

Oregon City Enterprise CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

Published Every Friday.
Subscription Rates:
One year\$1.50
Six months 75
Trial subscription, two months.. 25

Advertising rates on application.
Subscribers will find the date of expiration stamped on their papers following their name. If this is not payment, kindly notify us, and the matter will receive our attention.

Entered at the postoffice at Oregon City, Oregon, as second-class matter.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1906.

REGISTER PARTY AFFILIATIONS.

The registration books opened Tuesday and every voter should lose no time in complying with the provisions of the law in this regard. Before an elector can participate in the primary election in April he must have registered with the County Clerk.
There is also presented another interesting situation in the matter of registering. The law requires that each elector in registering must state his political affiliations. There is being shown a disposition on the part of some voters to register as "Independents" but the Primary Law does not recognize any such political organization and it is quite probable that such a registration will not qualify the voter for participation in the primaries.
It is very essential that voters register. Since this duty must be performed, voters should get in and register early. Do not put it off. The books are now open. Call at the Clerk's office and register at once.

Mr. Brownell and some of his machine managers are reporting that Porter is entitled to no political favors because everything he ever has done for the party or its candidates has been paid for. Porter will give \$100 to any man who will come up and say that he paid as a candidate of the county ticket anything to Porter or the Enterprise for their support during the time he owned the Enterprise which covers the last four or five campaigns. Neither has the organization paid Porter or the Enterprise anything except the actual cost of a few extra copies of the paper.

AN ATROCIOUS ASSASSINATION.

Ex-Governor Steenberg, of Idaho, assassinated at Caldwell, Idaho, on Saturday night, was a rare man, who had rendered his state and the whole country a great service. There can be no question that the assassination was the work of revenge for his suppression of the criminal outrages in the Coeur d'Alene mines, some six years ago.
That district was terrorized by an organization of assassins, working under cover of the name of the Western Federation of Miners. There was a dispute over wages; the mineowners refused the demands of the Federation and some of them undertook to operate their mines with other labor.
The direction of the Federation fell into the hands of men who undertook to settle the matter by murder of workmen not of their order, and by blowing up mines with dynamite. How many murders were committed never could be ascertained. The great mills of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mines were destroyed by dynamite, causing immense loss of property and several lives.
Governor Steenberg resolved to exterminate or expel this gang, and did so, using the powers of martial law and calling for assistance on the United States. Some of the ringleaders were convicted, but none executed. By his vigorous proceedings, the Governor broke up the Federation in Idaho. The men of its inner circle, who directed the crimes at Coeur d'Alene, have now at last taken their revenge. It is the price that many a courageous man has paid for his devotion to the cause of public order and the highest interests of society.
Besides the motive of revenge, there is probably another, namely intimidation of other officials in Idaho and elsewhere, who may take a stand similar to that taken by Governor Steenberg. Officials and ex-officials of Colorado, in particular, where there have been transactions similar to those in Idaho, and where many of the men now are who were driven from Coeur d'Alene, will scarcely fail to take warning, and to redouble their vigilance for their own preservation.
Governor Steenberg's measures were very rigorous. But the criminal conduct to which they put an end had been extreme, horrible and long continued. Very probably injustice was done to some who were associated with the Federation, yet not guilty of the crimes perpetrated or inspired by its leaders.
But the Governor believed that no measures less thorough than those he employed could abate the evil; and from the esteem in which he has been held ever since in his state, this doubtless was the belief of the great body of the responsible and law-abiding people of Idaho.
Natural feeling of indignation and horror over a crime so atrocious as this assassination should not exalt merely in empty denunciation of its authors, but should inspire all our officials and the whole people to do their full duty for protection of society and public order. Whoever occupies a high place in a state that has "rough" communities is likely at any time to have his courage and constancy put to trial. Governor Steenberg lies dead, but in the emergency he was forced to meet he was not afraid.—Oregonian.

NEW DEAL DEMANDED.

