

THE JOURNAL

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Good company and good discourse are the very signs of virtue.—Isaiah Walton.

ON TRIAL

WHY WAS the assembly held? Its platform says "to investigate the fitness of candidates and make recommendations."

Are the people not capable of determining the "fitness of candidates"? The assembly thought not. It holds that the people need to be guided. It holds that the people do not know what candidates are fit.

And who were these self appointed guardians of the people? The Oregonian, September 26, said "secret meetings were held in local corporation offices for preparation of a slate."

And they did more. They gave money to the assembled state committee to be used in "guiding the people." The committee used the money in teaching the people that the assembly ticket was the only regular Republican ticket.

That is the history of the assembly to date. It has had good success. Though holding that the people are unfit to manage public affairs without guidance, assembly managers face next Tuesday's election with a bold front.

The only question is whether the people are going to bend the knee and allow themselves to be guided. Are they going to rule themselves, or be ruled? Are they going to admit the assembly's theory of their own incapacity to conduct their own public affairs by voting for the assembly ticket?

It is they who have made Oregon. Is it true that, though they know enough to do all this, they do not know enough to manage their public affairs? Is it true, that in such things they have to be guided? Is it true that they will fall if they are not guided?

The assembly says yes. Mr. Bowerman says yes. The assembly ticket candidates say yes. The corporation brigadiers who prepared "the slate" say yes. The dark horse candidates for senator say yes.

It will all be settled Tuesday. A vote for an assembly candidate will be a vote for the assembly. A vote for the assembly will be a vote declaring the unfitness of the people to govern themselves.

And now they say West had literature folded by convicts. But they haven't yet accused him of stealing

sheep. Why not do it? Why not denounce him as the man who perpetrated "the crime of '73"?

PROPOSED TAXATION LAWS

THREE amendments affecting taxation will be submitted to the voters next Tuesday. Two of these were proposed by the legislature at the instance of the state grange, and their adoption would be in line with progressive legislation in other states.

The amendments proposed by the grange are Nos. 308 and 312 on the ballot. They should stand or fall together. The object of the first amendment is to remove the constitutional requirement that taxation shall be equal and uniform.

The second amendment is one specifically authorizing the levy of taxes for state purposes and for county or municipal purposes upon different classes of property.

The system which the amendments have in view is practically the Wisconsin system, and has the indorsement of taxation experts all over the country. Its object is to lift the burden of state taxes from the counties as fast as possible and shift it to franchise and corporation taxes of various kinds.

The measure last referred to would allow the counties of the state to experiment in taxation, and there might be as many different methods as there are counties. There would inevitably be confusion and vast inequalities.

COUNTY DIVISION

THIS year the voters of the state are called upon to wrestle with seven proposed laws dividing different counties of the state, and two others dealing with annexation of territory.

Subtracting these nine measures from the list, the number of initiative measures would be reduced to 16. Voters of the state at large have great difficulty in informing themselves as to the merits of these proposals for slicing up the various counties.

This proposed law may possess some imperfections, but it is a step in the right direction. If it does not work with entire satisfaction in practice it can be amended. Vote 352 Yes.

UNDESIRABLE MEASURES

SEVERAL proposed laws and amendments to the constitution will be voted on next Tuesday or so pronouncedly pernicious or useless that The Journal has no hesitancy in advising its readers to vote them down.

One of the proposals in this class is the bill for a constitutional convention. This is a plan favored by the reactionaries and old line politicians.

An amendment which threatens disaster and confusion to the tax system of the state is the one which proposes to allow each county to regulate taxation and exemptions within its limits. This would permit all kinds of schemes to be tried out in different counties, causing rank inequalities.

Toward the end of the ballot will be found three hodge-podge, catch-all measures which voters will do well to veto. The main feature of the first of these extends the direct primary to presidential electors and delegates to national conventions.

The next of these measures establishes "peoples' inspectors of government" and a state gazette, which may cost as much as \$1 for each voter in the state each year. No good purpose will be served by creating these new jobs.

The third measure referred to carries in its voluminous text the system of proportional election of members of the legislature by the state at large, increases the pay of legislators, and extends the terms of members of both houses to six years.

THE NOTTINGHAM TRICK

C. W. NOTTINGHAM has known all this time that he opposed the Bennett bill for requiring railroads to make 15 miles an hour while carrying livestock.

Knowing all this, C. W. Nottingham has known all this time that Jay Bowerman voted against and opposed that bill. C. W. Nottingham has known all this time that Frank J. Miller, candidate on the Bowerman ticket for railroad commissioner, voted against and opposed that bill.

