



Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at Pendleton, Oregon, by the EAST OREGONIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Phone, Main 11.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
 Daily, one year by mail \$5.00
 Daily, six months by mail 2.50
 Daily, three months by mail 1.25
 Daily, one month by mail50
 Daily, per month by carrier65
 Weekly, one year by mail 1.50
 Weekly, six months by mail75
 Weekly, four months by mail50
 Semi-Weekly, one year by mail 2.00
 Semi-Weekly, six months by mail 1.00
 Semi-Weekly, three months by mail50

The East Oregonian is on sale at B. B. Rich's News Stands at Hotel Portland and Hotel Parkins, Portland, Oregon.

Member Scripps-McLure News Association.

San Francisco Bureau, 408 Fourth St. Chicago Bureau, 909 Security Building. Washington, D. C. Bureau, 501 14th St. W.

Entered at Pendleton postoffice as second class matter.



As to the selfish man in the world, his works are like a vapor in the parching plain, which the thirsty traveler thinketh to be a lake of cool water, until, when he cometh thereto, he findeth it to be nothing but a delusion that sharpens the stones in the dreary pathway. —Koran.

BEWARE OF PARTISANISM.

The East Oregonian opposed the movement to change the city charter last winter, from the present appointive to elective methods of selecting the city marshal and recorder on the grounds that politics should not enter into municipal elections.

As long as men are selected for their business qualifications and fitness for the office without regard to their politics, the appointive method is the surest method of securing good government. As long as the council is made up of non-partisans, selected on higher grounds than that of political affiliation, the East Oregonian will favor the appointive method of selecting the marshal and recorder.

It believes in a business administration, and to get the most business principles into the city government, the nasty earmarks of the politician must be erased from the personnel of the council. It must be free to act in the interest of the people, no matter what political considerations stand in the way, and must be under obligations to no power except to the taxpayers of the city of Pendleton.

Whenever the politicians attempt to make the city government their plaything, and to select men for the city offices because of the soothing effect their election will have upon some old factional sore, then this paper says to the voters of Pendleton to assert their rights as American citizens and change the charter to elect all officers.

Whenever the power delegated to the council by the voters is endangered by the fact that the councilmen and mayor are to be selected because of their politics, instead of their business qualifications and experience, then it is time for the taxpayers to take this power from the council and mayor, and use it themselves, through the ballot.

As long as business men are to be at the head of the municipal government, irrespective of their party affiliations, it is safe to delegate the appointive power to the council.

But whenever the politicians begin to trade offices for peace, and to patch up partisan trenches to gain complete control of the city government, then all power belonging to the people should be taken from the hands of the council in order that the people may assert their choice, and the responsibility be placed where it rightfully belongs.

The city is now in a highly prosperous condition. It can be continued in this condition by a strict adherence to business principles, or it can be thrown into the political "grab bag" and made the toy of the politician to the sorrow of the taxpayer.

THE SPECIAL SESSION.

The omission of the levy clause in the new assessment and taxation law is due to the policy of "railroading" bills through at the last hour.

The Phelps assessment bill was introduced in the house on January 19, and for one solid month it was kept between the frying pan and the fire in the house and house committees, going to the senate for consideration on February 19, or one day before adjournment, with some hundred other bills, all crying for immediate action.

Recognizing the many good features of the bill, the senate, in the brief time allowed for consideration of it, passed it rather than kill it, even though the house had juggled with it during 30 days of the ses-

sion, without giving the senate a chance to consider it closely.

The house committee on assessment and taxation, consisting of Phelps, of Morrow, Robbins of Baker, Reed of Multnomah, Huntley of Clackamas, and Fisher of Multnomah, is wholly responsible for the blunder, as it held the bill under consideration from January 19 until February 9, when it reported it back to the house with minor changes. As such consideration as this committee gave the bill, should have revealed any omission in its construction.

The oversight of this committee will cost the state at least \$15,000 for a special session, besides throwing the county, state and school government into a turmoil on the prospect of a total absence of funds with which to meet current expenses.

