FOUR MEASURES BY INITIATIVE SOUGHT

Nonpartisan Elections, Care of Hurt Workmen, City Rule of Utilities Advocated.

FISH CODE IS PROPOSED

Washington Nominating Primaries Are Suggested for September and Presidential Primaries for First Tuesday in May.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The initiative campaign for 1916 was opened late yesterday when Lucy R. Case, of Seattle, acting for the joint legislative committee of the Direct Legislation League, State Federation of Labor, Grange and Farmers' Union, filed four initiative bills with the Secretary of State.

As officially listed, No. 19 provides for non-partisan primaries and elections, except for Congressional officers and electors, Presidential primary and preferential voting. On the Congressional ticket a candidate's name may appear under two or more party titles for the same office, and second and third-choice voting is made optional.

Nominating primaries are fixed in September and Presidential primaries the first Tuesday in May, at which date propositions and platform planks also may be voted upon. The electors thus nominated will appear on the ballot under headings designated to show whether they have pledged themselves to the primary choice for President and the platform planks advocated.

Nomination Method Set Forth.

Candidates for Presidential elector will be nominated on 1 per cent petitions of the party's last vote in a Presidential election.

A party, to be recognized as such under the proposed system, will have to show 2 per cent of the last election vote or 1 per cent of the total vote on a petition filed with the Secretary of State 20 days before election.

All political advertising must be paid for and marked as such and any corporation contributing election inducements will be liable to a penalty of from $1000 to $10,000 fine and dissolution if within the state, or barred if not.

In prosecutions for election frauds any citizen may employ an attorney to aid the public prosecutor, the associate attorney to be given full access to all papers in the case. No dismissal shall be allowed without written consent of the associate after the matter has been argued in court. Voting machines are not prohibited. The proposed initiative amendment is intended to repeal 64 sections of the present election code.

Initiative No. 20 provides first aid and hospital treatment for injured workmen under the industrial insurance law at the expense of the employer, including cost of transportation of the injured to the nearest place of treatment, with a misdemeanor penalty for unnecessary delay.

Utilities Regulation Sought.

Under initiative No. 21 every municipality, city or county, is empowered to hold hearings and regulate public service utilities maximum rates. The City Council receives Superior Court authority to compel the production of books in evidence and summon witnesses with the usual penalties for failure to comply.

The act is made concurrent with the public service commission statute, but municipal proceedings are made exclusive when commenced prior to actions before the commission.

It is further provided that no individual proceedings shall prevent the municipality from proceeding under the act, and any proceedings commenced by a municipality shall suspend proceedings begun under the public service commission law, provided that proceedings by the municipality be commenced not later than three months after they have been taken up with the public commission.

Fishing Reductions Given.

No. 22, the proposed new fish code, prohibits salmon traps or pound nets in Puget Sound and limits straight-set nets to 300 feet. The license tax is taken off the gear and based upon the number and kind of fish caught, by the following schedule:

Chinook, tree, spring salmon, 15 cents each; steelheads, 6 cents; sockeyes, 3 cents; silversides, 2 cents; chums, 1 cent; humpbacks, ½ cent; smelt, 5 cents a 100 pounds; shad or cod, 25 cents a 100 pounds; shrimp, the same; sturgeon, 20 cents apiece; crabs, 15 cents a gross; clams, 75 cents a ton.

A penalty of from $50 to $5000 is fixed for violations, with a year's imprisonment for the second offense. Fishermen must be citizens or those who have taken out their first papers.

COYOTE DRIVE PLANNED

Moses Lake Country Will Be Covered by Chase in April.

EPHRATA, Wash., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—One of the most novel events slated for the year 1916 in this section of the state will be the coyote chase which is being arranged for in the Moses Lake country for April 1. Two of the big features of the chase will be George Drumheller's band of racehorses and Gale Mathews' kennel of wolfhounds. The chase will take place south of Ephrata on the Lower Drumheller ranch.

Rabbits in Grant County are quite scarce this year. There are a few black tailed jackrabbits in the county.