Knowing all this, C. W. Nottingham has all this time been Bowerman attacking West about this bill. Knowing all this, C. W. Nottingham has sided Bowerman in circulating literature attacking West about this bill.

A DUTY OF VOTERS

NO MORE important duty devolves on voters at the coming election than the selection of judges. The character and fitness of the men who are to fill the position of circuit judge for the next six years is of more direct consequence to the people of this county than the supreme court judgeships.

Not every honest man is qualified to be judge. An able advocate may utterly fail to meet the requirements of this office. Certainly no dishonest man or one under suspicion should ever be allowed to stain the ermine or hold in his hands the scales of justice.

any set of men. When this is brought about, when the law is not enforced, there will be no liberty, and worse than anarchy will prevail. The Journal is but doing its duty in calling the attention of the voters to the solemn duty resting upon them, and would remind them of what Daniel Webster said eighty years ago.

VALUE IN SCENIC BEAUTY

JUDGE LEWIS of the federal court for Colorado has rendered a decision which, perhaps for the first time, places a commercial value on scenic beauty. He granted an injunction preventing the destruction of a beautiful waterfall in order to create a power plant.

Citizens sought an injunction, which Judge Lewis granted, holding that as natural scenery, which attracted a large number of visitors, the falls were a public benefit and should not be disturbed.

Next, it is to be hoped, some court will hold that such places must be kept free from poster and other printed or written advertisements, as something that is offensive to visitors and depreciable of the value to them of the scenic beauty that they go to gaze upon.

AS VIEWED AT CONDON

NEW ethnographs of Mr. Bowerman are conspicuous everywhere. On them is this inscription: "Republican, direct primary and Statement One candidate."

Think of it. And then think of his vote on the Marine bill to kill the direct primary. Think of his senate speech, "I would rather vote for a convention candidate than for a direct primary candidate."

"ABE"

UNDER which name would we know our "Abe"? If he should be elected to congress? Would it be Arthur W. Lafferty, as it was when he registered after coming to Portland three years ago? Or would it be Amidon W. Lafferty, as he was styled in his biography in Bench and Bar shortly afterward?

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VOTE FOR GOOD ROADS

PROBABLY there is no measure on the ballot this year more vital to the state's welfare as a whole than the good roads amendment. In the hurry of voting and in marking the cross against measures of doubtful benefit, the voter should not neglect No. 354 and give a vote in the direction of good highways.

of prosperity. A country where the roads are full of ruts will be down in the dust of other ways. The initial cost of good roads is sometimes heavy, but less because of bad roads is much greater. Increased farm values, more rural routes and greater conveniences of life go with good roads.

The adoption of the pending amendment means a start. It will remove the constitutional restriction of \$5000 on county indebtedness, and permit counties to issue bonds to such amount as the people may vote to build good roads.

The pending amendment merely gives the people of any county the right to say whether they wish to bond themselves for the construction of modern highways. If the people of any county want to invest their money in good roads, why not allow them to do so? Vote 354 Yes.

GO TO THE POLLS

EVERY CITIZEN of Oregon should go to the polls Tuesday and vote. It is a duty he owes to himself and to his state. The united judgment of all the people is better than that of a part. The safety of self government lies in the universal participation of all the units in the franchise.

Employers should give their employees full opportunity to vote. In Portland many establishments are declaring a half holiday. Wherever possible, all should do it. Every voter, every bread winner, every social atom in every walk should be given time and opportunity to cast his ballot for whatever and whom ever is his choice.

It is to be hoped that the state will roll up a heavy vote. It will be creditable to the citizenship. It will be good for the state. Let every voter do his duty and take pride in the privilege.

Judge Taswell probably was not too severe in fining a milkman \$250 who persisted, after repeated warnings, in selling milk from tubercular cows. Let other dairymen take warning. The people are entitled to milk from healthy cows.

A big blizzardly snowstorm, a severe spell of winter, is being pulled off all along the Atlantic coast, as far south as Maryland and west to the Alleghenies, while here in Oregon—well, it's so different.

The Chinese emperor has issued a decree for a parliament in 1913. They move forward slowly in China. If the Chinese were like some other peoples they would not wait three years for a parliament.

It will not be many years before irrigation will be carried on in the Willamette valley on a large scale. In the aggregate, then its products will be far greater, perhaps double, what they are now.

Every week lately Portland leads all cities of its class or above in the percentage increase of bank clearings and postoffice receipts. Portland is growing faster than ever.

