

West Side Enterprise.

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DIRECT PRIMARY LAW.

A question to be passed upon by the people in June, that has been given less thought than any other question fraught with so much interest, is the proposed direct primary law.

This bill if enacted into law by voters at the polls will revolutionize politics. It will practically do away with conventions and electors will vote for candidates direct at the primaries instead of voting for delegates to a convention.

The proposed law is necessarily, largely experimental, and doubtless will have defects that will require remedying, but in our judgment it is a step in the direction of purer politics and better government. The delegate and convention system has been abused until dissatisfaction is general. Dissatisfaction follows in the wake of every convention or primary election under the present system, and political manipulators and bosses are charged with the responsibility and there are usually grounds for the charge.

The direct primary law can not be expected to cure this cause of complaint entirely, but it will certainly defeat the present method of corrupting delegates and put many bosses out of a job. Under the direct primary system, there is no opportunity to nominate a candidate that the majority don't want. The vote cast at the primaries settles the matter of nominating candidates. The candidate's only field is with the voters themselves. Under the provisions of the proposed law every political party is entitled to the sole and exclusive use of its official name. All candidates are guaranteed equal opportunities. The casting and counting of votes at the primaries are safe guarded as closely as voting at a general election. The purpose is to bring the election of officers to serve the people, closer to the people.

The direct primary if carried will have a tendency to obviate the turbulent and disgraceful scenes that usually attend the election of a United States Senator, for every candidate for either branch of the legislature is invited to sign one of two petitions.

The first one is: "I further state to the people of Oregon as well as to the people of my legislative district, that during my term of office, I will always vote for that candidate for United States Senator in Congress who has received the highest number of the people's votes for that position at the general election next preceding the election of Senator in Congress, without regard to my individual preference."

If the candidate shall be unwilling to sign the above statement, then he may sign the following: "During my term of office I shall consider the vote of the people for United States Senator in Congress as nothing more than a recommendation, which I shall be at liberty to wholly disregard, if the reason for doing so seems to me sufficient."

Exercises commemorating the formation of the first civil government in Oregon and on the Pacific coast, will be held at Champoeg next Monday. F. X. Mathieu, 87 years old, and the sole survivor of the meeting at which it was determined by Joe Meek and his followers, that Oregon should come under the jurisdiction of the United States, will be present. There will be prominent speakers for the occasion and it would be a good thing if every citizen or Oregon could be present. The appreciation of every one who attends will be greater for those who laid the foundation of Oregon, and his or her patriotism will be kindled anew. Excursion boats will be run from Salem and Portland and basket lunches will be served on the grounds.

The United States senate has passed Senator Mitchell's bill dividing Oregon into two federal judicial districts, providing for terms of court to be held at Portland and Baker City. This will be good news to Johnny Rand of Baker City as it is

"According to the program" by which he was willing as state senator to vote for anybody for United States senator if he could be made first judge of the proposed judicial district. The bill however has not become a law yet and it would be unwise for Mr. Rand to quit his law practice until further developments.

Women, always ready for an emergency, have taken to the hop fields, and in large measure are making up for the shortage of men in training hops. Besides the diversion and remuneration afforded it is a healthful exercise and when the prospective good crop is harvested the women may have the satisfaction of feeling their labor contributed to its production.

B. F. Jones has cleared another Indian before the federal court at Portland. This time it was Joe Cook, charged with perjury. The case was thrown out of court on the insufficiency of the indictment. Jones will soon have as many feathers in his cap as there are Siletz Indians.

The Polk county candidates, it is understood, will get together Saturday to decide upon a plan of campaign. Their success will depend in large measure upon their going fearlessly before the people and telling them what they stand for. The "still hunter" has had his day.

A great deal of pains-taking preparation has been given to the cantata to be given by local people at the opera house tomorrow and Saturday nights. The promoters deserve a good attendance.

