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M. C. MALONEY Editor and Pub. News Editor DAN E. MALONEY

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cept Sunday, and Weekly by

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"BUNCOMBE"

WAS a rather remarkable coincidence that just about the time that Lawyer Hammond of Coquille was lambasting the initiative and referendum statement one and progressive politics in general and the Oregon brand in particular before the Lincoln Banquet, one of his distinguished confreres, Fred V. Holman, attorney for the largest public service corporation of Portland, was doing the same thing to an audience in Chicago, Illinois. The only difference being that lawyer Holman was warning the people of Illinois of dangers to come and Lawyer Hammond was trying to arouse the vic-

The Times printed Lawyer Hammond's address in full not because it believed it or endorses the sentiment but because it is a clever presentation of the position of those Oregon republicans who are opposed to the new order of things. Mr. Hammond was sorely grieved because some enthusiast in the Oregon legislature wanted to go on record to the effect that "Oregon has the best system of government on earth." It is a little extravagant, but if Mr. Hammond has not made stump speeches in his day at the old time campaign rally in which he has said that "We have the greatest government on earth" and followed it with a tribute to the flag that aroused his hearers to a high pitch of enthusiasm-he is not the clever speaker that he seems.

Of course there are weaknesses and flaws in the present laws and system. Nothing perfect has yet been produced by human hands and brains. Even the old order than Mr. Hammond enlogines was not without Ha frailties and faults. One thing is the old time order the country also day at Salem when President Selling sat up but it held its nose at the de- in the Senate chamber criticized the laters, that Mr. Hammond would playing politics. A newspaper rehave us believe are so much better port says: qualified to make our laws than the people themselves.

We may have changed from the political boss to the bunco steerer. At least it has been an honest effort to escape corruption, dishonesty and debauchery. If in our effort to escape former evils we have been temporarily buneded we will remedy that later. It is certain that the people of Oregon have had all they want of the old time political boss and the old time ring ridden convention. The new organization of the party must be based on better things than a return to old time rottenness. In making a plea for the return of the campaign button and the old time convention, Mr. Hammond and Mr. Holman both forget the experience of the people at the last election along

land Journal said: "Nor did Mr. Holman tell his Illi-

COOS BAY TIMES nois audience of the attempt that late assembly to "fix" the Multnomah legislative ticket. He falled to explain how the heads and attorneys of public service corporations held three secret conferences at which they prepared a legislative slate, and people, that no good cause shall lack he tell his hearers that the facts a champion, and that evil shall not about the conspiracy leaked 'out. that, in spite of the publicity, the convention controlled by politicians An independent Republican news- and Big Business nominated the paper published every evening ex- slate, and that the indignant people beat it by a vote of more than two The Coos Bay Times Publishing Co. to one at the direct primary. All this would have been an interesting The Coos Bay Times represents a side light to Mr. Holman's address as alarm."

The initiative has been the implement by which Oregon's popular system has been fashioned. Under it, the people passed a direct primary law which the legislature had rejected, passed a law taxing the gross earnings of corporations which legislature had rejected, and passed a corrupt practices act which the legislature had rejected. It is legislation of this character that causes men of corporation affiliations to hate the initiative and referendum.

A formidable influence of the initlative and referendum is its effect upon legislatures. With knowledge that the people may review and veto any of its acts, the legislature is cleaner and saner. It hates to have its acts vetoed by the people, or bills that it rejects, passed by the people, The consequence is a studious and patriotic endeavor by most members to legislate wisely and efficiently.

Once the legislature of Oregon falled to organize because of a senatorial election, presenting a specin this country. For 36 years sena- sion. torial deadlocks debauched the legislature and distorted legislation. For 30 years, the voter on his way to the large sum for improvements in adis none of this now because direct ed. election of senators and a corrupt practices act, passed by the initiative, have relegated such abominations to the scrap heap of the ages.

In the meantime, Oregon, under popular government has grown more than at any previous time in her histims of their own folly to a sense of tory. More railroads are building their stupidity-if that were pos- than at any time in 20 years. More industries are springing up than ever before in state history. More immigrants came in during the past five years than in any dozen years before. More capital has sought investment, more building has peen done, postbank clearings have increased more in five years than in any preceding dozen years.

