

PROPOSED MEASURE IF PASSED WILL MAKE JUMBLE OF ELECTION

Amendment Is Submitted to People to Hold All Elections on One Day.

LESS COST ONLY VIRTUE

Already Long Ballots Would Be Made
Still Longer If Act Should
Carry in June.

Five proposed amendments to the constitution and three proposed laws are to be ratified or rejected by the voters of the state at the special election to be held June 4, next. All were considered by the 1917 legislative assembly, and by it referred to the voters for final action. The Journal is presenting a summary and discussion of those different amendments and measures from time to time for the information of the public in order that wide publicity be given to the voters in their study of them.

The sixth measure on the ballot at the special election of June 4, is a proposed constitutional amendment submitted by the legislature providing that the election for city, town and state officials shall be held on the same day throughout the state. The numbers on the ballot are "210 yes" and "211 no."

The proposed amendment provides, in brief, that all city, town and state elections shall be held on the same day; that on that occasion all elective officials shall be chosen; from presidential electors to constable and town marshal; that the same polling places and the same election officials shall be used. Cities, towns and the legislature are required to enact such charter amendments, ordinances and statutes as will give force and effect to the amendment should it be adopted by the voters at the election in June.

Primaries Are Included.
The amendment covers both primary and general elections, both city and state, and the sole sustaining argument made by its proponents is one of money saving in election cost, it being estimated that the plan would bring about an annual reduction of approximately \$50,000 throughout the state at large.

While it is true that the merging of all elections throughout the state into one would probably result in some money saving, the strong objection is being urged against the plan that its operation would also jumble the issues so that city and county elections would practically be lost in the shuffle.

At the general election of November 7, 1916, there were 120 candidates and 11 measures on the Multnomah county ballot. The voters were called upon to cast their ballots for presidential electors, Congressmen, secretary of state, justices of the supreme court, dairy and food commissioner, public service commissioner, circuit judges, members of the legislature, district attorney, county judges, commissioners, sheriff, clerk, treasurer, assessor, school superintendent, surveyor, coroner and constable. At the same time

PERFECT SCORE MADE IN AVIATION TEST



Norman F. Espey.

Out of 200 examined, Norman F. Espey, son of W. G. Espey, 93 East Fifty-third street, is one of the two Oregon men who succeeded in passing the navy aviation test with a perfect mark. Espey arrived here Tuesday from Spokane, took the examination Wednesday, and Thursday departed for Pensacola by way of San Francisco. He has long been familiar with gas engines, after leaving school giving his time completely to this branch of mechanics and especially automobiles. He has been in the employ of the Saxon and Paige automobile concerns. Mr. Espey was born in Portland 25 years ago and attended the Sunnyside grammar school.

There were eight proposed constitutional amendments and three bills on the ballot.

Would Increase Confusion.
It was a long ballot. Most of the initiative measures and amendments were of serious importance to the people of the state. The state ticket was important. The national election, however, overshadowed the state questions and measures and the great preponderance of public interest was centered upon the election of president.

The fear is expressed that under such circumstances the election of a mayor, or city commissioner, or the adoption or rejection of the proposed plan to overturn the commission form of government would have been entirely submerged and lost sight of in the heat of the presidential and state campaigns.

Would Make Ballots Longer.
During recent years a continual campaign has been conducted throughout the country for the short ballot. Students of consistent and careful government have largely won their contention that the simpler the ballot and the more compact the issues can be made in their presentation the better the results will be in state and municipal government. The proposed consolidation of state, county and municipal elections is looked upon by these people as a direct and definite retrogression, the disadvantages of which would far outweigh the monetary saving that might be accomplished.

In other words, it is feared that the confusion of issues and the multiplicity of candidates would necessarily mean lessened opportunity on the part of the voter to judge measures and men and would result in the enactment of doubtful measures.

DIGEST OF MEASURES TO BE SUBMITTED TO PEOPLE IN JUNE GIVEN

Purport of Each Proposed Act Stated Without Bias for Guidance of Voters.

ALL INCLUDED IN LIST

Detailed Information Has Previously
Been Provided in Articles
Published in The Journal.

For the information of the voters of the state, the following brief digest of all proposals to be submitted to the electors at the special election of June 4, has been prepared. Effort has been made to state the real purport and result of each proposal without bias and solely for the information and possible guidance of the voter in deciding the attitude he desires to assume at the polls. More detailed information concerning each measure will be found in the series of articles which have been appearing in The Journal.

