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City and County Official Paper

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AGENTS FOR THE ENTERPRISE.

- Beaver Creek... Dr. T. B. Thomas
Canby... E. I. Stas
Clackamas... A. Mather

LEGISLATION BY THE PEOPLE.

The referendum as a remedy for the greatest evils of democracy, such as corrupt legislation and government by bosses, is receiving more serious discussion at this time than ever before.

This, of course, is due to the popular realization of the fact that we are losing the power to control legislation. So far as the selection of the men who do the governing is concerned we have comparatively little power, says the Chicago Record-Herald.

The referendum as a device for restoring the control of legislation to the people and thus securing the self government for which a democracy is supposed to stand is advocated in the current number of The Independent, by John Bates Clark, LL. D., Professor of Political Economy in Columbia University.

Professor Clark carefully disposes of the principal objections to the referendum, giving especial attention to the claim that it is opposed to the principle of "representative government."

If a great measure were destined to be acted on by the people without danger to their representatives these men would be better able to make the preliminary decision in an unbiased way.

It is true that bad legislation is sometimes reversed by popular vote under the present system, but it too often happens that we lock the stable after the horse is stolen or merely turn the rascals out to put in adherents of a different boss or machine.

McLAURIN ASKS AN INVESTIGATION

On behalf of Senator McLaurin Senator Pritchard has offered a resolution that the Senate committee on privileges and elections be directed to investigate and report as to the truth of the charges made by Senator Tillman against his colleague.

As the Yorkville (S. C.) Enquirer says, the real issue is the truth of the charges. "If a thorough, honest and impartial investigation shall develop that McLaurin's vote was improperly influenced then let McLaurin be expelled from the Senate."

The offense against the rules of the Senate and its dignity can hardly be rightly estimated without such an examination as is suggested. The Senate and the public would condone Mr. McLaurin's fault if it were proved that Tillman's accusations were groundless.

It should be said, however, that up to the present time McLaurin has behaved in a much more creditable manner than Tillman. He courts the investigation, but Tillman makes no offer of proof, and in his refusal to relieve the President by declining the invitation to the White House and in his insistence on his right to vote when nothing would benefit him so well as silence he deepens the disgust that is felt for him.

MR. CROSS AND HIS TAXES.

Mr. Cross, in a communication in another column, says that we are imputing wrong motives to him when we charge him with not paying his taxes. If Mr. Cross has taxes charged to him he must have property on which said taxes are levied.

If Mr. Cross lets his taxes go for several years and then pays a large amount in one year it is no great credit and he should have paid them when they were due, and if he had paid them, then the question of county debt and interest would have been lessened.

Mr. Cross may be hard up, many people are, but as long as he owns property he must pay the taxes or the taxes of other people will be higher. The largest item in the expense account of Clackamas County, as certified to the Secretary of State, is the bridge account, some \$32,000.

MEN OF NERVE AND IRON.

Richard Scott, of Milwaukie, struck the keynote of the campaign when he said that he had no patience with howlers against high taxes, as it had been his experience when a member of the board of commissioners that these people were the very ones to go before the board and ask for money for a pet project.

THE DEFENSE OF MR. CRO'S.

He Replies To An Editorial In Last Week's Enterprise.

OREGON CITY, Or., March 6, 1902 (To The Editor.) In last week's issue of your paper, you compliment "Cross, Dye and Charman" now identified with the citizens movement, by stating that the three men named have been "active in the movement for better roads both as to soliciting subscriptions and agitating the matter" and I want to thank you for the article.

In reply I only speak for myself. The criticism is not directed against the road law, but against its maladministration. Neither is any fault found with the evident fact, that it takes a large amount of money to run the business affairs of Clackamas County, but it is directed with all energy against the reckless extravagance of the County administration.

We have all heard of the fifty horse power mill with such a vast net work of machinery that 25 horse power was consumed in starting it. This illustration may seem a little bit extravagant, but the illustration as applied to Clackamas County comes pretty near making a bulls eye. There are too many wheels to the machine, too many useless mouths to be fed.

Why should it cost \$1.61 per capita to do the business of Marion County, exclusive of road expense, and \$3.54 per capita in Clackamas County?

Why does it cost \$3,699.96 to assess Marion County, with an assessed valuation of \$8,314,636.00, and \$6,375.02 to assess Clackamas County, with an assessed valuation of \$4,447,483.00?

And why does our Commissioners Court cost the tax payers \$3,308.50, or \$10.00 for each week day of the year, and the Marion County Commissioners \$1,435.40?

Clackamas County expended on bridges last year \$32,831.33. Where under the heavens did it go to? And then again, is it reasonable, that our County, which is third in population, and seventh in valuation, should be second in the whole state in expenditure,—Multnomah of course being first.

In 1893 our net indebtedness was \$57,925.20. The last report of the clerk indicates an indebtedness of \$111,720.69, and I notice the Courier-Herald presents figures which seem to now prove the present indebtedness of the county to be \$300,000.00.

Your personal criticism of myself, as being a delinquent tax payer, is not fair, because it infers a bad motive. Few people care, but most people in Clackamas County know of my struggle for eight years to right myself financially and pay off every dollar of a large partnership indebtedness which fell upon me to pay.

WHAT DO THE CHILDREN DRINK? Don't give them tea or coffee. Have you tried the new food drink called GRAIN-O? It is delicious and nourishing and takes the place of coffee.

Only One Way To Do It. Get from Portland to Chicago in 72 hours—just three days. The "Chicago-Portland Special," leaving Portland daily at 9 a. m. via O. R. & N., arrives at Chicago at 9:30 the third day.

We have other trains—"Pacific Express" leaves Portland daily at 9 p. m. via Huntington, and the "Spokane Flyer" leaves at 6 p. m. daily via Spokane for St. Paul and the East. For rates, sleeping car reservations, call or write to A. L. CRAIG, General Passenger Agent, O. R. & N. Co., Portland, Oregon.

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CASTOR OIL advertisement for infants and children, featuring '900 DROPS CASTORIA' and 'The Kind You Always Bought' slogan. Includes a signature and 'For Thirty Years' text.

It is in my wife's name. The taxes have always been paid and are paid this year. I have paid my poll tax; so has my son, Howard, although he is an active fireman and is exempt. I ought not to be disqualified from holding office because I do not happen to own a 'large property and pay a large tax.'

Thirty voters of the Oregon City school district attended a meeting in the county courtroom last Monday night and voted down a proposition to add two rooms to the Barclay building at this time, and no bonds will be issued for that purpose.

A Horrible Outbreak. "Of large sores on my little daughter's head developed into a case of scald head" writes C. D. Istill, of Morgantown, Tenn., but Bucklen's Arnica Salve completely cured her.

On Jellies. Preserves and pickles, spread a thin coating of PURE REFINED PARAFFINE. Will keep them absolutely moisture and acid proof.

Mr. Brownell's Reply. OREGON CITY, March 6, 1902.—(To The Editor.)—The Enterprise has called my attention to a statement of Mr. Cross. The people of this county know that I am a poor man. We have a house and a few lots with which to protect my family and which my family assisted in paying

Advertisement for 'Cascara' (Candy Cathartic) and 'Bileous' (Bile Beans) with 'I have used your...' testimonials.

Advertisement for 'PILES' with 'I have used your...' testimonials and 'For sale by Charman & Co.'