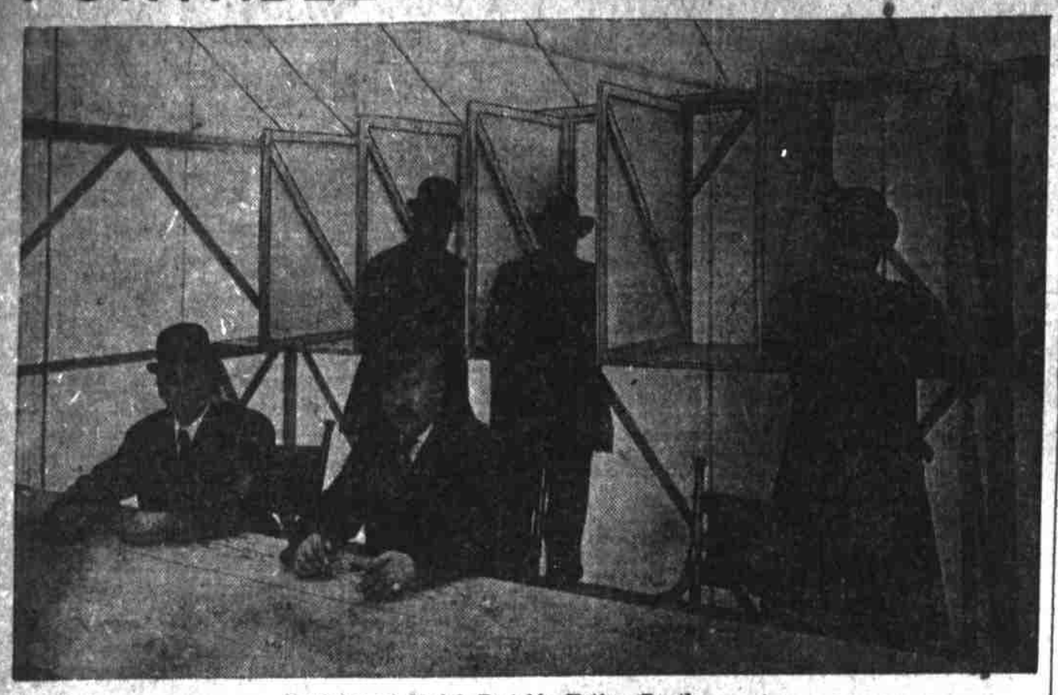
PORTABLE ELECTION BOOTHS



Interior of Model Portable Voting Booth.

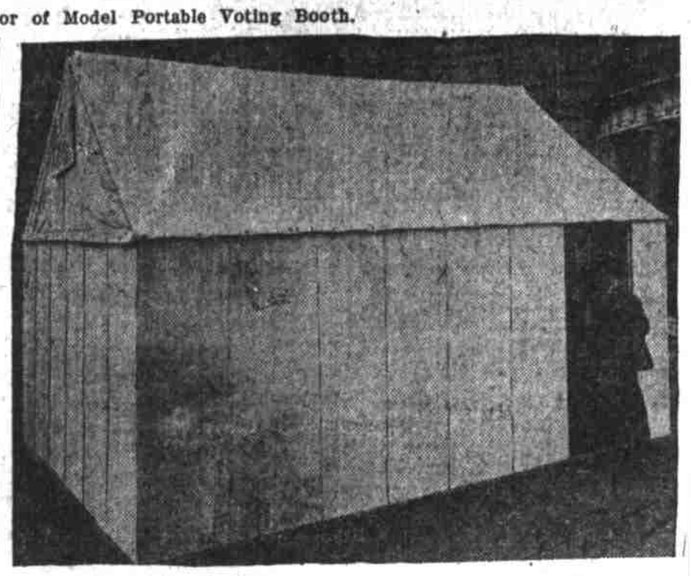
City Auditor A. L. Barbur and County Clerk F. S. Fields have been investigating the proposition of the city and county jointly purchasing portable election booths to be used in coming elections, and the above cuts show the booths which they have finally decided to recommend. Inasmuch as the city and county each spent $795 for rent for rooms in which voters could cast their ballots last year, and because the booths selected by the officials could be supplied in each of the 83 precincts for about $5,800, the officials believe that the booths would soon pay for themselves by saving rent money.

The booth shown in the cut was made by the Willamette Tent & Awning company on plans prepared by Mr. Barbur and Mr. Fields and costs, including chairs, flooring, tables and lamps, about $50. The booth is 12 by 18 feet and contains nine voting boxes.

They can be erected in the street and require but about half an hour to erect. When not in use they can be folded in a small bundle and stored until required again. In speaking of the advantages of the booth, Mr. Barbur said today:

"One advantage of the booths is that they can be erected in the street or any place for the convenience of the voters. At present we have to take any place we can secure and it is often in the most inconvenient place that could be selected for the voters.

"Another reason for securing the booths is that they will save the city a great expense each year. At our estimate the booths will be paid for in two years."



Portable Voting Booth on Exhibition at City Hall.

Mr. Barbur favors the purchase of 50 booths at the present time and the balance next year, providing the experiment proves successful. He will report the result of his investigation to the ways and means committee of the city council and it is believed that a favorable report will be made upon an ordinance appropriating the necessary funds for the purchase of the booths.

PROTECTION FOR GRAFTERS' LAW

Heney and Others File Petition to Set Aside Recent Infamous Findings.

San Francisco, Feb. 14.—What is probably one of the most remarkable papers ever addressed to a California court was filed by the graft prosecution in the San Francisco bribery-graft cases yesterday with the supreme court. It is a petition for a rehearing of the decision of the court of appeals in which ex-Mayor Eugene Schmitz and the former political boss, Abraham Ruef, were virtually held to be guiltless of extortion, the conviction of the former reversed and the plea of guilty by Ruef practically nullified.

