

HOME RULE PLAN MEETS APPROVAL

Mayors From Oregon Towns to Convene to Discuss Liquor Regulations.

MODEL LICENSE PLEASURES

Association Resolutions Result in Plan to Hurry Good Legislation. Scheme Is to Divorce Liquor From Politics.

The plan of the Greater Oregon Home Rule Association to regulate the liquor traffic by the adoption of the Home Rule bill and co-ordinate ordinances in all the municipalities, as outlined in the resolution adopted by the advisory board and read at the mass meeting of the association in the Armory Sunday night, has attracted widespread interest.

Members of the association are enthusiastically over the general approval of the plan as shown by the attendance at the Armory and comment yesterday by those who read the resolution that arrangements are already being made to call a state convention of Mayors of all incorporated cities immediately after the election to discuss the model liquor license ordinance with a view to adopting the measure for home rule and the regulation of the saloon, or giving communities that choose prohibition under the home rule law assistance to keep "dry."

"The first step in adopting the home rule measure and the model liquor license ordinance," said H. C. Miller, general manager of the Greater Oregon Home Rule Association, "will be to call a convention of the Mayors of the state to discuss the subject. At that meeting the 'wets' and 'drys' will be represented, the Mayors reflecting the local sentiment toward the liquor traffic, for under the Home Rule bill each community reserves the right to govern itself. Of course, if there are any 'dry' cities in the state the model license law would not particularly interest them, but in the 'wet' cities the majority of the voters would be in favor of prohibition."

"The association, composed of the substantial, cool-headed, conservative business men of a city, would come before the Council with a law to regulate the saloon and eliminate the 'drys'. Do you suppose for a moment that there is a Mayor or Council that would stand up in the face of this array of business men and say that he would not enforce the law? No such organized effort was ever made in this state, or any other state, for that matter, to regulate the saloon. The Home Rule Association is a body of hard-headed business men who can not be hoodwinked by either the fanatical prohibitionist or the unscrupulous politician. They occupy a sane position between the two extremes; they are determined to govern their own communities and govern them decently."

Subsequent Legislation Easy. There must necessarily be legislation subsequent to the adoption of a constitutional amendment, and if the Greater Oregon Home Rule Association can carry a constitutional measure in the state, it can certainly inaugurate a regulatory law, and a law divorcing politics from the saloon, because we would then have the co-operation of the prohibitionists. It is not conceivable that a prohibitionist would oppose a law divorcing politics from the liquor traffic and transferring the power to grant and revoke liquor licenses from the Common Councils to the Circuit Courts. We would also have the prohibitionist with us in connection with the passage of ordinances to regulate the saloon and obliterate the dive. Surely they would help in keeping a city clean. So the whole thing is easy. There would be no difficulty in regulating the saloon under the Home Rule bill.

Some of the questions asked about what will be done with the saloon until these measures are adopted are positively silly and ridiculous. Do you hear anybody asking what is to become of any of the other laws until a proposed measure becomes effective? Does any one think or really believe that we would have a state of chaos in the saloon, a liquor traffic unbridled and unrestrained until this proposition could be worked out? Certainly not. The saloons would still be under the law, and would also be found adjusting themselves to receive new regulations, the same as has been the case in other cities where the model liquor license law has been contemplated and before it became operative. All that is necessary to comprehend this reform is to sit down and reason it out and learn how simple and effective it is.

Resolution Adjudged Sane. Herman Wittenberg, vice-president and general manager of the Pacific Coast Bleach Company, who is president of the Greater Oregon Home Rule Association, last night said: "The resolution adopted by the advisory board provides for the finest and sanest legislation that has ever been introduced in the state of Oregon. It takes the liquor element out of politics and insures a regulation of the liquor traffic never had before by the people. It bestows the responsibility of removing the power of city councils to grant liquor licenses and vest that power in the courts meets with popular approval and the influence of the saloon in the city and their unbridled request would surely amount to something."

John H. Burgard, an insurance man and a member of the association, said: "I believe the policy of the association as outlined at the mass meeting Sunday night should be satisfactory to anyone. The most important feature, to my mind, is the divorcing of politics from the liquor traffic. That is the solution of the whole problem. The Pennsylvania system suits me pretty well." A. L. Mills, president of the First National Bank, a member of the association, said: "The measure gives municipalities the right to use its own voice within

the city limits. I believe the model license law would meet with general approval. There would no longer be liquor politics in the Councils were the matter of granting licenses placed in the hands of the judges."

Decency First Aim.