Sunday's Oregonian contained a cartoon in which the citizen was pictured as giving a "New Deal" pill to the political boss. The cartoon was especially timely. A "New Deal" is demanded and what is more it must be conceded. It has been demanded in other sections of the country and the demands have been granted.
There is required at this time a "New Deal" for Clackamas county. Selfish and grafting political interests have dominated to a deplorable extent in this county. All the people have had to do has been too submit meekly to the demands of enlarged taxes and say they like it. But they have tired of this sort of extortion and propose a change.
It is up to the people themselves to obtain a change in present conditions and customs in this county. No more corrupt and conscienceless gang ever dominated any community than that which has dictated the administration of affairs in Clackamas county for the last dozen years. The people have stood quietly by and submitted to the exactions of the powers that be until they have tired. The change that is desired is within the power of the injured parties themselves to acquire. Under the Direct Primary it is up to the electors to nominate candidates for public office. Faithless public servants may be retired from a continuance in their official capacities.
But having this power, will the privilege be exercised by the electors of Clackamas county? If voters remain quietly at home and fail to participate in the primary election in which is offered the chance to replace corrupt office-holders, seeking for a re-election, then they should be content to take what is measured out to them when these officials are retained in their official capacities.
With the remedy in the voters' hands present conditions in Clackamas county should be corrected to the great improvement of the public service and the reduction of the tax levy.

PROGRESS TOWARD POPULAR ELECTION OF SENATORS.

It will be something of a surprise to most advocates of the direct election of United States senators by the people to learn that in one way or another, at one time or another, all but two states in the Union have expressed themselves in favor of this reform. An investigation in which light has been made by George N. Haynes, who contributes an article on the subject to the current issue of the Political Science Quarterly.
It is true that these favorable expressions have not been of such a uniform type that they can be combined into a mandate for constitutional amendment. Nevertheless, their significance is great. The legislatures of thirty-one states have communicated to Congress their approval of the reform, and of these the majority have made formal demand for the calling of a constitutional convention. The remaining states, with two exceptions, have cast the votes of their representatives in Congress in favor of the project on one or more of the five occasions when the lower house has passed a resolution for the submission of an amendment.
In view of these facts, it would seem certain that an organized movement directed intelligently from some central headquarters could with little difficulty bring sufficient pressure to bear on the state legislatures to secure a concerted formal demand on Congress from the requisite two-thirds of the total number of states for the calling of a constitutional convention.
Mr. Haynes does not confine his study to this phase of the movement, but describes also the various extra-constitutional measures which have been adopted for reaching this same end. In about a third of the states, he tells us, either under party rules or in accordance with the explicit provisions of state law, direct primaries already name the candidates. Wherever a strong party is supreme this recommendation is equivalent to an election. In four states provision is made for a popular "election," complete in all details, and carried out under the supervision not of party officials, but of state elect officials. Of course, these "elections" have no effect in law, and the experience of some of the states shows that where factional divisions are sharp they may have little influence upon the legislatures.
From the facts presented it can hardly be said that the extra-constitutional means of securing direct election are as yet a general success. It is not impossible that some state may take the further step of attempting to bind the members of the legislature under pledges to elect the senatorial candidate successful at the primaries. In this event a constitutional question will arise, the decision of which may be decisive as to whether constitutional amendment is necessary or not. Mr. Haynes reminds us that in 1866 both Senators Sumner and Williams argued that constituents had a right to instruct members of legislatures as to their votes for senators and had a right to be obeyed. That would indicate that the lawyers' arguments on the point will not be entirely one-sided.
At every session the Senate offers stronger and stronger arguments why its members should be brought more directly under the control of the voters of their respective states. It ought not to be many years before this control in one way or another is established.—Exchange.

STEPS TOWARD A PARCELS POST.

