

Medford Daily Tribune

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NOW FOR THE TOURISTS.

From the press reports received from Salem it seems that the legislature is in a most favorable frame of mind towards the bill appropriating \$100,000 with which to build the Crater lake boulevard. Like the wildest dreams of youth, it seems too good to be true. Still, when the advantages of such a road are remembered, it is easily to be seen what arguments are at hand for the construction of such a road. One needs but to reflect on the extraordinary movement from all over the country to California during the past 30 years, where they have the attraction of one of the greatest and most beautiful valleys in the world—the Yosemite.

This movement has been for the greater part in the shape of tourists' excursions, similar to the throngs migrating yearly to southern Europe. However, they differ in one respect—visiting Europe they are tourists, pure and simple; while those who have visited California have succumbed to the climatic, scenic and other charms of the state. They have remained to build mighty cities, to plant countless orange groves, to force the Bear state to the fore when compared with her sisters of the coast.

With the construction of a boulevard to wonderful Crater lake, Oregon will contain a magnet that will attract a vast army from all portions of the United States—yes, from all parts of the civilized globe. In the past there has been a constant migration to Oregon of those who came to better their condition financially—that his evolution has been, and ever will be, a slow and painful operation. But those who come for aesthetic reasons are cultivated, well-to-do, and often wealthy. They will come to see; seeing, they will be charmed; charmed, they will remain. The stamp of their virility will be on the land and will find its expression in mighty cities.

Not alone will the tourist be charmed with beautiful Crater lake. Aside from this, southern Oregon can tender him the finest trout streams for his fly, the finest game for his gun, admirable opportunities for investment, and one of the finest climates on earth. The easterner's complaint has ever been that southern California weather is too much of a "sameness." Here we can offer him the happy medium—the climate that is never too hot or too cold.

With the construction of the Crater road will dawn a new era for southern Oregon. Too long has the matter been neglected.

A UNANIMITY OF OPINION.

In most of the states at this time the most concurrent consideration and action is being given direct primary legislation. Although the direct primary is still in the experimental stage, most of the governors of the various states have recommended in their messages to the legislatures now in session the enactment of new laws or amendment of those already in force to accomplish this end. And it is significant that not a state official, of tried responsibility, has advised a return to the old form—the convention system.

In Minnesota, where for some time this law has been in effect, Governor Johnson approves the principle and urges improvement. He says:

Whatever criticism may have been made, just or unjust, I am more than ever convinced of the correctness of the principle of the law underlying the system, and I feel this so strongly that I earnestly urge upon this body the necessity of making the necessary modifications in the law as applied to present conditions, and I desire to go even further than that, and say that in my judgment better results would be obtained by extending the primary election law so that it would include all the elective officers of the state. If the law is a proper one as applied to the election of congressmen, district judges, county and city officers, it certainly would be a proper one as applied to the elective officers of the state. That there will be differences of opinion in this matter, as there have ever been, I am aware, but in the states where the primary election law has been extended universally the most complete satisfaction obtains.

In other states the governors have, in the majority of cases, urged the matter. Governor Hughes of New York, Governor Vasey of South Dakota, Governor Warner of Michigan, Governor Marshall of Indiana, Governor Fort of New Jersey—all of these either press the enactment of new laws along this line or declare the system will be a success with further extensions. Not one would take a step backward.

It might have been that more of Medford's citizens would have visited Salem Wednesday had it been generally known that the bunch was to have been invited to attend the banquet given by the Salem board of trade to the 25th legislative assembly—that was probably worth the trip in itself.

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