THE OBSERVER

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CANNOT STAY OUT OF DEBT.

A general pride has been evidenced among Union county people of late in the knowledge that the county is out of debt, and it is a great recommendation for the county and everyone connected with it. But there is no possibility of the county remaining out of debt if the court expense is going to be augmented and swelled, according to present indications.

Yesterday sixty-three indictments were returned, which means a long series of county trials. It means litigation galore and the county will stand the cost. Immediately we hear some one say, "The Observer is lawless, it is against law enforcement." Not at! If the expense of the sixty-three trials added to the ones already pending would settle the present unsatisfactory condition, no one would complain. But to be practical and truthful, it will not settle it. Joint keepers are like black bugs. When you settle one away three come back. This is the result in dry localities and we can expect the rule to obtain in Union county. There is a remedy, easy, simple, and in the case of Union county, right at home, to settle it. Wasco counties only a short distance away, [illegible] legal.

The [illegible] flection of public sentiment, but on the other hand it is the work of paid detectives. The public does not feel sufficiently [illegible] the county is drawn into a continuation of the expenditure of large sums of money and the [illegible] This may bring the people to full realization of the [illegible] local option, for when the pocketbook is disturbed there is a [illegible] vestigation, but to the least it is a court [illegible] the great majority of people who pay to keep up the public institutions.

Local option enthusiasts will differ in this, but time will prove its correctness. There never was agitation that lasted. The strongest advocates of any measure relax, people cease to be watchful, which [illegible] strong the law is enforced during excitement, will always give opportunity for the [illegible] heat of battle cools down."

Shall Union county lay aside everything else for the prohibition question?

Shall it [illegible] the great commercial opportunities, the magnificent future, shall she cease to take interest [illegible] harmless commodity?

Shall we, as a people keep up this snapping and snarling, this [illegible] lies of getting even?

Shall we turn our courts into a local smut mill, thus lowering their dignity?

Shall we lay aside this city's and county's future, bottle up her wealth of opportunity, and say to the outside world, "Everything [illegible] Union county, for we are having a family row over the local option question?"

There may be some who prefer such a condition, but we believe the majority is against it.

In Oregon City the saloon question is handled in a remarkably satisfactory manner. In talking to a man from there yesterday he said: "I believe our city handles the liquor question the best of any place I know. We see that the man is right before he is granted a license to sell liquor. We have a black list of drunkards and inebriates on every bar, and the bartender who sells to a man listed causes the license for that bar to be immediately revoked. That is the thing that will make a saloonkeeper be good. Many do not mind a fine but they will weaken when there is any chance to cancel their license. We have few drunks. We have no brawls, and the liquor business is controlled in a way that seems the best for all concerned."

Would not the same condition be much better in La Grande than the one that has prevailed here ever since local option was extended on the community?

But some one says, "That is all good talk but the moment the lid is off saloons are turned and the same old conditions will prevail." There is no reason for making such a statement. What Oregon City can do La Grande can do.

This is one year [illegible] No. One enters the campaign only in an indirect manner for there is no United States senator to elect at the next session of the legislature.

ARGUMENTS FEW AGAINST IT.

May not carry. In our opinion the [illegible] ent time is good. It would be hard to [illegible] do not appreciate an irrigation plant where not a cent is expended for propaganda [illegible] given to anyone except for the labor [illegible] plant.

Usually [illegible] man who first outlines them gets a good chunk of money. Following him [illegible] with the project gets a very large remuneration. Then the capitalist [illegible] hundred and from that up to one thousand per cent on his money. So, by the time the land is ready for the settler it has made several middle men wealthy.

The Grande Ronde proposition is different. All the wealth it produces goes to the farmer who uses the water. The farmer gets the benefit [illegible] the irrigating plant.

It is the best deal that was [illegible] ever on open [illegible] not accept it the [illegible] This is wrong, for there is going to be some way planned for using the good waters of the Grande Ronde [illegible] er. If not on the land in the district then it will be carried to other land [illegible] there are many landowners in the valley who will be glad to get in on a water proposition even though it takes twenty miles of ditch to carry it to them.

COL. HOFER'S RECORD ON DIRECT PRIMARY LAW.

(Taken from Daily Oregonian, of Sept. 8.)

Some one at Salem has taken the trouble to go over the files of the Salem Journal for the purpose of learning what the eminent editor of that paper, now an uncompromising candidate for Governor, and an uncompromising champion of the primary law, may have had to say while the primary law was before the people for passage under the initiative in 1904. The results are quite interesting. The following are all extracts from the Salem Journal:

June 4, 1904.—The Journal has just as outspokenly and unequivocally advised its readers to vote against all the proposed laws and constitutional amendments.