Finally, the Oregon legislature nowadays, has no jack pot legislation. Its legislature elects no senator by purchase. It takes that body but five or ten minutes to ratify the people's choice and the rest of the session is devoted to wholesome and constructive legislation. Its members are not selected in secret conclave. Government is by the people, of the people and for the people, and not by Big Business brigadiers.

SEN. CHASE OUT OF POLITICS.

WELL, well, well will wonders trip to New Orleans will be Mr. Markformaculate and forceful Sencertain the entire country is sutting afor Chase, the famous fighter for up and taking todice of Oregon's pre- the Assembly from Coquille, announwent laws and many of them are her ving that he is disgusted with poliing copied by other states. Under ties. It came unexpectedly the other bauchery and corruption of the legis- action of some of the members. In

> Instantly there was a o'a for of voices for recognillion. Chase first caught the official eye and declared that so my as he is concornof posities had nothing to do with it. He said when he came in the door polities must go out, and he is thoroughly disgusted with the way polities has been elected into business of the semate."

Bravo! Chase. Now stick to it.

MEET FRIDAY NIGHT.

mittee of the Marshfield Chamber of our books immediately. By so doing Rates reduced to: Day-50c, 75c and Commerce will be held Friday eve- you will save costs of collection. this line. Speaking of this the Port- ning, February 17, and all members Make payments to Israel Lando. are requested to be in attendance.

VIOLET HENDERSON, Sec.

INSPECT WORK

President of Harriman Railway System Optimistic Over Prospects.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 17 .- An optimistic note, so far as a progressive future in railroad circles is concerned was sounded by Robert S. Lovett, head of the vast system of Harriman lines, upon his arrival in Chicago from New York. He made it plain consolidation of the Daily Coast Mail revealing who and what it is that that both himself and his colleagues and The Coos Bay Advertiser. The views the Oregon system with in the East see many signs for encouragement, and no alarm signals in the financial horizon.

> Judge Lovett is on his way to the Pacific Coast on an annual tour of inspection of the numerous Harriman roads and will leave Chicago tomorrow for New Orleans, whence he will go westward over the Southern Pacific system. He declared unequivocally that, no matter which way the freight rates for railway lines sion, the Harriman management will not only spend the \$75,000,000 recently set aside for double-tracking to the Pacific coast, but also intends to make many other improvements.

More Improvements Planned. "The business outlook is good, so far as our lines are concerned," said Judge Lovett. "No, the decision on the increase in freight rates whichever way it goes, will not affect our plans. It will be remembered that a considerable number of our rates were reduced about a year ago by tacle of evil government rarely seen the Interstate Commerce Commis-

"Does the management of the Harriman lines expect to expend a polls and hectored, badgered and bri-dition to the \$75,000,000 set apart bed by ringsters and heelers. There for double track work?" he was ask-

> "We are always making improvements," he replied. "It is my purpose in making this trip over the lines to ascertain the physical condition of the various properties and learn where improvements ought to be made. Undoubtedly many will be ordered in addition to several that now are under way."

Visit to Oregon in Doubt.

upon country-wide financial condi- orative purposes for sale or rent. tions. When asked about the pending suit of the government, in which an attack was made upon the consooffice receipts have grown more and lidation of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific systems, he said:

"Final arguments were presented last October. It now remains for the judges to announce their conclusions. I have not been advised as to when a 400 decision will be rendered."

He announced that his tour of inspection will consume about six weeks and that he will spend a considerable portion of the time in California. He is not certain about a trip to Oregon at this time.

Judge Lovett was met at the Illinois Central station by President Markham, of the latter road, and went immediately to Mr. Markham's office, where a consultation was held. Accompanying him on his ever cease? Here is our own ham, Julius Kruttschnitt, director of maintenance and operation of the Harriman system; Vice-President W. L. Park, of the Illinois Central, and I. C. Stubbs, director of traffic of the Harriman Ifnes. Oregonian.

COTTON GAMBIANG BILL.

Senate Committee Will Not Make Any Recommendations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17. Inder an agreement that they would vote today on a bill to prevent gamdling on cotton futures the Commitce on Interstate Commerce decided by a vote of 6 to 5 to report it to the senate without a recommenda-

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