If the referendum amendment, which says a law shall not become effective until 90 days after its passage, holds good, the situation in Oregon is very grave. School districts must have funds, counties must pay running expenses and the special session cannot possibly convene before December 15 or 20, making it impossible for the act of the special session, authorizing the levy, to become effective before March 15, at least.

There are now five vacancies in the legislature, which, according to the constitution, must be filled by special election before the legislature convenes. This will necessitate a delay, in issuing notices and calls for the election.

The vacancies are those of C. W. Fulton, now United States senator, J. N. Williamson, now congressman, and Daly, of Benton county, now surveyor-general of Oregon, besides those of Senator Mulkey, of Polk, who has moved out of his county, and Representative Davy, of Marion county, who, it is said, has given up his residence in that county.

The governor's return from the East is now anxiously awaited. The emergency now confronting the state demands prompt action and it is thought he will call a special session to convene at the earliest possible moment.

One reform which should be instituted in Pendleton and every other progressive city is the custom of requiring all women to remove their hats in church. It is impossible to enjoy a sermon if the listener cannot see the speaker, or if only faint glimpses of the speaker are caught in the maze of plumes and feathers. It is unpleasant to twist the neck and almost stand straight, in the effort to see the minister in the pulpit, and where the floor is not built on the incline plan, it is impossible to see him without this. The winter season is coming on. Meetings will be held more frequently and will be more largely attended and this custom should be adopted now, at the beginning of the active season in church work. The adoption of this custom will make it more pleasant for all, and will impose no inconvenience on the women. It will be a standing inducement to larger church attendance.

PROFESSIONAL SLANDER.

A special cable message to the Inter Ocean quotes Dr. Lorenz, the famous Vienna surgeon, as follows: "I am sick of being slandered, and if it were not for the dear little children I have benefited I would repent ever having crossed the Atlantic."

"The false statement that the operation on Lolita Armour was a failure was first started when I made my second visit to America.

"I was first called to Mr. Armour's child last October. I found the case a very difficult one. The little girl had been operated upon by a doctor who said he was well acquainted with the Lorenz method. The truth was that ten years ago, before I myself dreamed of my present method, this doctor had been five minutes in my operating room.

"A case treated like this is ten times as difficult as one on which nothing has been done. Still, I performed the operation, and Lolita was about with a plaster cast about both hips.

"It was arranged that I should go back to America in April, when it would be time to remove the cast. In April I stayed on Michigan ave-

nue, Chicago. I was happy to see the child quite cured.

"It was arranged before my sailing for Europe that I should go to Beach Bluff to see Lolita again. But the child took the measles, her sea-side journey was delayed, and I returned to New York, where I found a message saying: 'Quite recovered. I am sorry Lolita could not see you before you left. She now is quite recovered and expects to go east in a few days. She walks really very well. All are delighted with the progress made since you last saw her.'

"Lolita sent four enormous baskets of delicious fruit for my voyage. On arriving in Europe I wrote to thank her and said, as I could not eat all the fruit, I gave some to the children on board. Lolita made her nurse answer. She asked what the little girls looked like, as she didn't want me to have too good times with other little girls!

"Mrs. Armour was interviewed in Europe several times as to the alleged failure of the operation, and emphatically denied it each time.

"The last letter I had from the Armours, dated Sept. 7, said: "Lolita is very happy and is going to dancing school. She sends lots of love."

Dr. Lorenz also showed a letter from Mrs. Mason of Monroe avenue, Chicago, whose little girl, Belle, was operated on at the same time. The letter says:

"Belle has been walking alone for a month. Every day we see improvement. The debt of gratitude is greater than words can ever express."

A letter from Dr. Gaudet of New Orleans, dated Sept. 10, thanks Dr. Lorenz for saving his little nephew, Amede Gaudet, and speaks of the marvelous success of the operation and the gratification of the medical profession over eight cases in which the plaster cast has been removed. Dr. Lorenz operated on no cases of children in New York or in Chicago during his second visit which proved failures.

"Dr. Gibney was not my associate," he says, "but is a doctor, who, against my advice, operated on a girl of 15. I lost patients for over ten years when I tried the method. I think others should profit by my sad experience. I do not believe Gibney said Lolita could not walk."

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