HIGHWAY HEARING IS SET

Mr. Lewis Will Make Estimate on Bill for Clatsop Work.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Before furnishing the estimate for the work of Peterson & Johnson on the Clatsop County section of the Columbia Highway, State Engineer Lewis declared that he intended to hear both sides of the controversy at a conference to be held at Astoria February 22.

The contractors have put in a claim against the county for $87,286.86 for extras. It is now up to Mr. Lewis to say what the county shall pay. E. L. Cantine estimated that the contractors were only entitled to about $12,000. The estimate was rejected.

140 ARE HURT IN WEEK

Workmen's Compensation Applies to 81 and None Are Fatal.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—For the week ending February 10 a total of 140 accidents were reported to the State Industrial Accident Commission, of which none were fatal. Of the total number reported 81 were subject to the workmen's compensation act, 27 were from public utilities, 20 were from other firms and corporations which have rejected the act, and two were from firms not employing labor in hazardous occupations.

Following is the number of accidents by industry: Sawmill, 26; railroad operation, 24; light and power, 15; paper-mill, 13; construction, 8; logging, 8; meat packing, 6; iron and steel works, 4; railroad passengers, 4; bakery, 2; auto works, 2; rubber goods manufacture, 2; foundry, 2; cement company, 2; department store, 2, and one each for the following: Milk company, plumbing, door manufacturing, transfer company, taxi company, sand and gravel, shingle mill, brass works, garage, meat market, flour mills, dredging, grocery, mining, boiler manufacturing, fuel company, woodsaw, telephone company, iron works, traveler on highway.

IRRIGATION BEING URGED

VALE AND ONTARIO CHAMBERS CO-OPERATE IN MALHEUR PROJECT.

Eastern Oregon Reclamation Plan Indorsed by Engineers Would Water 39,000 Acres.

ONTARIO, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—A movement is gaining headway for the organization of an irrigation district to develop the Malheur project. Petitions are being circulated among the landowners asking the County Court to call a meeting and election as preliminary steps for the incorporation. Members of the Vale Chamber of Commerce are taking the initiative, and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce is co-operating.

The Malheur project has been surveyed by the state engineer and the United States Reclamation Service jointly, and a report is now being printed. State Engineer Lewis and Engineers Whistler and Dopson, of the reclamation service, characterize it as the most attractive and feasible project left in Oregon, if not in the entire Northwest. It embraces 39,000 acres between Ontario and the mouth of the Malheur canyon, 30 miles west, one-third of which is under practical cultivation now from nine ditches diverting water from the natural flow of the Malheur. Sufficient water is obtained in these ditches for two hay crops a year. The feature of the project is the construction of a dam at Warm Springs, with spillway crest 85 feet above low water, to impound 159,000 acre feet, the cost of which is estimated to be $4 an acre foot.

By enlarging and extending the present ditches, 31,600 acres can be irrigated from the river and the reservoir, at a cost of from $20 to $40 an acre; and 20,000 acres in addition can be served, at a higher cost, on Vale Bench, Bully and Willow creeks and Dead Ox flat.

DRY REGIME HELPS COOS

ARRESTS FOR DRUNKENNESS FALL OFF 75 PER CENT.

January, 1916, Report Shows No Crime Traceable to Liquor—Soft-Drink Parlors Observe Law.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Prohibition, according to newspaper accounts, has made a marked decrease in the amount of crime in Coos County, and all the towns which had saloons before the law went into effect make reports for the month of January which indicate arrests for drunkenness for January, 1916, are less than 25 per cent of those for the corresponding month in 1915.

Bandon, for instance, had no arrests for drunkenness. Marshfield had but four, and North Bend only a few. No crimes are traceable to liquor in this month.

The difference is very noticeable with relation to the conditions before prohibition became effective. Formerly it was common to see intoxicated persons about the streets. They were not molested unless they became nuisances, or were helpless. For the past three weeks, as the liquor stocks in private caches dwindled, the sight has not been noticed in a single instance.