The direct primary law is a scheme to give a few Republican bosses a monopoly of nominations, wipe all other political parties out of existence and destroy independent voting and the secrecy of the ballot.

June 3, 1904.—The three measures to be submitted to the voters at the election next Monday should be voted down. All are equally pernicious and bad. The direct primary law is a subterfuge of a few Portland politicians who are aspiring to control the whole state through the Portland machine.

[illegible] The primary election law will double the election expenses. Kill it and all the freak bills. The state has too many now.

[illegible] The Journal [illegible] first was favorable to the U'Ren bill. But closer study of the provisions of the bill revealed that it is loaded and would kill direct nomination if it were adopted. The Journal still fights for that principle would become obnoxious under the operation of the U'Ren bill.

In the first place, the U'Ren bill takes away existing political rights and rights of the people and gives the U'Ren bill sweeps away political conventions—county, district and state—and puts the nomination of King Caucus [illegible] aspirants [illegible] people by the U'Ren bill.

Independent candidates would become impossible and the rule of the party boss and the caucus manipulator would be [illegible]

[illegible] that there is no use talking to the man who wears the green glass [illegible] goggles. He wears them for choice.

Direct nomination can be enacted by law, in the next Legislature, without taking away from the people any of their present political privileges and without doubling election expenses.

The U'Ren bill makes a man disclose his political party affiliations long in advance of the primary and election and [illegible] in the hands of [illegible]

May 24, 1904.—The U'Ren bill (direct primary) puts a monopoly of office getting in the hands of [illegible] the frothy and the professional politicians.

May 21, 1904.—Only a rich man or a professional politician could get a state nomination under the proposed U'Ren bill.

Only a rich man could afford to circulate the petitions in the sparsely populated counties to get onto the state ticket.

Only the professional spellbinder could get the ear of the voters to get the nomination for Governor or United States Senator.

The expense of the whole squabble for office in the Republican and Democratic parties would be saddled on the people.

It would be a snap for the rich politician or the office-seeker who was a fine orator or a newspaper politician or the man in office.

Those who want a bill to give a monopoly or office seeking to those classes better vote for the bill.

May 20, 1904.—The bill is unconstitutional because it proposes to tax the people of all other parties for the purpose of giving the dominant parties a chance to settle differences at public expense.

May 17, 1904.—U'Ren admits that the bill is his own handiwork and as such he deserves credit for all that lagood in it. It is a patchwork from other states and its weak points are that it seeks to abolish conventions and puts the expense of holding another election on the people.

May 16, 1904.—That it will be a dead letter and inoperative no one can doubt. It practically abolishes all political conventions and all parties but the Republicans and Democrats—if a law could do those things. Of course, a law cannot abolish such politics.

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Political Announcements

It is open to any candidate regardless of Faction or Party and is paid advertising.

S. F. WILSON, Athena, Oregon, candidate for joint senator for Umatilla, Union and Morrow counties subject to decision of republican primaries. "I firmly believe in the direct primary law, economy in the use of public funds, good roads, better schools, strict and prompt enforcement of law, the square deal and eternal progress of man and his institutions."

* * *

A. BARRETT, Athena, Oregon.—I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the nomination for joint senator for the district embracing Union, Umatilla and Morrow counties, subject to the choice of republican voters at the primary nominating election to be held on September 24th, 1910. If nominated and elected I will work for the interest of all the people of my district to the best of my ability.

A. BARRETT.

DR. C. E. BACON, La Grande, Oregon.—The Observer is authorized to announce the candidacy of Dr. C. E. Bacon for coroner of Union county, subject to the decision of the republican voters at the primary election.

DR. CLYDE T. HOCKETT, Enterprise, Oregon.—I wish to announce my candidacy for joint representative for the 24th representative district, subject to the voters of the republican party at the primary nominating election to be held in said representative district, September 24, 1910. CLYDE T. HOCKETT.

institutions and hence it will be a defunct statute.

Paid advertising.

Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the county court of the state of Oregon for Union county, administratrix of the estate of Perry Stephenson, deceased.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same with proper vouchers to the administratrix, at the offices of Cochran & Cochran, La Grande National Bank Building, in La Grande, Oregon, within six months from date hereof.

Dated at La Grande, Oregon, this 5th day of August, 1910.

LULA SHAW
Administratrix of the estate of Perry Stephenson, deceased.

Daily Aug 6-13-20-27 Sept 3

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