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EX SENATOR BOURNE PROPOSES LAW

Petitions to be Circulated Without Cost, Public Demand to Determine Result. Percentage Remains Unchanged

It has been quite generally agreed that under the system of paid circulation of initiative and referendum petitions two evils exist. The submission of many measures for which there is no popular demand, and the forging of signatures. To remove these evils, I shall propose an initiative measure prohibiting payment for circulation of petitions but placing no restriction upon the right of the people to circulate petitions for any measure in which they feel an interest.

One of the fundamental purposes of the Oregon System is to increase the power of men and decrease the power of money. I am surprised, therefore, to find that there are some sincere advocates of better government who oppose the plan of prohibiting paid circulation of petitions. Most of those who oppose my bill acknowledge that it is right in principle but say it will not work satisfactorily in practice.

I contend that if it is right in principle it will ultimately be adopted and will work in practice.

An initiative petition is supposed to represent the desire of 8 per cent of the voters. It does no such thing. It represents merely the expenditure of a certain amount of money.

Possibly circulation of petitions serves to notify about ten per cent of the voters that the measure is being proposed, but, if that is the end to be gained, it certainly could be done more effectively by expending the money in the printing and circulation of copies of the bill which voters could read, rather than in securing signatures of voters to a petition which few take the time to read.

The adoption of my suggested bill would make the petition represent public opinion, for the number of volunteer circulators would be in proportion to the extent of public desire for the measure.

I admit that so long as the custom of paying circulators continues, practically every measure must be initiated in that manner, but I am confident the time will come when the duties of citizenship in procuring and protecting desired laws under the initiative and referendum will be performed without special compensation.

The hiring of paid circulators for measures or candidates is no less unrepresentative than the hiring of workers or vehicles on election day, which have both been prohibited by the corrupt practices act.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Geo. H. Blair of 66 and 82 St. is building a new house.

Mr. Rhodes is putting up a new house near Gray's Crossing.

Mr. L. A. Copeland of Meridian, Idaho, is spending a few weeks in town.

Miss Noni Anderson is visiting friends at Scotts Mills.

Miss Janie Herman was quite ill with tonsillitis the past week.

Mrs. Mary V. Hill of California is spending the winter with her sister, Mrs. Bryant of Park Ave.

Mrs. Wm. Anderson spent Friday and Saturday at Hood River. She reports two feet of snow up there.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Powell of Irvington spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Darnall.

Mr. Adams and wife of Iowa have been spending a few weeks with Jas. Hutchinson and family.

Mrs. Martha Powell of Pittsburg is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. J. Darnall this week.

Moody Rodgers, formerly of Lents, has returned to Portland and may decide to locate in Lents.

During the past few weeks to have a cold has been strictly the fashion—but no serious results followed. Every one seems to hold for the motto, "Do Your Best" for the new year.

SANDY PROMOTING NEW CAR LINE

A new company of Sandy men has been formed for the purpose of constructing a motor line from Boring to Sandy. The proposed line will run along side of the wagon road the entire seven miles. The matter has been presented to the Clackamas County Court and it is probable the matter will be allowed before another week is through. The line of the road is comparatively easy as to grade. There will be one or two considerable fills and possibly a cut or two, but it will be about the best grade to Sandy. The road runs on the divide between Deep Creek head waters and the rather abrupt slope into the Sandy. It is probable that the proposed line would ultimately be electrified, and ultimately bought up by the Portland Railway.

Lents Firemen Elects Officers.

At the regular meeting of the Lents Volunteer Firemen held Monday evening the order was election of officers. Frank Rayburn was chosen chief; Claude Lent, Asst. Chief; Joe Webb, Foreman; Matt Boland, Asst. Foreman; D. D. Bengel, Secy.; and Arthur Geisler, Treasurer. Accounts have been pretty well checked up and the business is being put into good shape as rapidly as possible.

Owing to the proposed building on the property occupied by the firehouse, a change of location to First Ave. and Foster Road will be made after the first of the year.

The boys received their new waterproof coats and helmets during the past week. They are very comfortable additions to the equipment and will be much appreciated by all the members of the company.

Gresham Will Remain Dry.

The November election having been decided illegal, so far as the local option law is concerned in Gresham, the citizens of the town again registered their opinions at the December election, and sustained their former action. The "wets" then attempted to have this election set aside but the circuit court threw out their suit. The "wets" now say they will carry it to the state supreme court. It would seem that the opinion of the town would be considered. The town has decided twice that it does not want saloons yet the liquor dealers insist on continuing business. The county court has signed the order to make Gresham dry after Jan. 1.

C. W. Steele of Everett, Wash., is visiting his sister, Mrs. John Huntington of Shadywood Park.

Mrs. Harriet Hamilton visited with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Hawken, during the week.

The Shiloh Circle will join installation with the G. A. R. Saturday evening, Jan. 3rd at 7:30 o'clock.

Mr. George Wells and wife of Buena Vista have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Orville Smith of Fifth Ave.