Again southern Oregon, Jackson county, an orchard a few miles from Medford, takes the first prize for apples—this time at a big apple show in Vancouver, B. C. Last year at Spokane it was Splintersberg; on this occasion it was Yellow Newtowns.

The Oregonian has discovered "one firm, at least," that is opposed to public docks. If it searches diligently it will find another, or maybe two or three more.

A Tribute to Julia Ward Howe. Gone in the fulness of years and of wisdom, Gone to the heavenly rest, Away from the "burge of life's madness,"

Lay her down gently, for gentle was she, Lay her down there where the wild lilies spring, For the lily's pale chalice, as pure as the snow,

To her, a sensitive thing; Meet emblem, too, of her beautiful life, The lily, so chaste and so fair, A type of the purity, modesty, love, Which distinguished her everywhere.

Dr. Wilson's Apology Accepted. From the East Oregonian. In another column today the East Oregonian publishes a letter from Dr. Clarence True Wilson of Portland.

The members of the national monetary conference will attend a national conference to study the currency problem, which will meet at Columbia university Friday and Saturday under the auspices of the American Academy of Political Science.

On the forenoon of the 11th of the week of public interest will be the opening of the new bridge across the Mississippi river at St. Louis, the national convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy at Little Rock, the beginning of the winter racing season in California, the opening of the national automobile race in Madison Square garden, New York; the grand prize automobile race at Savannah, the installation of William Preston Few as president of Trinity college, South Carolina, and the opening of an exhibition in Paterson, N. J., in celebration of the silk industry in America.

On the forenoon of the 11th of the week of public interest will be the celebration of Lord Mayor's day in London, the final ending of the celebrated Crispin murder case, the celebration of the 41st birthday of the king of Italy, the south African tour of the Duke of Connaught, the celebration of the centenary of Frederick Schlegel, the famous German writer, and the closing of the new king of Siam at Bangkok.

Only a Fighting Chance. From the New York Evening Post. "I think we have a fighting chance," said Senator Root at Beverly yesterday, when asked what he thought of the Republican outlook in New York. This from a leader of the party which carried New York two years ago by a plurality of 292,000 is a rather mild form of enthusiasm. But it is only one more sign of the confusion and uncertainty which mark this extraordinary campaign.

The real fighting for revision downward was done by five men—Beveridge, La Follette, Bristow, Dooliver and Cummins. No Democrat pretended to do the work or lead the fighting as these did. And of these five, Beveridge was singled out for especially brutal gruelings by the Abolitionists. The Abolitionist senator seemed to take Beveridge's defection to the insurgents as a personal matter. In the coming elections, no single result would cause so much pleasure to Mr. Aldrich as the victory of the Democrat, John W. Kern, over the insurgent Republican, Albert Beveridge.

November 6 in History—Catherine the Great. One of the most remarkable rulers of modern times was Catherine II of Russia, who has been styled the Great. In spite of all her defects of character, Catherine's ambitions were boundless and her energy tireless, and both of these in an aim—that of developing all of the resources of Russia and transforming that empire into the most powerful and most splendid state of Europe.

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News Forecast of the Coming Week

Washington, Nov. 5.—During the next few days the results of the state and congressional elections will form the staple of news and discussion throughout the United States. There is scarcely a nook or corner of the country but has its own contest of importance, while of general interest will be the results of the election for the sixty-second congress and the gubernatorial contests in New York, Ohio and several other states where the choice of the next governor is likely to have an important bearing upon national politics or the next presidential election.

The campaign in New York state, which is attracting most attention, will be continued almost to the opening of the polls Tuesday morning. In New York city the night before election will see an unprecedented number of political meetings, at which Colonel Roosevelt and other noted leaders will appear.

President Taft will leave Washington Monday night to cast his ballot in Cincinnati the following day. Arriving back in Washington Wednesday morning he will spend but a few hours in the city, leaving at noon the afternoon for Charleston, S. C., and sailing from that city at noon Thursday for Panama.

The dedication of the John Hay Memorial library at Brown university Friday will be the most elaborate event of the kind ever conducted at an American institution of learning. Emeritus President James B. Angell of the University of Michigan and Senator Root will be the chief speakers.

Saturday is the day fixed for the unveiling of a monument at the grave of General James Shields at Carrollton, Mo. General Shields was a native of Ireland, distinguished himself in the Mexican and civil wars, represented Illinois and Minnesota in the United States senate and also held public offices in California and Missouri.

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