

# Oregon City Enterprise

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### CAN INITIATIVE BE INVOKED?

A question has been raised as to the power of the people of the state to propose a law or other constitutional amendment through the initiative amendment to the state constitution. A telegraphic dispatch from Salem, says: "The constitution provides that while one amendment is awaiting the action of the legislative assembly or of the people, no additional amendment shall be proposed. This is the limitation contained in article 17 of the constitution, prescribing the manner in which amendments may be proposed by the legislature. The initiative and referendum clause, prescribing the manner in which the people may propose amendments, does not state whether this limitation shall apply to amendments proposed by initiative. The supreme court held, in construing the constitution in the referendum case, that the provisions of the constitution are mandatory and must be strictly observed. It was decided that where an amendment is pending no other can be proposed, but it was not said whether this applies to amendments proposed by initiative.

"The legislature of 1903 proposed an amendment repealing the anti-negro clause to the constitution. That amendment is now awaiting the action of the legislature of 1905, and until that legislature has rejected it or adopted it and the people have voted upon it, no other amendments can be proposed by the legislative body. Whether the people can propose an amendment in the meantime is not certain, but there are many who believe that they cannot. In deciding the referendum case, the supreme court held that the reason for the limitation is that the people should not be called upon to vote upon constitutional amendments except at long intervals. Upon the same reason it is argued that the limitation applies to all amendments, however proposed."

The question will likely be submitted by the secretary of state to the attorney general for an opinion. Friends of the initiative and referendum contend that since this amendment is the last expression of the will of the people, that any previous provision of the constitution which conflicts therewith must yield, and that since the people have reserved the power to propose constitutional amendments, they may do so at any time, regardless of whether other amendments proposed by the legislature may be pending. They also declare that any other construction of the situation is ridiculous for each successive legislative assembly by proposing some trivial amendment to the state's constitution, would be able to forever deny to the people the right to propose constitutional amendments, under the initiative amendment which was regularly adopted by both branches of the legislature and ratified by popular vote.

### RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION DURING 1903.

The past year with its 5723 miles of new railroad, and the past few years which have given about the same results, seem to show conclusively that the era of trunk line railway construction in this country is passed. Two reasons may be assigned for this fact, viz: the railway construction of earlier years was far in advance of the commercial necessities of the country the railroads were purposed to serve and a check was placed upon reckless railway building when Wall street began taking a hand in the management of railway properties.

For many years those who placed their money in railway lines built west of the Missouri river through deserts to the Pacific coast, were compelled not only to forego returns but to also see their properties go through bankruptcy before the development of the country was sufficient to produce a tonnage which promised the payment of dividends. Even now, with several years of phenomenal prosperity, some of the main western trunk lines have not been able to reach a dividend paying period. In the East the condition was not quite so bad, but even there railway building was so in excess of the demands of traffic that many railroads suffered bankruptcy. As a result railway building east of Chicago has in recent years amounted to very little. In the West, according to the report for the year, the construction has been confined to the development of new territory tributary to the main trunk lines. In Oklahoma, which led the states and territories in new building, the construction consisted entirely of feeders to the Santa Fe, Frisco and Rock Island main lines. For years to come this will undoubtedly be the character of new railway building—the filling in and rounding

out of existing trunk systems to enable them to best serve the country naturally tributary to them.

The building reports of the past five years have also strongly reflected the new method of railway management. In times past when a railroad desired to extend its lines and reach new productive centers of new distributing centers other lines reaching those centers fought the move bitterly and a parallel and competing line was usually the inevitable result. With the notable exception of the Pennsylvania's fight against the Gould invasion of Pittsburg existing lines are now offering comparatively little opposition to the extension of competing lines. Illustrative of this was the contract whereby the St. Paul uses the Harriman lines, thereby obviating the necessity of construction from Omaha or Everts to the coast; a similar contract between the Rock Island and Southern Pacific, whereby the former secures an El Paso coast line and the more recent contract which will enable the Frisco to reach New Orleans without building a line from Memphis. The future development of the western country may be such as to invite the construction of one or more additional trunk lines, but trunk line construction east of the Mississippi river will probably never be revived.

CONGRATULATIONS are due the people of Oregon City for the complete victory the municipality gained over the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in the litigation with reference to the right of way to that part of the city over which the company's road bed passes. In the opinion rendered by the state supreme court, the city is vested with absolute title to the premises that have been in dispute, save so much thereof as has been conceded to the railroad corporation by ordinance. There was not much of a question as to the final outcome of the controversy, but the attitude of the railroad people was such that the rights of the disputants had to be determined in the courts. The decision of the courts is an important one, and removes all opposition and further controversy from this source, at least in the making of public improvements over and about the lands to which the railroad company has claimed exclusive title. With this disposition of the case, the people of the city and particularly its representatives in the city council, should be impressed with the worth of the strip of land to which the title of the municipality has been indisputably established by the courts. In the granting of any additional franchises, involving these or any other lands owned by the city, the council should estimate the value of the lands and exact for the city some remuneration for the franchises and privileges that may in the future be extended. There should be granted no franchise from the municipality except the city receives some consideration therefor.