W. B. Glafke, commission merchant, a member of the association, said: "The measure gives each locality an opportunity to govern itself, to have home rule, which it will insist upon anyway, no matter what laws are passed. I do not believe that Roseburg, for instance, or any other city in the state, should say how Portland shall govern itself, any more than Portland shall tell the people of Roseburg how to conduct their affairs. As for eliminating the dives, as proposed by the Home Rule bill, that should be done whether we have Home Rule or not."

Dwight Edwards, of Dwight Edwards Company, a member of the association, said: "Nothing would do more to conserve the business interests of Oregon than the adoption of such measures as were outlined in the resolution read at the mass meeting Sunday night. The bill gives the right to each community to govern itself, whether it is 'wet' or 'dry'. There would be no dictation from the outside. The plan places the granting of licenses in the hands of the Circuit Judges, taking that power from the City Councils and thus removing the liquor traffic from politics. A Council may be composed of any number of men, say 15, and they all have certain political obligations. With a judge it is different. A judge will weigh the matter carefully and render a decision according to law and equity."

Plan Has Common Sense.

Chester A. Whitmore, of the Irwin-Hodson Company, a member of the association, said: "The resolution was passed by the advisory board of the Greater Oregon Home Rule Association, to give the public a clear, comprehensive knowledge of what the association stands for. Some persons appear to have had the idea that we stand in with the saloon dives. We stand for decency, not only in the saloon but in all other matters. We do not want prohibition by constitutional amendment because such measures have never worked out successfully. We know that the liquor traffic needs an adjustment, we know that prohibition has failed to make that adjustment, so we are advocating a regulatory measure that will adjust it. Of course you can't please fanatic but the plan as outlined carries with it common sense and contains nothing but that which is good and in the best interest of the state and the local communities within the state."

Dr. Harry F. McKay, a member of the association, said: "The advisory board of the association has formulated a plan for regulating the saloon that will be acceptable to any community, and there would be no difficulty in influencing a Council to pass such an ordinance as the model liquor license law provides. To say that they would not do it is equivalent to branding every Councilman in the State of Oregon as being against law enforcement and unalterably committed to the influence of the dive. The people of Oregon have some confidence in their representatives, or we would abolish our present form of local government, and those representatives respect that confidence to the extent of bowing to the will of the community. It is due to this fact that we find Councils and officers in 'dry' towns loathe to close up the blind pigs because the municipality has been voted 'dry' by outside influences and the people do not really consent to it. They would also put the obvious dive out of business, and no one would dare oppose it. There will be no difficulty in regulating the saloon and making it decent if the question is left to the people most concerned to handle it."

GLENDALE HEARS STORY Anti-Prohibition Speaker Cites Maine History as Argument. GLENDALE, Or., Oct. 31.—(Special.)—Sidney Story, of New Orleans, who is speaking under the auspices of the Greater Oregon Home Rule Association, addressed a large assembly at Glendale Sunday evening. Mr. Story said it is good neither to eat flesh nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended or is made weak. "It is not moderation," he said, "it is an extreme and is therefore a species of intemperance. Temperance, moderation, is a middle ground, but in drinking, in indulgence in pleasures, work, or even in religion. Religious hysteria has sent more people to insane asylums than alcohol ever did. Dyspepsia has sent more people into the grave than alcohol ever did. The railroad kills annually more than three times the number of people that die annually from the use of alcohol. Crime, vice and misery in a year than alcohol ever did in a decade."

In Maine there is one divorce for every seven marriages, yet Maine has tried Prohibition for a half century and when she embraced the fallacy, apostasy of summary legislation promised her the millennium.

VICTORY FOR HOME RULE SEEN Ex-Mayor Rose Departs for Home Predicting Defeat of "Drys." "There is everything to indicate that Oregon will, by a big majority, vote down the state-wide prohibition measure and adopt the home-rule bill," said Ex-Mayor Rose, of Milwaukie, yesterday before leaving for Oklahoma City. "My plan is to stay in the state until the issue is settled and it is in my mind a matter of how much the majority will be. Therefore, I believe I am no longer needed here."

"I have found the State of Oregon one of the most resourceful of any that I have ever visited and the trip through the state has been an endless source of enjoyment to me. The various valleys in the state cannot be excelled for their orchard and farming qualities and I can predict that there will be a wonderful influx of settlers here within the next five years. State-wide prohibition, however, is an unhealing wound. By a peculiar coincidence, Mr. Rose took the same train for the East as Mrs. Harris Alford. Poverty causes her to beg for the prohibition cause. Mr. Rose spoke in 25 cities of the state."

