

COOS BAY TIMES

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Marshfield Oregon

A NEW JUDGE FOR COOS AND CURRY.

Whatever may be thought of the initiative and referendum there is one law upon which the people of the state will be called upon to vote which would have been submitted to them whether the initiative and referendum had been in force or not. It has always been the law that constitutional amendments shall be submitted to the people to be adopted or rejected. The law referred to is that one which provides for five judges and two commissioners on the bench. It is not easy to keep up with the business and the court is said to be some six months behind in its hearings. A case submitted today cannot be decided for at least six months. But the law also provides that the Circuit Court shall have probate powers and the effect of the change will be to abolish the county court so far as it attends to judicial business. This change is both in the interest of economy and public convenience.

Coos and Curry counties are very much in need of separate and more efficient judicial service. This is not a criticism of the judiciary of the district, but simply an expression of a plain fact, namely, that these two growing counties should have a separate judicial district with a separate circuit judge and a separate district attorney. Coos and Curry counties are deeply interested in having the judicial amendment to the constitution adopted as are indeed the people of the whole state. At present, these two counties are worse than frontier districts, because they have to send across the mountains for both criminal prosecutions and judicial action. If anything in the system accentuates and makes positive the isolation of the county, it is its remoteness from the judge's home. The operations of the law are so slow that the largest purse only can afford to wait for justice and the poor have little or no chance in such a contest. How much the selection of a judge who resides in the county and of a district attorney who can be readily called into action, would improve the administration of justice, can be easily imagined.

Another thing which might be mentioned in this connection is the very unfortunate fact that in all legal matters affecting shipping the people of the Bay, have to go to Portland. It is costly, wearisome and slow. Not until the United States Court can have a southwestern division and hold court in Coos county can we expect the port of Coos Bay to have much dignity. While little can be done at present to improve the legal conditions in Coos county in admiralty matters, the people have a chance to vote for very important improvements in the court system. The business and professional men of the state are united in their earnest efforts to amend the Constitution in this respect and every voter should cast his vote in support of it.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES.

Make your city advertise itself. The best beginning that a municipality can make, in considering an advertising campaign, is to look well to its appearance, attractiveness, and local improvements. The following suggestions are made:

Clean streets are an exceedingly valuable advertising asset. Let the main business streets be paved, if possible, otherwise surfaced and provided with drains. Cross walks should be provided and kept clean. Sidewalks, preferably of cement, should be maintained in good repair, should be of uniform construction and of uniform breadth and height above street level.

Light business streets. Well lighted streets are probably the most valuable of all city improvements from the advertising standpoint. St. Paul, Minnesota's, way of light, Denver's great white way and Los Angeles with its blaze of lights, and similar lighting improvements on the downtown business streets have advertised those cities far and wide.

Wreck dilapidated buildings on business streets, if possible. Unattractive vacant business property may be hidden from view by high board fences. Campaign for a good business "front." A neat and attractive business section is an invitation to every visitor and means much

when strangers talk of the city and discuss it with their friends. The local hotel and the city's hotel accommodations are probably the most valuable of all its advertising assets. A good hotel builds up the city's reputation as good as nothing else can. It means that every traveling man will say when such a city is mentioned, "—is a fine town. It has a splendid hotel." A good hotel will bring travelling men and business men caught on the road into the city for the week-end.

Especially with the many beauty spots up the Coos River and delightful pleasure grounds and scenic attractions, are good hotels invaluable. The one chief obstacle to the building up of an enormous summer resort where nature intended to be the natural stopping place for summer visitors. A public library speaks louder than anything else for the intelligence and culture of the people of the city or town.

Unattractive approaches to the water front are a great weakness. First impressions count with unusual force. Broad, clean and attractive streets leading to, impress strangers as nothing else can with the push, progressiveness and public spirit of the citizens of the town or city.

Rest rooms for women attract country trade and are a talking point for the city or town.

Drinking fountains for persons, at convenient street corners, are inexpensive and a boon in hot weather. Fountains for horses and dogs are small matters, but they talk loudly for the public spirit of the municipality.

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Lawyers. Francis H. Clarke Jacob M. Blake Lawrence A. Liljequist

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