The soft-drink parlors which have opened here are observing the law strictly, and no complaints have been registered. They handle the various substitutes for beer—loganberry juice, clam bouillon, grape juice, cigars and other tobacco. Business, compared with that done by the saloons, is estimated at about 25 per cent.

FRANCHISE IS HELD UP

SOUTHERN PACIFIC NOT TO TAKE RIGHTS IN CORVALLIS.

Terms Are Declared Satisfactory, but Cancellation of Streetcar Service Bond Is Sought.

CORVALLIS, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Although no formal refusal has been made to the City Council of Corvallis, the members have been informed in an informal way that the Southern Pacific will refuse to sign the franchises recently voted by the City Council granting privileges of electrification of their lines in this city.

The terms of the franchise, it is declared, are entirely satisfactory, but, according to Counsel Ralph E. Moody, the railroad was assured by the last preceding Council that the $5000 bond put up by the Portland, Eugene & Eastern guaranteeing the maintenance of streetcar service over certain streets be not declared forfeited, but canceled.

The Southern Pacific Company, according to the understanding City Councilmen have of the matter, will refuse to sign the franchise for the electrification of their lines within the city limits until the Council shall have disposed of the $5000 bond by cancelling it. The matter will be discussed at Council meeting Monday night.

NEAR-BEER POPULAR IN "DRY" SEATTLE

King County Metropolis Is Not Sure if It Likes or Dislikes Condition.

DRUGSTORE SALES SMALL

All of Hoarded Liquor Has Not Yet Been Consumed—Police Report Decrease by Nearly 90 Per Cent in "Drunk" Arrests.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Seattle boasts that it is the largest dry city in the United States—but does not boast too loudly. In the second month of its arid existence the city, as a whole, admits that it has not fully made up its mind yet whether it likes or dislikes the new scheme of things. Naturally there are varying personal opinions ranging from ultra dry to ultra wet, but old General Public has yet to express his own mind. He is going to give temperance a fair trial and then let his opinion be known.

In view of the fact that King County rolled up a "wet" majority of more than 18,000 in the Fall of 1914, the philosophical disposition on the part of Seattle business men to make the best of an unwelcome law forced on them by the districts that in legislative parlance have long been known as the "cow counties," is held to be somewhat remarkable by outside observers. Also, considering that Seattle long has been the moist Mecca for pleasure-seeking Alaskans, the actually small amount of liquor consumed since January 1, in comparison with former records, is noteworthy.

Drug stores appear to be observing the law quite generally and their sales of liquor since the first of the year have been comparatively small. The only official check upon Seattle's liquor consumption possible has been through the permits issued by the King County Auditor's office, the Washington law, like that of Oregon, allowing the importation of either 12 quarts of beer or two quarts of another beverage each 20 days.

Permits Average Jumps.

During the first week under the law there were only 179 permits issued, principally to those improvident ones who had neglected to stock their larders. This average for the first week of 20 permits a day jumped to an average of 70 a day during the second week. During the third week, when hoarded stocks began to run low, there were 617 permits issued, an average of more than 100 a day. During the fourth week the average jumped to 123 a day. The fifth week under the law, which ended last Saturday, saw a drop to an average of little more than 100 a day, this being due principally to the most unusual snow storm ever experienced by Seattle. On the worst day of the storm, however, 22 hardy and thirsty ones climbed the heights of Profanity Hill to the County Auditor's office to obtain the desired permits.

The judgment of the "booze clerks" in the Auditor's office is that the ultimate average of their business will be about 150 permits a day. Figuring that the average man will make his supply last about a month, this will mean between 3500 and 4000 regular consumers of alcoholics, or only about one for each 100 of Seattle's population, certainly a much smaller percentage than the regular consumers of 1915.

Approximately half of the permits are taken out for importation of whisky, two quarts to an order, and of the remaining half 90 per cent are beer orders, 12 quarts to a package.

January Record Established.

During the 25 business days of January there was a total of 2117 permits issued in King County, calling for the shipment of the following amounts of liquor:

Beer, 10,814 quarts; whisky, 2213 quarts; brandy, 59 quarts; wine, 48 quarts; gin, 37 quarts; alcohol, 22 quarts; sake, 14 quarts; rum, seven quarts, vermouth, one quart.

