

The Daily Astorian. ASTORIA, OREGON: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1887. OTHER AMENDMENTS.

On the 8th of next month the qualified electors of this state will vote on the adoption or rejection of three proposed amendments to the constitution of Oregon. All three are on questions of grave public policy.

There are two other proposed amendments to be voted upon the same day, neither of which has had much publicity nor discussion.

That the following amendment to the constitution of the state of Oregon be and hereby is proposed:

ARTICLE II. That section 1 of article 13 of the constitution of the state of Oregon be and hereby is abrogated, and in lieu thereof section 1 of article 13 of the constitution of the state of Oregon shall be as follows:

Section 1. The governor, secretary of state, judges of the supreme court, and all other state officers of this state shall each receive an annual salary of such sum as the legislative assembly shall hereafter by law for each of said officers provide; provided, that when the legislative assembly shall have by law fixed the salary of any such officer such salary shall neither be increased nor diminished during the term for which the incumbent of such office shall have been elected or appointed.

On its face this proposed amendment deserves to be beaten. The placing by the people in the hands of the legislature the power to fix the salaries of the state officers enumerated above would grant too much power to that body; it would open and pave the way for political jobs and trades of all sorts; it looks like a political trick, endorsed and advocated by professional politicians, and the people will probably refuse to delegate such unwarranted and unheard of power to their state legislature.

THE ASTORIAN believes that the present salaries of our state officers are too small; they are meager and insufficient; if there were an amendment proposed to be voted on fixing some definite annual compensation—say \$3,000 or \$4,000 for the governor, and a similar sum to the supreme court judges, it would deserve endorsement and passage, but the amendment in its present shape has a bad smell; it looks suspicious, to say the least, and the voters of Oregon should, in our opinion, bury it out of sight on the 8th of next month.

There appears some reason for favorable argument regarding this amendment. All the other states have changed their summer and fall elections to November and we would simply be in fashion by falling into line. The election in June looks slightly premature. Here we elected Binger Hermann to congress so long ago that seven out of ten have almost forgotten it, and the seat to which he was elected away back in June, 1886, will not be filled by him till next December. When Oregon was 2,000 miles from anywhere, such things might obtain, but in these days of rapid transit, of telegraphs and interstate inter-linking, it looks somewhat behind the times to go on with our June elections as in days of old. In Clatsop county a November election would tend to give a fairer expression of permanent public opinion than in June, when our population is augmented to a transient degree that makes special effort an apparent factor in the augmentation of majorities. Our county vote might not be so large in November, but it would manifestly be a clearer index of popular judgment.

THE ARGUMENTS for the defeat of this last proposed amendment are no less cogent. If our election is changed to November we will elect all our county officers half the time in the heat and pressure of a presidential contest. Personal fitness will not be so carefully studied as at present. The head of the ticket in presidential years will

be the test, and the independent voter will not give the time or consideration to his vote that it is just to suppose he gives when the distraction of a presidential election and its accompanying noise is dimming in his ears. Our state elections are very important; it is of prime importance to Clatsop county, to the state, to public policy, to our interests that we get clean men for judges, able men for the legislature, honest men in county offices. We have done pretty well in that regard—better, perhaps, than if these questions, so important to us, were lost and swallowed up in the great national contest for party supremacy, and if the question, who shall represent us at Salem? were set aside by the question, who will be for the next four years in the White House? the result might not be wholly satisfactory in a local point of view.

THE ASTORIAN is in doubt as to the third amendment, and commends to its readers a careful consideration of the merits and demerits of the proposition. Like the other two, it is a proposition that demands thought and elicits argument. Nothing is settled till it is settled right; nothing is politically right that is morally wrong, and any proposition to alter or change the organic law of the commonwealth requires full discussion as to the effect intended and its actual, practical results.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—At the last session of congress a number of bills, that had received favorable action of the president on the last day, and some of those failed to receive his approval, mainly because there was not sufficient time to give them proper examination prior to dissolution of congress. Chief among these was the river and harbor appropriation bill. The friends of that measure were very much disappointed on this refusal of the president to sign the bill, and after adjournment, made vigorous efforts to convince him that a measure passed on the last day of the session could be legally signed by the president within ten days allowed by the constitution for his examination. River and harbor men were persistent in their importunities and arguments, but the president refused to adopt their views. It is reported that this question will be presented to the supreme court for adjudication, and that the court will be urged to advance the case so that an early decision will be made.

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1881. 1887. Skating! Skating! Reopening of the Roller Skating Season. Will begin next Saturday Evening, Oct. 15th, and continue every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evening, and Saturday afternoon, from 7 P. M. to 10 P. M. Afternoon from 1 P. M. to 4 P. M. At Ross' Opera House. This is the seventh season Ross Bros. have managed Roller Skating in Astoria. Admission, Gents, 25c. Skates, 10c. Admission, Ladies, 25c. Skates, 10c. G. W. & A. E. ROSS, Proprietors and Mgrs.

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NEW TO-DAY. Notice. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST Coast Pkg Co. will be held in their office, in Astoria, on the 24th day of October, 1887, to elect directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting. By order of the President, S. E. MORTON, Sec.

Notice. MRS. G. ZEAGLER IS WANTED AT Mrs. Clara Weiman's, Astoria, Oregon.

Net Found. ABOVE BROWNSPOINT, LAST WEEK, a shawl 29 inches forty-inch net; no marks. Owner will apply to GUS STURE, Knappa.

FASHIONABLE DRESSMAKING. MISS M. L. RICHARDSON Has engaged the services of Mrs. A. Johnson, a competent and Fashionable Dressmaker just arrived from the East, and is desirous of having the Ladies of Astoria who wish well-made Dresses to call, see fittings and samples and decide for themselves, Cass Street, three doors south of ASTORIA OFFICE.

Notice. THE DELINQUENT CITY TAX ROLL of the city of Astoria for the current year is now in my hands for collection. Parties interested will take notice and save costs. A. M. TWOMBLY, Chief of Police and ex-Officio Tax Collector. Astoria, October 11th, 1887.

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