested to cooperate. C. H. SCHMIDT. Box 319, Albany, Oregon.

CLATSkanie NEWS.

Norman Merrill spent last week at Deer Island, called there by the serious illness of his mother. Mrs. Mattie Dixon and boy returned home Wednesday evening from a visit of two months or more among friends in the valley and over in Washington. Harvey Brown made a brief visit to

Portland last week, returning on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Aldridge are now established in the Clatskanie hotel, where they are ready to cater to the tastes of the general public, and expect to merit a share of patronage by careful attention to the details of the hotel business.

W. A. Fouts, after a lay off of some weeks on account of grip, during which time he would be occasionally seen on the street very much wrapped up in overcoat and scarf, ventured on Monday to go out to Maygers with the mail, and will probably resume his regular trips if his health continues to improve.

J. H. Rittenhouse was in town Monday, waiting for the steamer to meet his wife, who came down from St. Helens, where she had been attending teachers' examination.

Miss Gertrude Badger was also a passenger on the Shaver Monday, returning from teachers' examination. Nathan Tingle is arrested again and spent a portion of Monday in town. He reports the road from here to Beaver almost impassable.

The spirit of improvement has not left Frank Merrill, who has had a new roof put on a portion of his hotel building, and a new railing about the wharf near the steamer landing, where he has a very comfortable seat to accommodate persons waiting on the steamer, or lovers who wish to gaze at the stars.

W. A. Edgerton was down from his ranch on Monday looking much improved after his late siege of influenza. One of those little incidents that happen in families occasionally, and that help build up families, happened at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Page last Wednesday morning, and the little daughter they care for so tenderly since that day has come to make a permanent stay with them.

It cost Ed a good many cigars and some candies in answer to the numerous congratulations of his friends, and everybody is good natured and the child improves.

It is gratifying that we have no deaths to report this week as having occurred in our community.

To make a newspaper record complete in the way of marriages, births and deaths in this section, we must inform your readers that another wedding was quietly celebrated here on Sunday. Justice C. C. Lee had the pleasure of uniting John Leece and Mrs. Susan Bryant according to the laws of the state of Oregon. The couple quietly slipped out to the justice's residence during the afternoon and returned to the home of the bride's father and wife. It does not take a great deal of time or very much ceremony to fasten a pair for life, and in this case, as both are young and hearty, it is to be hoped their married life may be a very long and pleasant one. They left on the steamer Monday night for Astoria where they expect to reside.

J. J. Johnston returned on Monday with his family from the Nehalem valley and is occupying the building near Tichenor's mill, vacated by the family last fall.

A masquerade ball was given on Monday evening in Conyers' hall. At this writing we are without particulars, but take it for granted that all passed off pleasantly.

Mrs. N. Merrill left on the steamer Monday night for Deer Island to join her husband and visit the sick there.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent) WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 12, 1902. Secretary Blaine is not a man of quick temper, but his even disposition was so badly disturbed by the silly letter stating that his name would not be presented to the Minneapolis convention, that he is now in a state of nervous prostration. He is now in the hospital, and he is expected to resign from public life, and that he intended in the near future, to resign from the cabinet, that he lost his temper, as the first man in the world would probably have done under the same circumstances. He characterized the statement as "an infernal lie, circulated by idle men who have nothing better to do." Mr. Blaine was never more interested in the duties of his position, and in the welfare of the republic than when he recognizes as that of the country, than he is today, and if his health continues as good as it now is he will certainly remain at the head of the state department during the rest of this administration, and during the next one, too, unless his desires undergo great change.

The Canadian reciprocity commissioners, now here, came under orders from the Canadian government, and a upon any invitation from this government. This our correspondent knows to be absolutely correct, statements to the contrary notwithstanding. Secretary Blaine has courteously received them, as he was in duty

bound to do, and their propositions will be given proper consideration, but unless they differ widely from those heretofore submitted by the Canadian government nothing will be accomplished at this end of the line, although some political benefit may accrue to the Canadian administration at home, because of its having made an apparent effort to obtain commercial reciprocity with the United States.

Today is the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, the first republican president, and one of the great men that ever occupied the White House. There was no formal celebration of the event here, but Senator C. Bloom, accompanied by several representatives in Chicago for the purpose of delivering an address on "Lincoln and the Republican Party" to-night, to the Marquette Club of the city.

Representative Newberry, of Illinois, is pushing a bill he has introduced, to cut off all pensions now paid to former officers and permanent non-residents. He says that pensions are paid to at least 15,000 non-residents, and that the greater portion of them never intended returning to the United States, and are raising their sons as citizens of the countries in which they now reside, making it possible some day in the future, if their pensions continue to be paid, for the sons of non-drawling pensions from the United States to be fighting against us as soldiers in a hostile army.

Senator Charles, representative of party, were elected by the clerk recently displayed by Senator Hill. A his request the senate committee several times postponed its report on the nomination of Postmaster Rathbun, of Elmira, N. Y., but, at last, finding that Hill could show no good reason for holding up the nomination longer, the committee favorably reported it. The week when the report was called up in executive session of the senate, Hill presented, by proxy, a very modest request that the senate would defer action until his return from setting out the pins for the control of the New York delegation to the Chicago convention. Did the senate get mad? Well, it confirmed Mr. Rathbun's nomination.