Constitutional amendment, referred by the 1917 legislature first on the state ballot, entitled "Authorizing ports to create limited indebtedness to encourage water transportation."
This proposes to amend section 9 of article XI of the state constitution in such manner that the people of any regularly created port district may, by a direct affirmative vote on a specific question, raise funds, by direct tax or otherwise, not to exceed one per cent of the assessed valuation of all taxable property within the district to be expended as a bonus to aid in the establishment of water commerce between that port and both foreign and domestic ports.

The constitution at present provides that no municipal corporation, by a direct vote of the people or otherwise, can raise money for, or loan its credit to, any joint company, corporation or association whatever. The amendment makes an exception to this rule by giving the people of a port district the power, by an affirmative majority vote of all persons voting on a proposal, to authorize a direct tax or a bond issue, within the limits noted above, for the purpose mentioned.

The voters who believe that the people of a port district should have the authority to tax themselves in such manner and for such purpose should grant such authority should vote "303 X Yes"; those who oppose should vote "303 X No."

A proposed law, referred by the 1917 legislature, second on the state ballot, entitled "A Bill for Taxation of Oregon & California Land Grant."
This is the so-called "Bean bill." It asserts, in effect, and contrary to the express provisions of the set of congress known as the Chamberlain-Perris act recently declared valid by the supreme court of the United States, that the Southern Pacific Railroad company owns the 2,800,000 acres of the Oregon & California land grant in fee simple, and declares, on the ground of this as-

sertion, that the state of Oregon possesses the reversion right in these lands. It directs the county assessors of the 18 land grant counties to place the grant lands on the assessment rolls and levy taxes against them, notwithstanding the fact that the Chamberlain-Perris act, revested title in the United States thus making the lands again government lands, and, consequently, untaxable by the state. The voters who believe that the state should enact a statute in conflict with a federal statute should vote "302 X Yes"; those who do not believe the state should attempt so to do should vote "302 X No."

A constitutional amendment, submitted by the legislature, third on the ballot, entitled "Limiting Number of Bills Introduced and Increasing Pay of Legislators."
This measure proposes to amend sections 18 and 20 of article IV of the constitution. At the present time a senator or representative is not limited as to the number of bills he may introduce. Members of both houses are paid \$3 per day, with the limitation that the per diem shall not exceed \$120 for any regular session, which has the effect of practically limiting the regular sessions to 40 days.

The proposed amendment would limit each member to the introduction of four bills at a session, while senate committees are limited to the introduction of a total of 20 and house committees to a total of 50 bills. This would limit the number of bills at any session to 450, exclusive of appropriation bills. The amendment also raises the pay of legislators to \$5 per day, with a total per diem to each member of not more than \$300 for each regular session, the equivalent of full pay for a 60-day session. The adoption of the amendment would have the result, in practice, in the lengthening of the regular session from 40 to 50 days.

The voter who desires to limit the number of measures introduced, specifically to a total of 20 and house committees to 50 days should vote "304 X Yes"; those opposed should vote "304 X No."

A constitutional amendment, submitted by the legislature, fourth on the ballot, entitled "Declaration Against Implied Repeal of Constitutional Provisions by Amendment Thereto."
This proposes to amend section 1 of article I of the constitution so that the voters, in brief, that any constitutional amendment adopted by the people which repeals any existing part or parts of the constitution without specifically so providing, shall be void. The effect of the amendment, if adopted, would be to take from the voters the right now given by the constitution to repeal any part of the constitution by the adoption of a new provision without repealing an existing provision without definitely saying so. It would give the legislature the right to repeal any adopted constitutional amendment, no matter what affirmative majority it might have received at the polls.

Those voters who should place such limitation upon their present right of constitutional amendment should vote "305 X Yes"; those who do not so believe should vote "305 X No."

A constitutional amendment, submitted by the legislature, fifth on the ballot, entitled "Uniform Tax Classification Amendment."
This proposes to amend section 32 of article IX of the constitution by broadening the present constitutional basis of taxation beyond real and personal property to include the taxation of laws taxing the gross income of corporations and the passage of other similar statutes to reach invisible or intangible property, and to include the taxation because not coming within the real and personal property limitations of the constitution.

The voters who believe that the legislature, or the people by the initiative, should have authority to extend the taxing power of the state beyond the ownership of real and personal property should vote "310 X Yes"; those who oppose the extension of such authority should vote "310 X No."

