

The Oregonian

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Portland, Monday, Oct. 3, 1910.

VOTING-BOOTH LEGISLATION.

The official title of a single proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of Oregon, under the initiative, is as follows:

For an amendment to article IV. Constitution of Oregon, increasing initiative, referendum and recall powers of the people; providing for election of judges by the people; providing for the election of members of the State Board of Education; providing for the election of members of the State Board of Agriculture; providing for the election of members of the State Board of Health; providing for the election of members of the State Board of Labor and Industries; providing for the election of members of the State Board of Mines and Forestry; providing for the election of members of the State Board of Public Safety; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Lands; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Officers; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Employees; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Institutions; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Parks; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Schools; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Universities; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Veterans; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Widows and Orphans; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Young Men and Women; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Children; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Soldiers; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Sailors; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Clergymen; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Priests; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Rabbis; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Pastors; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Teachers; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Preachers; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Gospel; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Word; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Kingdom; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Church; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Faith; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Love; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Peace; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Unity; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Fellowship; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Brotherhood; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Sisterhood; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Children; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Youth; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Old; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the New; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Future; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the World; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Universe; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Cosmos; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Galaxy; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Universe; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Cosmos; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Galaxy; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Universe; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Cosmos; providing for the election of members of the State Board of State Ministers of the Galaxy.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

There is nothing ambiguous or doubtful about the letter of Acting Governor Bowerman printed today. He will let the primary law, including Statement One, alone as Governor, as he has not in any way attempted as legislator to interfere with or impede its complete and successful operation. Moreover, he calls on all legislative candidates to subscribe to a pledge which he himself makes that as legislators they will not disturb any enactment of the people.

BUSINESS GAINS.

If the financial bill reflected by commercial statistics in other cities has any intention of getting in its work on Portland, this year, it will be obliged to hurry. Nine months of the year have already passed into history and every month was a record breaker.

SPRIT OF THE OLD WEST.

The spirit of the old West still has a deep and growing interest in the spirit of the old West is shown in the remarkable success of the Wild West show which closed a three days' exhibition at Pendleton Saturday. This "round-up" was a reproduction on a somewhat smaller scale of an annual event which has been given for years in the heart of the old West.

BIDDEEN OF THE FUTURE.

The mission of the aeroplane is not one of war, according to a suggestion by Leslie's Weekly, but of peace; not for the annihilation of armies, but for the upbuilding of mountain homes; not for the encouragement of road building, but for superiority over all roads.

Change of Programme.

Seen, as the mild, warm days depart To other tasks we'll turn us, We'll pass the ice box by and start to working up the furnace.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR VOTERS.

Portland, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Will the Oregonian kindly inform the voting public as to the qualifications required of a legal voter in Oregon?

CURRENT NEWSPAPER JESTS.

The Caller—Time passes quickly in Oregon. Does it? The Victim—Does it?—Yes.

LETTER FROM THE KANSAS FARMER.

What a libel on the Kansas farmer to say the luxury of joyriding is a cause of race suicide! For this the land of the Kaw and soft corn?

LETTER FROM THE ILLINOIS FARMER.

Literary jests being bettered, the fake mine is the natural pure food for the "sucker." By the way, that title is a libel on a good fish.

LETTER FROM THE CALIFORNIA FARMER.

Idaho jurists will have a nice point of law to determine in finding guilty of manslaughter the man who scared a woman to death.

LETTER FROM THE TEXAS FARMER.

Evidently more insurgency is in demand; else why would son-in-law be defending the Payne-Aldrich tariff?

LETTER FROM THE MONTANA FARMER.

The proposed location of the Post-office will add a burden to filtration patrons of the general delivery.

LETTER FROM THE ARIZONA FARMER.

Nobody is going to find fault with plain Bill Hanley's platform of more railroads for Eastern Oregon.

LETTER FROM THE WYOMING FARMER.

After a score of years people again "Keep their eye on Pasco." The pioneer slogan is long-lived.

LETTER FROM THE NEVADA FARMER.

The Santiam triplets, transplanted to Washington, swept the stakes at the Vancouver fair.

LETTER FROM THE COLORADO FARMER.

If there be a milk trust in Portland it has not yet dared water its stock.

LETTER FROM THE OREGON FARMER.

Poor old St. Joe has lost a quarter of its padding of ten years ago.

LETTER FROM THE IDAHO FARMER.

Before there are any more fatalities, let the new football rules be amended.

LETTER FROM THE MONTANA FARMER.

The Beavers might have lost yesterday if it had not rained.

RESERVATION. THE TIME IS APPROACHING when these character...

reservation. The time is approaching when these character will be available. It is for that reason that Cheryenne is annually invaded by thousands of Eastern people who wish to see and feel the spirit of the old West before it vanishes forever.

PRESIDENT TAFT, PROGRESSIVE.