Benton county has just issued 22000 pamphlets, said to be the handsomest yet sent out by any Oregon county, descriptive of its resources. Time Polk should do something more in advertising.

L. T. Harris, recently defeated in his efforts for the nomination for congress, is remembering the delegates who supported him, by personal letter. Very proper course.

The Republican County Central Committee and a number of candidates met in Dallas Saturday and selected J. N. Hart chairman of the committee.

The Oregonian and Lawyer Hurley of Independence are having a hard time to get everybody to register.

If you desire a clerkship at the next legislature, apply to Scott Laughary or J. S. Cooper.

When no one else can be found to take the nomination for congress in the First district, the democrats call on Bob Veatch.

This is the fiftieth anniversary of the republican party. A splendid opportunity to celebrate in Polk county by electing every man on the ticket.

Judge Parker saw Bryan talk himself to death as a presidential candidate and now the Judge won't say a word.

Naming both candidates for county commissioner from the same precinct, seems to have stirred up quite a breeze near Monmouth.

Oregon has been humiliated enough by its professional baseball team, the Browns. Let Oregon's team disband or call themselves the Browns of Arkansas.

With its Holy Rollers and Holy Terrors, Corvallis is becoming quite famous.

Albany, Salem, Monmouth, Dallas, all surrounding live towns have their baseball teams and are starting in for the season's sport. What's the matter with Independence? Organize and get in the game.

A few Italian gardeners scattered along the Willamette would soon cure the habit of sending away from home for vegetables.

"Uncle Ben" Hayden thinks as lightly of Judge Sibley's resolutions as the Judge does of R. H. Knox's.

White men are not permitted to peel chittim bark on the Siletz—B. F. Jones excepted.

PARKER.

Mr. and Mrs. Comarten who have been cooking for the men at Luckiamute bridge went away Wednesday and Mr. and Mrs. Smith took their place.

Mr. McReynolds was a passenger to Buena Vista Friday.

Miss Mattie J. Lee has put out four acres of strawberry plants during the past few days.

Mrs. A. J. Richardson visited Mrs. Fuqua Sunday, going to Portland in the afternoon.

Miss Maggie Kerr entertained a few of her friends Sunday at dinner, it being the occasion of her seventeenth birthday. She was the recipient of a number of nice presents.

Don and Henry Dickinson visited at Percy Dickinsons Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Swink gladdened the hearts of their old friends Saturday with a short visit.

Mrs. Fuqua put out two hundred strawberry plants last Saturday.

C. Boone visited at Suver Sunday.

Ed Steele was at Parker Sunday.

G. Sower, a Falls City merchant, was in town the first of the week.

Clinton Moore and Miss Rose Clodfelter are to be married Saturday evening, at their own home in this city. Rev. E. J. Thompson will officiate.

A quartet of Independence boys got over-hilarious in Salem a few nights ago and were fined \$5 each. J. R. Cooper came to their rescue and not J. S. Cooper as stated in a Salem dispatch.

Hon. S. M. Yoran, of Eugene, spent Tuesday night in Independence. Mr. Yoran is grand master of the Masonic order for Oregon and the purpose of his visit here was to visit the local lodge.

Next Sabbath at the M. E. church the pastor will preach at 11 a. m., subject "Jesus and the Holy Spirit." Evening, 8 p. m. "The Story of a Tragedy." You are invited and are assured of a hearty welcome.

On Friday evening, May 6th, Bishop H. B. Hartzler, of Harrisburg, Penn., will preach in the United Evangelical church of this city. Bishop Hartzler is recognized as one of the greatest expositors of Biblical truths, in the United States. D. L. Moody recognized him as such and solicited his services as an instructor in the Moody Bible Institute. Of such an opportunity as this all should avail themselves, and any who hear Bishop Hartzler will be amply repaid for the time spent. All are most cordially invited. Services begin at 7:30.

For Sale.

Six cows, four giving milk and two will be fresh soon. Also one Empire separator. Enquire of M. M. Porterfield, Parker, Ore.

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