Mr. Blair has rented the property known as the Fanske home on Fifth Ave., and moved his family to town.

Mrs. Lamphire's daughter and husband returned home for Christmas dinner. They had such a splendid family reunion.

The Lents Hardware Co. is sending out a large art calendar, a reproduction from a famous painting of Washington receiving notice of his election to the presidency. The Mt. Scott Drug Company is also sending out a very neat calendar. The Multnomah State Bank is sending out some nifty calendars, just right for the home.

The Lents Hardware sent out a lot of two color, eight page circulars during the holiday season that are getting them some very flattering commendation, especially from the wholesalers into whose hands some of them have come. The circulars were furnished by the Mt. Scott Publishing Co.

Dr. Wm. Spurgeon of London, England, preached to an appreciative audience at the Baptist church last Sunday evening. He delivered his popular lecture on "Advice to Married People and People who Expect to be Married" at the same place New Year's Eve. The lecture was followed by a social session, and the evening was closed with a special service of prayer and praise, concluding with the opening of the New Year.

THE WOMEN WILL KEEP ON TRYING TO SEE WHO CAN WEAR THE TALLEST HAT FEATHER.



—Fox in New York Evening Sun.

LENTS CHILD NOTABLE DECEDENT

Viola May Tyler of Lents has her name in the paper for being the great-granddaughter of Mrs. Delia A. Good of Salem, Ore., who is still living and visited in Lents recently. Besides this little Miss Tyler made an unusually fine showing at the Eugenics test at the State Fair this fall. She made 999 points. She is a decedent of a long lived family. Great grandma Good can look back over five generations, almost to the times of Washington, and her experience covers pretty nearly the whole period of the life of the American Republic. She is quite well and may survive several years yet.

CLAYTON LEWIS GOES TO EUROPE

Clayton E. Lewis, son of H. A. Lewis of Russellville left Sunday evening for New York where he will take passage to Germany. He goes to perfect his horticultural information. Clayton is a former student of the Portland Academy and the Oregon Agricultural College. He will study in Germany and France after which he will return home to put his information into practical use in the Russellville nurseries. Mr. Lewis has many friends throughout Oregon who will wish him much success in his undertakings.

LET THE WATER WORK.

The water-power of a small stream, when converted into electricity, will furnish enough power to light the whole farm, heat the house, and do the cooking by using resistance-coils. And besides, it will furnish power for all stationary machines—pumps, feed grinders and carriers, corn shellers, churns, and in fact any work which may be performed with stationary power.

The expense of machinery necessary for converting the water-power into electricity depends on the electrical power desired. A one-half horse-power dynamo is large enough for the ordinary farm. It will furnish enough electricity for sixteen incandescent lights of sixteen candle-power each.

Although the first expense of the dynamo and turbines is considerable, yet the cost of operating is comparatively nothing. Water-power is most practicable on the large farms and stock farms. The saving in the cost of grinding feed will be lessened several hundred dollars a year, and be lessened in numerous other ways.

When it rains one inch, more than 11, 300 tons of water fall on a 100-acre farm. Every acre gets more than 27,000 gallons enough to fill a tank or pool about twenty feet square and nine feet deep.

LENTS BOY FORGES ORDER

There are some badly bent twigs in Lents. Prospects are very unfavorable for some of the young boys that are not really old enough to know what their offense means. During the week a certain boy approached an old gentleman of the town with what evidently was meant as an order for the payment of money, bearing a signature of one of the business houses of the town, or rather what was intended should represent a signature. As it happened the man did not have any obligations with the firm mentioned so he paid nothing. But he captured the note and presented it to the firm. It was all a forgery and was a little short of a criminal act.

The childish writing would have exposed it to almost anyone. An effort will be made to locate the boy and if possible prevent the repetition of the act.

Dangerous Fire Narrowly Averted.

Christmas Night went by with one accident to disturb the peace of the community. Along about two o'clock the town was disturbed by the fire alarm. It was too stormy to get much of a crowd out and as it was there was not much to it. The little barber shop at the corner of Foster Road and Main St. was found to be afire. The first indication of fire was noticed in Hodge's "Eat" restaurant and the smoke began to come into the room by way of the ceiling. It took some time to discover just where the fire was as the window blinds were down in the shop. But when the fire was located it only took a short time to dispose of the fire. The chemical was turned on and the matter was soon over.

Indications are that the fire started from the chimney. The wall paper caught fire and it was then spread to the loft and ceiling. Had it been a windy evening, or less rain it is probable that the entire row of small buildings would have been cleared out by the blaze, and it might have been carried farther.

Charlie Brashers and one or two firemen were all that were in town. Most of the boys were away celebrating the season at a ball in Gresham.

FAIRS TO BE INSTRUCTIVE

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Calls Conference.