A concise and well-voiced summary of political problems was that contained in the Saturday speech of President Taft in New York City, before the National Republican League.

WHILE THERE IS NO REASON TO DISCREDIT the statement that a Dayton...

While there is no reason to discredit the statement that a Dayton, Wash., orchardist harvested \$62 worth of apples from one tree, there is every reason to believe that the figures for the exploitation of a single acre are not believed.

FREQUENT COLLISIONS AT SEA DEMONSTRATE THAT THE OCEAN IS NOT ROOMY ENOUGH FOR SOME OF THE MEN WHO NAVIGATE THEREON.

Frequent collisions at sea demonstrate that the ocean is not roomy enough for some of the men who navigate thereon. On land we are continually reminded by railway accidents with the same track without disaster.

SMALLER AND SMALLER GO THE FLATS OF NEW YORK.

Smaller and smaller go the flats of New York. Now you can get an apartment house consisting of one room, a kitchenette, a bathroom, and a closet, big enough for two persons to live in if they don't mind being crowded.

THE MOUNTAIN STUDENTS TAKING THE "LONG-LETT" COURSE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON WILL GRADUATE WITH KNOWLEDGE TO STEER CLEAR OF JOURNALISM.

The mountain students taking the "long-lett" course in the University of Washington will graduate with knowledge to steer clear of journalism.

WHAT A LIBEL ON THE KANSAS FARMER TO SAY THE LUXURY OF JOYRIDING IS A CAUSE OF RACE SUICIDE!

What a libel on the Kansas farmer to say the luxury of joyriding is a cause of race suicide! For this the land of the Kaw and soft corn?

LITERARY JESTS BEING BETTERED, THE FAKE MINE IS THE NATURAL PURE FOOD FOR THE "SUCKER."

Literary jests being bettered, the fake mine is the natural pure food for the "sucker." By the way, that title is a libel on a good fish.

IDAHO JURISTS WILL HAVE A NICE POINT OF LAW TO DETERMINE IN FINDING GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER THE MAN WHO SCARED A WOMAN TO DEATH.

Idaho jurists will have a nice point of law to determine in finding guilty of manslaughter the man who scared a woman to death.

EVIDENTLY MORE INSURGENCY IS IN DEMAND; ELSE WHY WOULD SON-IN-LAW BE DEFENDING THE PAYNE-ALDRICH TARIFF?

Evidently more insurgency is in demand; else why would son-in-law be defending the Payne-Aldrich tariff?

THE PROPOSED LOCATION OF THE POST-OFFICE WILL ADD A BURDEN TO FILTRATION PATRONS OF THE GENERAL DELIVERY.

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NOBODY IS GOING TO FIND FAULT WITH PLAIN BILL HANLEY'S PLATFORM OF MORE RAILROADS FOR EASTERN OREGON.

Nobody is going to find fault with plain Bill Hanley's platform of more railroads for Eastern Oregon.

AFTER A SCORE OF YEARS PEOPLE AGAIN "KEEP THEIR EYE ON PASCO." THE PIONEER SLOGAN IS LONG-LIVED.

After a score of years people again "Keep their eye on Pasco." The pioneer slogan is long-lived.

THE SANTIAM TRIPLETS, TRANSPLANTED TO WASHINGTON, SWEEP THE STAKES AT THE VANCOUVER FAIR.

The Santiam triplets, transplanted to Washington, swept the stakes at the Vancouver fair.

IF THERE BE A MILK TRUST IN PORTLAND IT HAS NOT YET DARED WATER ITS STOCK.

If there be a milk trust in Portland it has not yet dared water its stock.

POOR OLD ST. JOE HAS LOST A QUARTER OF ITS PADDING OF TEN YEARS AGO.

Poor old St. Joe has lost a quarter of its padding of ten years ago.

BEFORE THERE ARE ANY MORE FATALITIES, LET THE NEW FOOTBALL RULES BE AMENDED.

Before there are any more fatalities, let the new football rules be amended.

THE BEAVERS MIGHT HAVE LOST YESTERDAY IF IT HAD NOT RAINED.

The Beavers might have lost yesterday if it had not rained.

WHAT MR. BOWERMAN WILL DO.

Supports the People's Laws, Including Primary Law.

Portland, Or., Oct. 2.—(To the Editor.)—In the Portland evening paper of September 26 there appeared an interview credited to Senator Bourne, in which he endeavored to deceive the people into the belief that I am a reactionary and am not in favor of progressive legislation and favor returning to the old system of electing United States Senators.

In answer to this communication and other false and misleading articles recently published, I wish to say: Statement No. 1 is a part of the direct primary law and I have heretofore publicly stated, and now state again, that I will oppose by every means within my power any effort to amend, modify or repeal, or in any other manner render less useful or less satisfactory, any law or laws.