A constitutional amendment, submitted by the legislature, sixth on the ballot, entitled "Providing for the election of city, town and state officers at same time."
This proposes to add a new section to article II of the constitution, known as section 14-a. It provides, in brief, that all incorporated cities and towns shall hold their primary and regular elections on the same date as the primary and general state elections, and that the same election precincts and election officials shall serve for both municipal and general elections. The proponents of the amendment have had sympathy in its support, contending that the merger would eliminate, in large part, the expense of separate municipal elections. Those who believe that the amendment contended that it would result in congested elections where municipal candidates and issues would be overshadowed by state and national issues.

The voters who desire the adoption of the amendment should vote "311 X Yes"; those who oppose it should vote "311 X No."

A bill, referred by the legislature, seventh on the ballot, entitled "Providing for the election of city, town and state officers at same time."

The bill was enacted by the legislature and referred to the people at the special election of June 4, next. It provides for the election of city, town and state officers at the same time.

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PORTLAND DOCTOR GOES TO CAMP AT PRESIDIO



Photo by Bushnell.

Dr. H. Lester Barrett left Wednesday to attend the officers' reserve training camp at the Presidio. Dr. Barrett is a graduate of O. A. C. and an active member of the Multnomah club.

The quarter mill tax and the motor license will be in effect, irrespective of the action taken on the bond bill. The voters who are in favor of the bond issue will vote "314 X Yes"; those who are opposed will vote "314 X No."

**Five Lives Are Lost
When Train Hits Auto**
Pomona, Cal., May 12.—(U. P.)—Charles I. Cushman and son, Owen, aged 6, 215 West Pico street, Los Angeles, his sister, Mrs. Sarah Brostoff, and her two children, Herbert, aged 6, and Lucile, aged 3, were killed when their automobile was struck by a Southern Pacific freight train two miles west of Pomona this afternoon.

Illustrations Are Given.
Twenty-six thousand dollars for repairs to Union avenue, Grand avenue, Front street and Thurman street bridges and about \$37,000 in emergency work on slides, among them the Thurman street slide and the Kings Heights slide, which latter threatened to destroy St. Vincent's hospital. These

COMMISSIONER DIECK ANSWERS CHARGES OF DISCHARGED EMPLOYEE

Official Declares Charge That Operating Expenses Out of Proportion Is Fallacy.

TABLE SHOWS DECREASES

Claim Made Figures Demonstrate Cost
28 Per Cent Less Under Present
Administration.

By Robert G. Dieck,
Commissioner of Public Works.
There have recently appeared certain newspaper articles signed by a discharged city employee, M. L. Dowling, in which it is sought to discredit my record in office. Although I am convinced that these remarks are not made in good faith, yet it is proper that the people of Portland should be informed of my stewardship and I, therefore, ask for publicity to this statement.

It has been said of my administration of the department of public works under the commission government that the operating expenses have been out of proportion to the amount of public work accomplished. Disregarding the quality of work performed in the past four years, this statement is a fallacy. The following show the expenditures of the department for eight years and what the people have received for their money in those years.

Comparison Is Made.

Year	Expenditures	Increase	Decrease
1910	\$25,567.99	16.1	
1911	29,559.99	15.6	
1912	27,615.42	5.8	
1913	29,875.30	8.3	
1914	446,012.44	1.6	10.4
1915	208,112.00		0.4
1916	209,826.18		0.4
1917	1,023,143.22		110.4

"Amount is for 11 months. Per cent reckoned on 12 months basis."
"Amount is that appropriated."
It will be seen that the four years of my administration show an aggregate decrease or saving of 28 per cent, yet this has been accomplished in spite of the fact that we have had to care for 150 more miles of streets, 10 more miles of sewers, in poor condition, a \$7 per cent addition in area of our city, brought by the annexation of Lewis, St. Johns and Linton, and, in spite of the fact that we have had to expend about \$100,000 in repairing and maintaining worn and defective works of which the following are illustrations:

First—The Laurelhurst district improvement, completed in 1911, cost \$82,884, and has practically failed long before the expiration of the city's maintenance obligation, meaning a loss of about \$100,000. Plans for this contract were prepared in one week and the entire work supervised by only two inspectors, with as many as four crews engaged in construction.

Second—The same may be said of the Eastmoreland and Westmoreland improvements.

Third—The Hall street terrace improvement. Actual cost \$20,844. Engineer's estimate about half. Result: The courts have decided city must pay \$1,561,556.

