

FOR THE VOTERS

Monmouth, Feb. 15, 1910.

EDITOR MONMOUTH HERALD.

In view of the fact that an election to amend the city charter will be held in Monmouth, Feb. 26, and knowing that many of our citizens do not properly understand the purpose of this election, I wish to state that prior to 1907 incorporated cities must needs apply to the Legislature for any change in their charter; but in the year named an act was passed giving to cities the right to change their own charters by a majority vote of their people at an election properly called. In my opinion this election to amend Monmouth's present charter *should carry* by a large majority; I am convinced of this first—because the remedy for poorly graded streets as asked for at this election is unquestionably a remedy that can be applied with safety and with an assurance of success.

Read the notice of election and you will find

"The power and authority given by the general laws of the State of Oregon to the County Court of Polk county, Oregon, to divide said county into road districts, and to appoint road supervisors, to lay out or work highways, shall not apply or extend to the territory within the corporate limits of the City of Monmouth, but such territory and inhabitants thereof are hereby excepted out of the jurisdiction of said County Court upon said subject; provided that the road tax now provided for by the general laws of the State of Oregon, shall be paid to the City of Monmouth, and if paid in work, the same to be done upon the streets of said city; if paid in money, the money to be expended upon the repairs or betterments of streets. All suits, actions or other proceedings concerning road or street work or taxes shall be prosecuted in the name of the city of Monmouth, and the street commission, or marshal, or other officer designated by the city for that purpose, shall have the same powers to enforce the work upon the roads or streets in said city that the supervisors appointed by the County Court now have in Polk County, Oregon."

The above is not a myth or entirely the results of imaginative minds, but just exactly what Albany and other cities now enjoy, i. e. the right to the expending of taxes for road work for themselves and on any or *all* of their *own* streets for the good of their *own* citizens and their *own* town, instead of seeing money derived from taxation on their property expended on highways that they seldom or ever travel, while their streets are in a deplorable condition.

If by a Legislative act in 1907 people of cities were given the right to amend their own charters, then we, the people of Monmouth can exercise that right the 26th of this present month.

It has been stated, and from honest motives I am sure, that the right, even if it could be obtained, could not extend any further than expenditure of money on main thoroughfares; but the writer has a letter from the Mayor of Albany which says they have the right to "our road tax just the same as any other road district according to the assessed value of the property. "This tax is expended on any and all streets as the city authorities see fit."

By reading section 100 of the act passed by the Legislature in 1899 you will see where Albany

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gets her authority for the handling of her road tax.

Another objection may come from residents of the road districts of which Monmouth is now a part, but even they will appreciate good streets in Monmouth, and are, no doubt, willing upon second thought to admit that any thing that this election calls for is not only in the name of justice, but that it will tend to encourage strangers to move to a city that is clean, healthful, and pleasing.

Fellow citizens do what is right not only to yourselves, but to your neighbor as well, and above all else, find out what is right before you vote; No one can object to that.

A CITIZEN.

Memorial Service

Frances E. Willard memorial service will be held in the Christian church, Friday evening Feb. 18, at 7:30 o'clock. Following is the program:

Song, "How Firm a Foundation," Congregation; Reading 23rd Psalm, six children; Prayer; Song, by congregation; Remarks by Mrs. Dela Force, president of W. C. T. U.; Address, a biographical sketch of Miss Willard, Mrs. Verna Daniel; Song, class of girls; Recitation, Mrs. Edna Hoover; Song, "Saloons Must Go," six girls; What the Willard Memorial Fund has accomplished. Miss Anna Godbersen; Offering; Instrumental Music, Mrs. McKinney; Tribute to Frances E. Willard, Mildred Force; Quotations from Miss Willard, eight young ladies; Duet, Mesdames Cora Morlan and Pearl Poole; Address, the Present Day Outlook of the Temperance Reform, Mrs. Butz, of Dallas; Duet, Misses Olea and Loette Shore; W. C. T. U. Benediction. Everyone is cordially invited.

Zook the Painter, will hang your paper.

Local and Personal.

V. F. Daniel received fifty new spring patterns in dress gingham and percales yesterday.

Miss Lillian Bogert has returned home from Dallas where she attended a short term of school.

The jury in the Binger Herman Land Fraud case disagreed. Eleven held out for conviction and one for acquittal.

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