If I am elected Governor I will veto any and every measure which attempts or undertakes to amend, change or repeal the direct primary law, Statement No. 1, or any other law adopted by the people, or any part of any of them.

Frequent collisions at sea demonstrate that the ocean is not roomy enough for some of the men who navigate thereon. On land we are continually reminded by railway accidents with the same track without disaster.

With a desire to heat the Seattle Times in the circulation of the news, we are pained to state that the doer of this kind of a deed is Heater's agent in the Columbia River about half a mile out of the channel near Warrier Rock. The accident happened Saturday, the same day that the new steel steamship Kushman ran aground on Strawberry Island, near Deception Pass, while en route from Seattle to the Puget Sound.

The football season opens a month later than the deer hunting season, but each manages to score on the opening day with at least one death and a number injured. The football death roll for the 1910-11 season is headed by the St. Louis Cardinals, a high school, who was kicked in the head in a game Saturday, and died an hour later.

Smaller and smaller go the flats of New York. Now you can get an apartment house consisting of one room, a kitchenette, a bathroom, and a closet, big enough for two persons to live in if they don't mind being crowded.

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Initiative and Referendum Measures

Three Conflicting Amendments to the Oregon Constitution Relating to Taxation—A Jumble of Proposed Laws Would Follow Their Adoption—It Is Safe to Vote "No."

Article No. 1.

Two organizations working with different purposes in view have succeeded in securing presentation to the voters in the November election of three amendments to the state constitution relating to taxation.

One organization, the State Grange, induced the Legislature to propose two amendments, and the State Federation of Labor proposed the third by initiative petition.

And now, although the last-mentioned amendment conflicts vitally with one of the other two, from two distinct sources have come appeals for the approval by the people of all three.

The most important of the three proposed amendments is the one proposed by initiative petition and numbered "Yes 335" and "No 337," and is most important because of the far-reaching, and by some asserted to be, dangerous consequences that would follow its adoption.

In brief, the amendment submitted seeks to withdraw from the Legislative Assembly its power and authority to regulate taxation and vest that power in the people at large, by whom it may be exercised by means of the initiative. In addition it seeks to remove all restrictions of the constitution on measures approved by the people, declaring what property shall be taxed or exempted and how it shall be taxed and exempted; proposing to tax all counties to regulate their taxation and exemptions within their own borders and prohibits the levying of poll tax.

It is in the attempted restriction of the powers of the Legislature that the Federal Constitution becomes involved. Section 4, article 4 of the United States Constitution guarantees to every state a Democratic form of government. Eminent authorities have frequently discussed this section of the Constitution and almost without exception declare that a Republican form of government is one governed by a representative Legislature chosen by the people and leaving an elective non-hereditary executive.

Why any man or set of men should favor all three of the proposed taxation amendments is difficult to conceive. The labor amendment, if adopted by the greatest number of affirmative votes, would nullify the provision which would make wholly useless in all other features the two remaining amendments even if they also carried, for it specifically provides that "none of the restrictions of the Constitution shall apply to measures approved by the people declaring what shall be subject to taxation or exempted." The provision would stand even though that portion depriving the legislative assembly of the power to regulate taxation were declared repugnant to the Federal Constitution.

The Grange amendment submitted under House Joint Resolution No. 10 is a measure primarily to permit the divorcing of state and local taxation. This amendment empowers the Legislature to provide for the levy and collection of taxes for state purposes and for county and for other municipal purposes upon different classes of property so as to provide for the assessment and determination of application of an average rate of levy and taxation upon property for state purposes. But the labor amendment declares that the Legislature may not have any part in the regulation of taxation other than to propose laws for submission to the people.

Now in practice. Some 25 years ago the State of New Jersey created a central body empowered to assess all railroad property. Two years ago Oregon centralized the railroad assessing power in the State Tax Commission. In the last five years the general effort in the State of New Jersey has been to dispose of the centralization of railroad assessment, which it was so desirous of creating 25 years ago. It is said to be a general rule that those states which have had the centralization method in use for a number of years are endeavoring to return to the old distributive or local assessment method, while those states which have the local assessment method are clamoring for centralization.

The point in this is that there are all manner of taxation theories that certain individuals are anxious to see put into practice, and without doubt they would take form under the operation of the proposed amendment in the presentation of numerous conflicting tax bills at every general election.

There is the land tax method proposed in the Bourne or Fels pamphlet, which has been in operation in Australia and New Zealand towns. Taxation students are familiar with the discussion of this question in Great Britain and the attempt made to work out the results in the exemption of land and New Zealand cities, and with the way this discussion brought out a great diversity of opinion from both provinces as to whether it was a good or bad thing.

There is the business tax method as a substitute for the personal property tax in use in some parts of Canada. There is the land tax with an improvement tax added on a basis of floor space measurement tried in Winnipeg. There is the method of applying a very low rate on intangible property in order to bring it from hiding, and which is in operation in several Eastern states.

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