Fourth—East Washington street pavement, constructed 1911, cost \$14,924, has largely failed. Loss about \$39,000.

Fifth—East Morrison street pavement, constructed 1912, cost \$19,387, has largely failed and will cost about \$6000 to repair. The department already has expended \$1138.

Wall Quickly Failed, Charge.
Sixth—The Vista avenue wall was built in 1910, failed in 13 months and was allowed to remain in ruins an equal length of time. Was rebuilt by me at a cost of \$24,784, and has stood over three years without appearance of the slightest defects.

Seventh—Front street pavement, laid 1912, cost \$22,090, has practically failed; loss to property owners, not guaranteed by city, about \$18,000.

Eighth—Kings Heights improvements, completed in 1913, cost \$54,906, have largely failed and in addition have caused large earth slides on which the department has already expended about \$6000 and property owners as much more. Adequate repairs will mean an expense of about 100 per cent.

Ninth—Ladd's addition pavement, completed 1910, cost \$21,124, has practically failed and three streets have already been replaced. Property owners, including city, have lost about \$70,000.

Tenth—East Twenty-eighth street bridge, built 1910, cost \$65,400, practically failed before completion, necessitating repairs for which commission government has paid \$18,000. Further extensive repairs must be made, with a total loss of about \$60,000.

Eleventh—Large part of Tanner creek sewer, now under reconstruction for \$220,000, was built under supervision of but one inspector, with work conducted night and day.

If there is any truth in the charge of increased inspection, the above is ample justification.

Insisted on Real Need.
The expenditures for public improvements, 1910 to July 1, 1915, were about \$18,000,000, and from then to date, about \$6,000,000, a ratio of 4 to 1. Improvement expenditures for the last full year of commission government, 1916, and the last full year of commission government, 1916, were, respectively, \$3,750,000 and \$750,000, a ratio of 5 to 1, the number of inspectors in July of those years being 22 and 22, a proportionate increase of less than 20 per cent. This slight increase in expenditure in one item surely will be justified when it is considered that, in 1916, the work constructed under my administration have shown the slightest defects.

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On the basis of the 1912 rates the service for 1916 would have cost approximately \$201,951 so that, as a result of the more advantageous contract of 1912 the saving effected between the two years was approximately \$18,937.

This saving, however, spreads over the last four years of commission government, for the increase in amount of service given began with the annexation of the outlying territory of St. Johns, Linton and the Mount Scott districts, adding 14.50 square miles of territory to the city the lighting of which devolved upon the city when these districts became a part of the municipality.

The Portland lighting rate is lower than that of any of the principal Pacific coast cities. It pays \$11.89 per annum per year. The San Francisco rate is \$25.60. Aberdeen, Wash., pays \$8.00. Los Angeles, \$75.00. Olympia, Wash., and Roseburg, \$72. Marshfield, \$89.00. Butte, of other cities pay \$4, others, \$54.80, and others \$80.

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DAILY ADMINISTRATION EFFECTED CREDITABLE SAVING IN LIGHT COST

Saving on Those Lights That Were in Use in 1912 Is \$18,937 in 1916.

PORTLAND RATE LOWEST

Cost Per Arc Lamp Per Year Here Is
\$51.00; In San Francisco
\$93.00.

The work of providing public lighting for the city falls under the jurisdiction of the department of public utilities, of which Commissioner Will H. Daly is the executive head. The rate of public utility service furnished by the Portland Railway, Light & Power company under contract. While the light area has been increasing during recent years, particularly since 1913, the rate of service has been decreased, and the following article details the wise and proper saving secured for the city as a result of advantageous contracts secured by the department.

In 1912, the last year under commission government, the city of Portland had approximately 1103 street lights in use. It cost the city, under the then existing contract, \$163,391 to keep them burning.

In 1916, there were approximately 2563 lights in use, an increase of 450 over 1912, and the cost of the service was \$182,024, under the rates given by a contract of 1912.