The petition says:

"The learned district court of appeals has decided that levying blackmail upon licensed businesses by threatening to prevent the issuance of licenses and so ruin the business, unless money be paid as the price of immunity from attack, does not constitute the crime of extortion under the law.

"It is, we hope, entirely respectful to the honorable district court of appeals to say that no opinion rendered by an appellate tribunal in California has ever met with such universal and severe reprobation by the reputable organs of public opinion, not only in California, but throughout the United States, as has the present decision that the facts alleged do not constitute the crime of extortion. We will not say that the animadversion is directed at the learned court which pronounced the decision. We shall assume that the feeling is expressed merely at such a barbaric and chaotic condition of the law; but we rest secure in the conviction that if an opportunity be presented for a full discussion, it will be found and decided by this court that levying blackmail upon licensed business by the mayor and the political boss of a metropolitan community is a crime under the law of California and should not go unwhipped of justice.

"The attention of the whole country has been attracted to this decision in such a way and under such circumstances that the soundest public policy, utterly irrespective of every other consideration, imperiously requires the question should not be considered settled until the highest court in the state, after a full discussion and thorough consideration, has said the final word. If such be law, no honest man will gainsay that the governor should forthwith call the legislature in extraordinary session and hasten to wipe the abortive statute from the books and substitute some plainer words that will not be susceptible of a construction that makes the blackmailer secure in his piratical trade."

The appeal is signed by Attorney-General U. S. Webb, Francis J. Heney, William H. Langdon, Charles W. Cobb and Joseph Dwyer. The petition says:

"We ask for a rehearing, because the decision, with the greatest respect to the court that rendered it and to this court is:

"1. Fallacious in its logic.
"2. Devoid of reason to support it.
"3. Unsupported by the authorities cited.
"4. Diametrically opposed to high authorities, which we cited in our brief but which are unnoticed by the opinion."

The petition contains 78 printed pages.

New O. A. C. Instructor.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Corvallis, Feb. 14.—Ross C. Finley is the new instructor in English at the Oregon Agricultural college. He is a graduate of Oregon Agricultural college in the class of 1894 and has just returned from Idaho where he has been employed several years as an assayer.

BRIGHT PROSPECT FOR FIST FIGHT

Driscoll and Vaughn Both Shape Up for Family Meeting.

Despite the protests of large mercantile firms as well as those from other sources, the city council yesterday afternoon passed the vehicle tax ordinance after a hot debate in which Councilman Driscoll served further notice on Councilman Vaughn that their physical encounter was just a trifle nearer than on the previous day, when Councilman Driscoll served notice on his large opponent that his slurring remarks referring to Driscoll must cease.

In fact the approaching contest is exciting more interest than any act of legislation the council has before it. The members realize that what has heretofore been considered a joke has become a stern reality and the spectacle of two belligerent councilmen squarring off and "swatting" one another in various parts of their respective anatomies is an event looked for in the near future. That Driscoll is "sore" at Vaughn, and that Vaughn does not care is all too apparent.

Kick Your Head Off.

After Vaughn's amendment to increase the tax of the draymen from $10 to $20 was voted down, Vaughn said:

"Well, Mr. Driscoll, your tax is just cut down one half."

Driscoll replied that he knew it and was satisfied.

"Well, what are you kicking about?" inquired Vaughn.

"I'll come over there and kick your head off," exploded Driscoll, glaring at his laughing opponent as his face went white in anger.

Mayor Lane called the men to order and an encounter was averted for the time, although it is believed that the men will "get together" in the future. It is figured out that the encounter will not occur in council, but at some committee meeting when the men are seated nearer one another and will strike out when in the first flush of anger.

Although the Driscoll-Vaughn episode was the center of interest the members managed to thresh out the vehicle tax ordinance to the satisfaction of the majority. The measure passed as really a substitute ordinance introduced by Councilman Menefee instead of the one offered by the committee.

The only vehicles not taxed by the new measure are those coming under the class of "for pleasure only." Teams are taxed $5 a year and single vehicles $2.50. Drays, hacks, coupes, automobiles are to be taxed $10. Single vehicles used for hire will be assessed $5.

Pass Over Mayor's Veto.

Whether Mayor Lane vetoes the ordinance or not it is believed that it will become a law. The vote yesterday was 9 to 6, and if Mayor Lane vetoes it another vote will be necessary to pass it over his veto. It is believed by adherents of the act that another vote can be secured, although if Mayor Lane refuses to sign the ordinance it is expected that a strict party vote of the Big Ten will be ordered and the ordinance passed. His veto, if he does veto the ordinance, will be the signal for a "line up" and it is firmly believed that the Big Ten will do this in order to down Lane.

HILL FAVORS LOCAL BOARD OF TRADE

In a letter to the Portland board of trade regarding its plan of establishing a produce trading room in its new quarters, James J. Hill of the Great Northern, indorsed the plan and urged that it is through such organizations and through their efforts in the direction of accurate information that their supporting business will be kept on right lines. He said of the recent panic:

"The country at large is just emerging from a panic which occurred at a time when no serious menace threatened any branch of the general commerce of the country."

Better Change

When you discover that the use of coffee as a beverage is undermining your health.

Many persons who suspect that palpitation of the heart with a "smothery" sensation is caused by coffee, don't seem to know how to break the fetters forged upon them by caffeine—the drug in coffee.

They want a hot beverage for breakfast and may have "tried Postum" (weakly made by simply steeping it in hot water or "letting it come to a boil") and did not relish it.

No wonder! Boil Postum 15 minutes as per directions on pkg., add good cream and then try it. In 10 days you may safely expect a decided change for the better. Keep it up and you will discover

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