Salem.—With the object of making the educational features of the county fairs more prominent, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill, general director of the industrial school fairs of the state, called a meeting of secretaries of county fairs, school supervisors and all persons interested in the proposition Friday at the capitol. The action was taken by Mr. Churchill because of many requests that he take the lead in calling the conference, inasmuch as his department had charge of one of the most important features of the fairs.

A movement has been on foot for some time to enlarge the scope of the exhibitions and make the educational features more important than racing and carnival attractions.

Jail is Boarding House.

Salem.—Declaring that it was necessary for the man to have plenty to eat for a few days to build up his health, Police Judge Elgin sentenced J. E. Adkins, charged with obtaining a meal at a restaurant and not paying for it, to serve a sentence of five days in jail. The prisoner was thankful for the sentence, and announced that he was almost starved when, in his desperation, he ordered the meal at the restaurant.

Dozen Beets Weigh 147 Pounds.

Cottage Grove.—A dozen mangel beets that tip the scales at 147 pounds have been raised by J. M. McDole as an indication of the possibilities of Cottage Grove soil.

E. A. Tate is completing a neat five room bungalow on Blumier Street, for his own use.

Pleasant Valley Grange held its regular monthly meeting on Saturday, December 27. Beside the regular business the officers for the ensuing year were nominated. There was a good attendance. In the evening Pleasant Valley public school gave a Christmas tree and entertainment. A splendid program was given by the children, which showed marked ability and development with careful earnest work on the part of the teacher. At the close of the entertainment presents, candy and nuts were distributed. All left the hall well pleased with every other person and themselves.

PROMINENT DAIRYMAN DIES

Byron P. Reynolds, a Leading Farmer and Dairyman of Eastern Multnomah Passes away Suddenly Leaving Widow and Son

Three weeks ago Byron Reynolds, a resident of Eastern Multnomah, living on the Sandy Road, about ten miles from Portland, was taken with some complaint and gradually grew worse till his death which came at two o'clock Tuesday morning. Mr. Reynolds was one of the best known people in the country. The farm upon which he was living at the time of his death has been his home for over forty years, and formerly belonged to his father and brother, and included 600 acres well systematized, but was later bought by Byron. He conducted it as a dairy ranch, producing butter and retailing his own product.

He continued in the business for over thirty years until his dairy was practically put out of business by the stringent inspection laws a few years ago. His farm has been rented the past two years. He was sixty-five years of age at the time of his death. He had been a leading Democrat in this part of the state during his entire active life, and was highly esteemed by all his political friends. He was a man of high honor and willing to sacrifice his partisan views in preference to the individual. He was a man of peculiar ideas.

He did not belong to any fraternal order or secret society, and never took out life insurance. Mr. Reynolds leaves a wife and one son, the latter living at Pendleton. The funeral will be held Friday from the house at two o'clock and he will be buried in the Columbia Slough Cemetery.

Bright Company Passes Good Year.

The year just closing has been a good business year for the Thekla Bright Company. In spite of the supposedly close times this company has done a business of over \$90,000 during the year. It is looking for a good spring and will no doubt handle a lot of property. The sum mentioned means more than might at first appear as most of it covered property in this immediate vicinity. None of the transfers exceeded over \$3000 and it takes some business to make total like that on such small deals.

Ramapo Club Meets

The Ramapo Musical and Literary Club held its regular semi-monthly meeting at the home of Mr. Dana Dec. 30. A very pleasant evening was passed. It included not only the social side, but response with songs, duets, instrumental selections, recitations, readings, etc., were given by all in such a pleasant manner that everyone seemed to catch the spirit of wholesome cheer. Mr. Lynn is home for the holiday vacation, taking a well earned rest. He did not show up as was expected and was missed indeed. The club members appreciate his solid sterling worth. Another member, Miss Grace Page, has left us, having accepted a position at The Dalles. While we shall miss her, we will all be sending her wireless messages of love, cheer and good will. Her many friends here will not forget her for many days to come. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were welcome visitors. Beside adding to the entertainment with recitation, reading, and song, they kindly invited the club to hold the next meeting at their home, which invitation was accepted.

Class Banquet

Mrs. Boyd Moore, assisted by Mrs. F. M. Gates and Mrs. J. E. Hawken gave a banquet to the young men of the W. N. S. S. Class of the M. E. church, on Monday evening, at the parsonage. There were twenty-three guests present. The table was decorated with place cards and a beautiful blending of class colors. The entertainment consisted of music, readings, and jokes in response to the call of the toast master. The class is one of the largest and most aggressive young men's classes in the city.

Do You Know.

That five times 968 square yards equals an acre?
That ten times 484 square yards makes an acre?
That 20 times 242 square yards makes an acre?
That 60 times 726 square feet make an acre?
That 110 times 396 square feet make an acre?
If you do you will find no difficulty in figuring out how much space you are giving the horse, cow, or hog lot.

Indian Falls in Barrel and Drowns Pendleton.—While drunk and numb with cold, Julius Williams, a well-known member of Walla Walla tribe of Indians, slipped and fell headlong into a barrel of water near the O-W. R. & N. track.