Postmaster General Cortelyou in his annual report discusses from a strictly business standpoint the possibility of the government establishing a domestic parcels post to enter into competition with the private express companies.
He makes it clear to begin with that if the government should offer to carry packages of all kinds on the established system of a uniform rate of postage, regardless of distance, the Postoffice Department would be at a very great disadvantage in comparison with the express companies, which use the zone system in making their tariffs. Either a high rate of postage or a temporary deficit would result. With a high charge the government parcels post would get all of the long-distance shipments, and would lose money on them, while the companies with their cheaper short-distance rates would get the short-distance parcels. It would therefore be necessary, he argues, to put the domestic parcels post on a basis similar to that of the private competitors.
He does not ask Congress for authority to establish a domestic parcels post, but he suggests certain steps that may be taken toward it. For one thing he wishes to see third and fourth class matter consolidated at the rate of 1 cent for two ounces. This would give a greatly improved service for parcels under four pounds in weight. Is assurance that this could be done without any loss to the government should not be overlooked.
A second recommendation is that when a parcels post is adopted experiments be first made with it on a limited scale in certain carefully selected portions of the country.
The first of these recommendations should certainly be adopted. If the government can afford to carry a small package of merchandise cheaper than it now does, it should certainly begin to give the service at once.
As for the second recommendation, it will be a good day for the people of the country when the famous "four reasons" against the adoption of a parcels post are so far neutralized in Congress that even an experiment on a small scale with a general parcels post can be made.—Chicago Record-Herald.

A NEW TRAMP COMING.

A genuine tramp, a detective, a life insurance agent, a wealthy rogue and a deceitful husband, a persecuted wife and mother, a beautiful daughter and a village ne'er-do-well, are the principal characters which go to make up Manager U. D. Newell's comedy sensation, "A Jolly American Tramp" which will be presented at Shively's Opera House, tomorrow, Saturday evening, January 6. The play is from the pen of Mr. E. E. Kidder, a playwright who is responsible for more tender, touching, pathetic, heart-interesting plays than any other author now before the public. His "Peaceful Valley" and "A Poor Relation" made Sol Smith Russell famous and a millionaire. In this work he promises to surpass his other efforts and give us a piece that for stirring situations, startling climaxes as well as heart-touching interest cannot be surpassed. Manager Newell has cast "A Jolly American Tramp," with care, selecting only artists eminently fitted for their respective roles.

A MODERN MIRACLE.

"Truly miraculous seemed the recovery of Mrs. Mollie Holt of this place," writes J. O. R. Hooper, Woodford, Tenn., "she was so wasted by

THE PATENT OFFICE.

The report of the Commissioner of Patents of the Patent Office for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905, shows that there were received during that year 52,325 applications for letters patent, 749 applications for designs for reissues, 1846 caveats, 11,298 applications for trade-marks, 1236 applications for labels, and 448 applications for prints. There were 30,266 patents granted, including reissues and designs; and 1426 trade-marks, 1028 labels, and 345 prints were registered. The number of patents that expired was 19,567. The number of allowed applications which were, by operation of the law, forfeited for non-payment of the final fees was 5154.
The total receipts of the office were \$1,737,334.44, the total expenditures were \$1,472,467.51, and the surplus of receipts over expenditures, being the

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amount turned into the Treasury, was \$264,866.93.

The Commissioner states that the new trade-mark law of February 20, 1905, which took effect April 1, has caused an enormous increase in the trade-mark work of the Patent Office. The first three months that the law was in operation 9710 applications for registration of trade-marks were filed, and it is apparent that the office will need to increase largely the force engaged on this work. Already the division of trade-marks has required the assistance of examiners and clerks detailed from other divisions from which they could ill be spared.
The Commissioner calls attention to the importance of the work of classifying patents, which is essential to the proper examination of applications, and invites attention to the necessity for an increase of force for this purpose. He states further that in view of the increased volume of work in the office, and its expected growth, there should be a corresponding increase in the number of employes and in the space provided for the transaction of the business, in neither of which particulars are the necessities of the office adequately supplied at the present time.—Scientific American.

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