MARION WILL BE SPELLBOUND Republican Orators to Speak on Every Day This Week. SALEM, Or., Oct. 31.—(Special.)—County Chairman W. L. Jones, of the Republican county central committee, announced tonight the following dates and speeches for Marion County during the closing week of the campaign: Tuesday—Marion; Mayor George P. Hodgers and James G. Helzel, of Salem, with county candidates. Wednesday—Aurora; Grant B. Dimick, of Oregon City; Rev. Paul S. Bandy, of Salem, and others. Thursday—Woodburn; Grant B. Dimick and probably Jay Bowerman. Friday—Sidney; county candidates and other speakers. Saturday—Salem; Judge R. B. Butler, of Condon, and county candidates.

POWERHOUSE, RISING UNDER HANDS OF BIG FORCE, TO BE COMPLETED JANUARY 1.

GRADING ON FULL BLAST

REVENUE STATION, WHERE MATERIAL DEPOT IS LOCATED, IS ACTIVE

Scene—Cars to Operate to Bull Run by Next March.

Work on the new Mount Hood Railway has progressed rapidly during the past few weeks and the power plant at the junction of Bull Run and Sandy rivers, upon the construction of which a large force of men is employed, will be completed soon after the first of the year.

Contracts for large sections of grading have been let in the last few weeks and the work of getting the ground ready for the tracks will be rushed. Several subcontractors are expected to start work on this week.

Twenty carpenters started to work on the flume above the plant yesterday morning. Men are being added daily to the force employed on the power plant.

Automobiles are used in transporting the structural iron and cement from Boring to Revenue Station, where the iron taken from the auto trucks and placed on board wagons in all other matters. Edward Revenue has been placed in charge of the supply depot established there.

Many Portland people have visited the construction camps in the last few weeks. Edward Renner, who returned from Revenue Station yesterday, says he noticed much progress since his last visit.

The company now seems to be directing its efforts toward the completion of the power plant and is employing scores of men on this work.

The ultimate destination of the Mount Hood road remains as much a mystery in railroad circles as ever. That the line will eventually tap the fertile lands of Eastern and Central Oregon still continues to be a theory among men who have studied the situation.

Residents of the district are interested over the bright prospects of at last securing railroad connection with Portland and are preparing to celebrate completion of the line.

TAX LOS BENEFITED SUGGESTION TO SOLVE COST OF LAYING WATER MAINS.

S. B. Cobb Replies to Communication From the Civic Club Committee.

PORTLAND, Oct. 31.—(To the Editor.)—I wish to reply to the communication from the Civic Club Committee, in which the proposed water amendment is defended. The Civic Club states that doubtless the property interests of Mr. Cobb in districts already supplied with the water mains and private property owners do not all lie in the district already supplied with water mains.

The company in which I am interested laid its water mains for five years paid into the water fund \$75 a year and never used one drop of water, and this money went to pay for mains in front of private property. I paid for my own pipeline on East Washington street to get water to my residence, and I now am annually \$120 for a main on East Fifty-fifth and East Madison, which assessment I shall pay. I expect to pay for mains in front of my property at least \$500 and I expect to pay for water mains in front of my property at least \$500.

There are thousands of vacant lots in this city, many of them owned by those who have never paid a cent and probably never will pay a cent for water consumed. A majority of them have never even seen the water mains in front of their property, and yet an effort is made to make the water consumers of Portland put in these non-residents' mains free of cost to the subscribers, the value of their property without their even contributing one cent to putting in other water mains or to the upbuilding of our city. The taxpayers and water consumers will not vote for a law of this kind.

The mere fact that in years past mains were laid without cost to abutting property is no justification for the continuation of a system that was manifestly unjust, as the law prior to 1909, which is now asked to be re-enacted. The Civic Club overlooks or purposely neglects replying to my statement that there is discrimination in the paying for water mains that have been put in since June, 1909. Why should the people, who have put in water mains since that date, not pay for their water mains, and the people who put in water mains the next day after the election, not pay for supervision, but also suffer a depreciation of 2 1/2 per cent per annum—provided this proposed amendment carries its own weight, and I can understand the effect of cheap money, which was the club's answer to the above, but the people know the reason this proposed amendment was worked in the manner that it is, and I am surprised that any body of men styling themselves as a civic body should advocate the adoption of a measure so flagrant and unjust as this one is.