Mr. William Grinnell, who is a nephew of Vice-President Morton, has been nominated to be third assistant secretary of state, to fill a vacancy.

The bill appropriating \$300,000 for a lounge statue of General Grant in this city, which was passed by the senate during the last congress, has been again favorably reported to the senate. Its passage by the senate is certain and the same ought to be true of the house, but it isn't. He is a rash man who attempts to predict what the bedfellowed majority of the house will do. So far it does nothing with great industry.

The president has as yet given no attention to filling the vacancy on the supreme bench. There are no applicants, in the ordinary understanding of that word, although, of course, the names of a number of eminent members of the bar have been suggested to the president.

The democrats of the house have in the hope of obtaining some campaign material for use among those who are opposed to pensions adopted a resolution for an investigation of the pension bureau. They will probably find it a boomerang before it is com. Huded.

The senate finance committee has reported adversely on a whole batch of financial bills, including free coinage and Senator Peffer's last loan scheme. The house committee on coinage has favorably reported Blaine's free coinage bill, but it does not follow that the committee on rules, which is the antagonist of the house, will allow it to be voted on at this session.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Thursday Feb. 13. WHEAT—Valley, \$1.00; Walls Walls, \$1.50 to \$1.55 per cental. FLOUR—Standard, \$1.90; Walls Walls, \$1.80; premium, \$1.85; superfine, \$1.85 per barrel. OATS—New, 40¢; old, 37¢ per bushel. HAY—\$11.00 per ton. MILLS—Bran, 119¢; shorts, 25¢; middling, 22¢; fair to good, 21¢; coarse, 19¢; extra, 18¢ per ton. BUTTER—Oregon fancy creamery, 37¢; fancy dairy, 35¢; fair to good, 25¢; common, 15¢; Eastern, 25¢; 35¢ per pound. CHEESE—Oregon, 14¢; Eastern, 16¢ per pound. EGGS—20¢ per dozen. POULTRY—Chickens, \$1.00 to \$1.50; ducks, \$1.00 to \$1.00; geese, \$1.00 per dozen; turkeys, 12¢ per pound. VEGETABLES—Cabbage, nominal; \$1.00 per cental; onions, 10¢; carrots, 4¢; tomatoes, 4¢ to 5¢ per box. FRUITS—Apples, 75¢ to \$1.00 per box. STAPLE GROCERIES. COFFEE—Costa Rica, 21¢; Rio, 21¢; Salvador, 21¢; Mocha, 30¢; Java, 20¢; Arabica, 10¢; other grades, 20¢ per pound. SUGAR—Cane, 10¢; Golden, 10¢; Extra C, 10¢; Standard, 10¢. BEAN—small whites, 3¢; pink, 2½¢; bayo, 2½¢; butter, 10¢; lima, 4¢ per pound. HONEY—10 to 15¢ per pound. SALT—Liver, 10¢; 10 to 15¢; stock, 11¢; 12¢ per ton in various lots. STRIP—Sawed, in barrels, 42 to 45¢; 54 to 55¢ per cord; 22 to 23¢ per cord; California, in barrels, 30¢ per gallon; \$1.75 per keg. RICE—45 to 50¢ per cental. THE MEAT MARKET. BEEF—Live, 5¢; dressed, 6 to 7¢. MUTTON—Live, sheared, 45¢; dressed, 50¢. HOGS—Live, 4½ to 5¢; dressed, 10 to 11¢. LARD—East, 11 to 12¢; other, 12 to 13¢; lard, compound, 10¢; pure, 12¢ to 13¢; Oregon, 10 to 12¢; breakfast bacon, 13 to 15¢; smoked bacon, 11 to 13¢. A Leader. Since its first introduction, Electric Bitters has gained rapidly in popular favor, until now it is clearly in the lead among medicinal tonics and alteratives—containing nothing which permits its use as a beverage or intoxicant, it is recognized as the best and purest medicine for all ailments of stomach, liver and kidneys. It will cure sick headache, indigestion, constipation, and drive malaria from the system. Satisfaction guaranteed with each bottle or the money will be refunded. Price only 50¢ per bottle. Sold by Edwin Ross.

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THE STEAMER IRALDA Is now making regular round trips from OAK POINT TO PORTLAND Daily Except Wednesdays, LEAVING OAK POINT 4:40 A. M. STELLA 5:00 " KALAMA 5:10 " ST. HELENS 5:50 " ARRIVING PORTLAND 11:00 " RETURNING LEAVES PORTLAND 1:00 P. M. ARRIVE STELLA 7:45 " W. E. NEWSOM.

A. H. BLAKESLY, Proprietor of Oriental Hotel. ST. HELENS, OREGON. The house has been fully refurbished throughout and the best of accommodations will be given. CHARGES REASONABLE. STAGE run in connection with the hotel on route to the Northern Pacific Railroad at Milton. Stage for Tacoma trains 10 p. m. For Portland trains at 3 p. m.

THE MODEL SALOON. J. S. CLONINGER, Prop'r. ST. HELENS, OREGON. Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars. Beer 5 Cts. Billiard and Pool Table for the Accommodation of Patrons. CALL AROUND.

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