ALWAYS at the beginning of a new year the people are interested in studying the eclipses as laid down in the yellow-backed almanac. This year there are two eclipses on the program, both of the sun. The first will be an annular eclipse, March 17, visible to the southern part of Asia, Japan and the Philippine islands. A total eclipse of the sun is down for September 9, visible to the western portions of South America, the Sandwich Islands, Polynesia and the Pacific ocean. Besides these, a biennial eclipse of quite a number of stars will occur in Oregon about June 6th. This is not recorded in the almanac, but it is an inevitable decree of fate every two years that many are called as standard braves for the dear public, but few ever attain to the salaried sinecure.

CONFIDENCE in the recent disclosures in the Ogle Creek mining district has found expression in the announcement that the Molalla Central Mining Company, of this city, will at once install machinery and proceed with the development of its properties. As says thus far made of ore taken from the claims at Ogle Creek have been very satisfactory and with the prosecution of the plans already formulated, it is confidently believed that in the future mining will constitute one of the leading industries of Clackamas county.

A RECORD was made by Clackamas county this year in the sale of property for delinquent taxes for the year 1902. On a roll that originally represented \$170,000, there remained unpaid taxes when the roll became delinquent, of only \$3000. The sale of this property by Sheriff Shaver required but two days and every parcel was sold and the interest bidding ranged as high as fifty per cent. The success of the sale may be attributed largely to the thorough advertising it received through the columns of the Enterprise.

MANY new comers are locating in Clackamas county each week. The movement of real estate is active and general conditions are improved. With its extensive resources that have been practically undisturbed, Clackamas county is bound to experience a wonderful growth within the next decade. This assured expansion and development of the county can be best stimulated and promoted through the agency of a Board of Trade located at Oregon City.

THE Enterprise is gratified with the splendid work of its able corps of correspondents throughout the county. Because of the thoroughness of the weekly reports of these correspondents has the Enterprise been enabled to furnish the people of Clackamas county the best county paper that was ever published at Oregon City.

HERE'S success to the young beneficiaries who will tonight receive diplomas of graduation from the Oregon City public schools. May they as successfully mount and master every obstacle in the business and professional world as they have mastered their textbooks.

# Choose Your Druggist Carefully

A DRUGGIST can do more harm or good than most people give him credit for. There are different qualities in drugs just as there are in dry goods, and to the outsider all qualities go by the same name. The difference between pure, fresh, high-grade drugs and old, cheap, inferior drugs of the same name means the difference between keeping sick and getting well. When a doctor writes a prescription he means BEST quality. When some druggists fill a prescription they think only about BIG PROFITS. Don't take chances—you know how dangerous errors are. Bring your prescriptions here and you will be sure of accuracy. We do our own work, no boys behind our prescription counter. Only the best and purest drugs are used and our charges are based on what the drugs are worth—not what we think you will pay without protest. If we have your prescription business and are saving you money, why can't we save you more money by selling you your patent medicines, toilet articles, druggist sundries and in fact every thing you need in our line.

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### To Be Healthy Be Practical.

Theoretically, every adult person of any intelligence wishes to be strong and healthy. Practically, a majority of them wish nothing of the sort. They would like to be well enough, but are not willing to pay the price, though it really costs nothing. When a man gets out of health he usually wants to get something to "patch him up" so that he can continue the foolish things which have caused his bad condition; hence the almost universal resort to drug treatment instead of the natural means of restoring and maintaining health and strength. If a man is really desirous of being naturally sound and healthy he will try to study out the means of becoming so. These means are all included in the seven foundation principles of practical hygiene—namely, exercise, rest, air, light, food, drink and bathing.—Cooking Club.

### When You Buy Cheese.

When you buy cheese bear in mind that all good cheese will be mellow to the touch, yet firm. The rind will be of an even tint, elastic and free from puff, and a sample will reveal a firm, close, buttery grain of a nutty flavor. Cheese which feels so hard that you cannot dent it with your finger tips on the rind is either sour, salted too heavily, skimmed or cooked too much. On the other hand, if the rind breaks upon pressure or does not spring back readily when the finger is withdrawn this indicates an oversoft article, caused by the slack cooling of the curd or a want of acid. At best it will have an insipid flavor and will "go off" as it ages.

### Purely Conventional.

"Agatha," said her mother, "I don't like to hear a daughter of mine tell even a conventional lie. You know you can't bear Aunt Becky, and yet when she came the other day you said, 'Auntie, how glad I am to see you!'" "That wasn't a lie, mamma," answered Agatha. "That was an exclamation."—Chicago Tribune.

### Marrying For Money.

"I married for hub de fast time," said Ebenezer Snow, "but dis time I marries for money, an' don't you forget it!" "Your bride elect has money, has she?" "Yes, sub. Dat girl has no less dan \$34.78 in de savin's bank, for she showed me de book."—Detroit Free Press.

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NORTH BOUND.

7:30 a. m.  
 9:22 a. m. (Albany Local)  
 6:10 p. m.

SOUTH BOUND.

9:22 a. m.  
 4:50 p. m. (Albany Local)  
 9:14 p. m.

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