Of course all the hoarded liquor has not yet been coonsumed, and it is still possible, despite the rival activities of the Sheriff's office and the Seattle police department, to make occasional purchases from bootleggers. The price is $1 a pint for a brand of whisky tasting more like hairoil than the genuine article, and it is distinctly a back-alley-and-around-the-corner business that is done by the retailing gentry at present. Also, as was mentioned, both Sheriff Bob Hodge, who again is nursing a Gubernatorial bee, and Chief of of Police Louis Lang, who is striving earnestly to help the political fortunes of his chief, Mayor Hi Gill, are letting no chance escape to pursue the over-confident, and altogether the prospect for the bootlegger is anything but a rosy one.

Different Courses Taken.

The county and city officers have been pursuing notably different courses of law enforcement. During the month of January the squad of detectives assigned by Chief of Police Lang to liquor work raided 84 downtown hotels, restaurants, poolhalls, etc., with search warrants, and found liquor in 42 of these places. City fines to a total amount of $2250 were collected from these offenders, under the city ordinance forbidding the possession of more than 12 quarts of beer or two quarts of other beverages.

During the same period Sheriff Hodge raided the Rainier Club, the aristocratic stronghold of Seattle clubdom, and followed this with raids on the homes of a number of wealthy business men, in most instances members of the club. In every case but one more than the legal quantity of liquor was found, and confiscation suits are now pending. The difference between the city and county raids was that the police were turning their attention only to bootleggers, while Sheriff Hodge was using his search warrants to explore private homes.

Hodge's policy caused a break between himself and Prosecutor Alfred Lundin, the latter announcing flatly that he would issue no further search warrants for invasion of private residences on mere suspicion, but would demand pretty conclusive proof of the existence of liquor. Since that date Sheriff Hodge, though continuing to protest that the prosecutor, under the law, has no right to withhold warrants, has shown no further disposition to raid residences, but it is by no means certain that he has given up his fight.

Police Have Less Trouble.

As shown by the police statistics, the effect of the prohibition law has been to decrease by nearly 90 per cent the number of arrests for drunkenness and to decrease by 50 per cent the arrests for gambling and prostitution. The three branches of crime, illegal liquor sales, gambling and the social evil, are handled jointly by a squad of seven detectives assigned permanently to this work by Chief Lang.

Seattle had 287 saloons before January 1. About 100 of these are still in business, principally as soft drink stands, with some lunch counters and pool halls among the number. It cannot be said that on the whole these are proving a success. Many noted bars soon after the first of the year enjoyed a temporary flow of prosperity while they could be visited by the fair sex, for the novelty of the performance.

Near beer, soda pop, cider and buttermilk appear to be the most popular soft drinks at these places, with a strong emphasis on the cider and buttermilk. The near beer has not proved as popular with most customers as the managements evidently anticipated, but at all times there has been a strong and growing demand for the cider and buttermilk.

Fair Board Elects Officers.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The Southwest Washington Fair Association officers for 1916 have been elected as follows: F. B. Hubbard, of Centralia, president; T. J. Long, of Chehalis, chairman of the board of directors; G. R. Walker, of Chehalis, secretary; George H. Miller, of Centralia, treasurer; J. T. Bivin, of Lewis, commissioner. Messrs. Long, Miller and Bivin are the members of the board of directors. The best fair yet held is predicted by Secretary Walker for 1916, August 28 to September 2.

OFFICIALS ARE COMMENDED

Centralia City Departments Make Good Financial Showing.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The management of every city department is commended in the report received by the City Commission yesterday from the State Bureau of Accountancy, following the recent checking of the city's records by W. S. Shank and E. E. Tennant, two state examiners. The check covered a period from May 1, 1914, to December 31, 1915.

The report shows that the water and lights plants last year showed net profits, respectively, of $7130.23 and $4599.28. The former Commissioners are censured for allowing about $100,000 to be lost in two local banks, not being protected by bonds.