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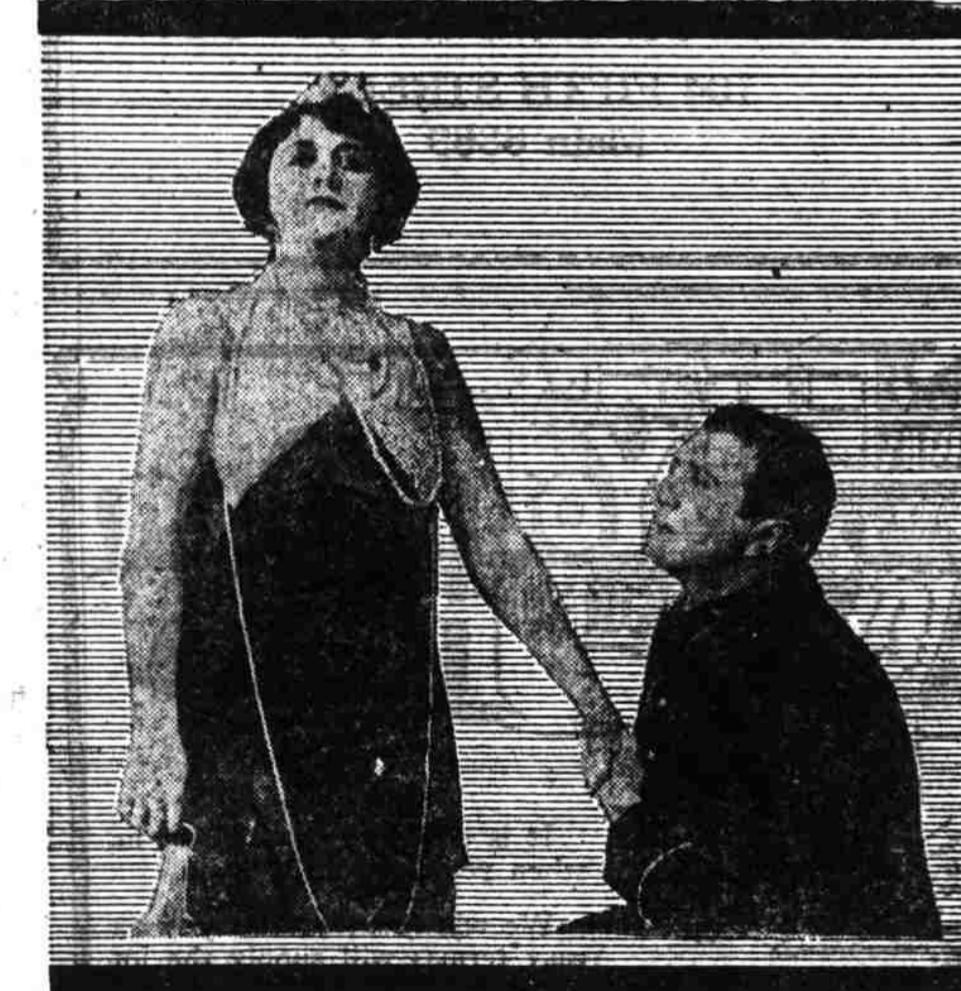
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Never was there a happier
more daintily humorous
picture offered to the public.

Virginia Pearson

ROYAL ROMANCE

It is impossible to properly describe the beauty of this "Operetta of the Screen." It is the typification of ENTERTAINMENT—the true relaxation. You breathe the air of semi-tropical climes and the cool brisk mountain breezes in a charming galaxy of pleasure-giving incidents. It is the best role in which Miss Pearson has ever been seen.

Majestic

Foxfilm Comedy in 2 Acts
"A Roman Cowboy," a rollicking Western laughfest with TOM MIX.

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French officers drill Harvard Reserve Corps. Recruits leave Portugal for the firing line. McAdoo offers "Liberty Loan."

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Henry Jennings & Sons

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Unequaled Display of Desirable Furniture

We invite inspection of our new arrivals, which are now on display on every floor. Our stock of mahogany gift furniture is especially attractive; it includes many novelties, such as Spinet Desks, Breakfast Tables, Tea Carts, Fern Stands, Table Lamps, Floor Lamps, Pedestal Bird Cages, Flower Bowls, Desk Lamps, Bedroom Lamps, Sewing Tables, Reception Chairs, Piano Lamps, Pedestals, Reception Rockers, Candlesticks, and many other beautiful articles for the use and adornment of the home. Our regular prices will be found as low as any on articles of equal worth, with the advantage of choice from a stock that is absolutely fresh and new. An inspection of our stock is an education in what is new and up to date in furniture. Courteous service.

SPECIAL—35c and 40c Figured Cretonnes in a number of new patterns; special this week at only27c

SPECIAL—All odd pairs of Lace Curtains will be sold this week atHALF PRICE

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