What is cheap money? According to the Civic Club, it means that something is not for nothing, you simply borrow the credit of the city, pay a per cent interest on the bonds, set aside a per cent of these funds, and behold, in 25 years it pays

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Itself off. It has not cost the club a cent, the city a cent, or anybody else the fraction of a dollar. Some people would call this high finance. It sounds to me like the boom in Los Angeles, Cal., several years ago, with the fraud and bank advice would be not to sell any more bonds by the city than is absolutely necessary.

Let me offer a suggestion. If the abutting property owners for the water main, as under the present law, the owner can pay in cash or in yearly installments, as under the present sewer law, in either case he adds the amount paid to the cost of his lot, the same as for street and sewers. The sewer is paid for by water mains on that piece of property forever. He has lost nothing, because, if he sells his property his money is paid by the water mains interest and what will be the effect on water rate? It will be materially lessened, and will stay reduced forever. Under the club's plan, he helps to pay for all water mains put in front of all property and pay the present or higher rates for water and continue to pay for both through the water rate. It makes no difference, for instance, whether the purchaser of property in Laurelhurst bonds the property, or whether he purchases the property, or the parties who plotted and put this property on the market pay for it in cash. In either case it is paid for by the water mains interest and he will continue to pay for it through the water rate for 50 years, under this proposed amendment, if it should not be changed.

It is certain that if any property is plotted and sold fully improved, the cost of such improvement is found and made part of the purchase price, in which case, if paid for in cash, the money will be taken from the water funds to pay for the mains put in, the club's plan, he helps to pay for all water mains put in front of all property and pay the present or higher rates for water and continue to pay for both through the water rate. It makes no difference, for instance, whether the purchaser of property in Laurelhurst bonds the property, or whether he purchases the property, or the parties who plotted and put this property on the market pay for it in cash. In either case it is paid for by the water mains interest and he will continue to pay for it through the water rate for 50 years, under this proposed amendment, if it should not be changed.

Mr. Moore's malicious talk at Yamhill on the life and death of Mr. Kruse, and which you endorse by your failure to protest and by permitting Mr. Moore and others since to speak with you again and repeat similar stories, is utterly false. Mr. Kruse was a member from Clackamas County. He was a man of mature years who did not use intoxicating liquors in any form, did not consort with lewd women, and was a gentleman in the highest sense of the word. Men who had known Mr. Kruse all his life told me he had always been a gentleman, he died of typhoid fever, caused by drinking Salween water, and during the term of his illness he was in the hospital, he roomed at the home of Hon. J. P. Robertson and boarded with the family of Hon. T. W. Davenport.

All these slanders were disproved and the truth was established in the Bourne campaign of 1906. There is absolutely no justification for repeating them at this time, even from the standpoint of professional campaign lying, especially those defaming the dead.

There is one trifling thing to say a word about issues. The charge of an combination between Bourne and Chamberlain is silly, for Chamberlain never got Democratic votes for a Republican for any office. The votes have always gone the other way.

There is more reason to believe the stories freely told among politicians in Portland and Oregon City that you have a combination with Judge Dimick and Chamberlain to make Milton, a town on the state line, a county seat.

The principal officers of the county are residents of the proposed new county, namely, Representative, Commissioner, Sheriff, Clerk, Assessor, Treasurer, School Superintendent and Roadmaster.

These are "gerrymanders," with a view of including all possible railroad money in the county.

It is largely the wheat producing belt of Umatilla County adjoining the towns of Pendleton, Weston, Arden, Heils, and Adams and all the farmers and townspeople object to being forced to go to the county seat at Milton to transact county business. In fact, every town in the county except Milton, the proposed county seat, strongly opposes division.

Take the county seat question away from the schemers and there would be no movement for division in any of the counties.

County seat at Milton in Orchard County. One at Cottage Grove in Nesmith County. One at Long Creek in Clarke County. One at Redmond in Deschutes County. One at Dreyer in Otis County. One at Drath in Williams County.

Will not your sense of justice tell you to vote No on all these bills, if you are familiar with conditions in the several localities? In case of the passage of any of the division bills, it means increased taxes forced upon them by voters who cannot understand the character of the division bills, as there is no longer a question of majority within the counties interested being opposed to their division.—Paid Advertisement.

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Kruse, who died during the session, was one of my most valued and intimate personal friends, and also because I was one of the leaders of the hold-up. The initiative and referendum amendment was submitted to the people of Oregon by the succeeding two Legislatures as one of the results of the relations established between the Republicans and the Populists during the hold-up.

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Would Be Cities At Taxpayers' Expense. The only excuse for the creation of Orchard County out of a portion of Umatilla is to make Milton, a town on the Walla Walla River four miles from the state line, a county seat.

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