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JOY AND GLADNESS—The Lord who really is also our Leader we will show by some of the outward manifestations of the joys of our life in the house of the Lord.—Isa. 29:19.

It looks as if a lot of nations would be willing to fight for a chance to sign that anti-war treaty.

No, the Ireland which has "renounced war as an instrument of policy" isn't the old Ireland we knew.

The senate committee on foreign relations voted last spring to give immediate consideration to adherence to the World Court as soon as congress meets in December. The Kellogg peace treaty is a new factor in the situation. How the country can fail to do everything possible to bring about membership in the Court, considering recent developments, is hard to understand. The United States owes this co-operation to the world.

The decision of those interested in a ladder truck for the fire department to withdraw their petition is gratifying. No one denies the possible uses and value of such equipment, but the need is not yet paramount and a low tax level is much to be desired. We feel sure the entire community appreciates the ardor of those who would protect our property against all fire hazards, but the community also appreciates and heartily approves the effort of the city commission to effect a tax reduction for next year, to reduce expenditures rather than increase them. Withdrawal of the petition in question is commendable co-operation to that end.

WHY TIE DOWN THE LEGISLATURE?

The people of Oregon will vote on six measures at the November election, all of them of tremendous importance to all citizens. The Observer has previously discussed some of them and will give space to them again and to others as the election nears. One, however, is especially serious and deserving of careful consideration by all voters—the constitutional amendment to limit the power of the legislature over laws approved by the people—and it has been somewhat neglected in the state press.

This amendment would prohibit the legislature from declaring an emergency and thus prevent reference to the people by referendum petition of any legislative act amending any law previously approved by the people. It further provides that the legislature shall not repeal any law previously approved by the people without referring the repealing act to the people for their approval or rejection.

Consider for a moment what the state legislature, in theory, at least, is for. In most states it is the law making body, but in Oregon, where the benefits and evils of the referendum are enjoyed, its scope is curtailed somewhat by direct legislation and at the same time broadened considerably by the necessity of correcting and perfecting initiated and referred measures which may be either ill-advised or hurriedly or inefficiently drawn.

Regardless of how unsatisfactory and incompetent a legislature may be, it is, nevertheless, obviously better equipped to study and decide many problems of legislation than a busy and rather indifferent public. It exists for that purpose. It devotes its time to that end from the beginning of each session to the end. Handicapped as it may be in many ways, it is at least free from the ignorance and carelessness which confront so many voters when they undertake legislation at the polls.

Initiated and referred measures may be of tremendous value to Oregon voters, but a general public may make mistakes and still be sovereign. To tie down and limit the legislature as provided in this amendment would tend not only to destroy its usefulness as a governing body but at the same time to destroy many of the advantages and benefits of direct legislation. While it has some praiseworthy merits, it jeopardizes public rights and privileges by removing all means of meeting legislative emergencies. We do not believe the people of Oregon want that kind of a provision in our state constitution.

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ABE MARTIN

Why do they call 'em "speak easies" when some customer is allus singin' "Sweet Adeline"? There's been lots of changes in the last eighty years, but it certainly outdated, but worthin' in the applause line has always up that pure surprise, much less mountains, in' spectators did that word "great" in' were mentioned of Bryan.

BEFORE the MIKE

SATURDAY PROGRAMS

The National Broadcasting company program for tomorrow follows: [illegible]

WSOC—Chicago [illegible]

KTAB—San Francisco [illegible]

KGW—Portland [illegible]

KOMO—Seattle [illegible]

KFI—Los Angeles [illegible]

KGO—Oakland [illegible]

KSL—Salt Lake [illegible]

KOA—Denver [illegible]

KSTP—St. Paul [illegible]

WCCO—Minneapolis [illegible]

WLS—Chicago [illegible]

WMAQ—Chicago [illegible]

WOR—Newark [illegible]

WJZ—Chicago [illegible]

WEAF—New York [illegible]

WGY—Schenectady [illegible]

KDKA—Pittsburgh [illegible]

WBZ—Springfield [illegible]

WBZA—Boston [illegible]

KFKX—Hastings [illegible]

WHAS—Louisville [illegible]

WSB—Atlanta [illegible]

WSM—Nashville [illegible]

WSMB—New Orleans [illegible]

KPRC—San Antonio [illegible]

WOAI—San Antonio [illegible]

WFAA—Dallas [illegible]

WBAP—Fort Worth [illegible]

KVOO—Tulsa [illegible]

WDAF—Kansas City [illegible]

KOIN—Portland