

The referendum is a method which would bring important matters of state policy directly under discussion by the people. It would tend powerfully towards the suppression of legislation in which individuals, groups and corporations have special interests. Such legislation now is often put through without adequate discussion and without the knowledge of the people. After the close of a legislative session discovery is made that bills of very objectionable character, designed in the main to serve private, personal, partisan or corporate interests, have been enacted into laws; and very frequently clauses carrying such features are smuggled into bills, during their progress through the legislature, by interested parties. We have often witnessed such scandals of legislation in our own state. The referendum would make this impossible. No predatory measure could be carried before the people. The legislative lobbyist would be put out of business.

Mr Furnish and the entire republican state ticket will carry every county east of the Cascade mountains. The people of Eastern Oregon are satisfied with the ticket, and will support it. As to my own campaign, I can say that it will be a thorough one, as I expect to visit every county in the Second Congressional District, and will do all in my power for the success of my ticket."—J. N. Williamson in the Oregonian.

We are not in a position to say in regard to all counties east of the Cascades, but Mr. Furnish will not carry Harney county nor will Mr. Williamson. We happen to know about as much about the political outlook in this county as the republican nominee for congress and are willing to back our judgment with all we have—a big delinquent subscription list. Harney county has never yet gone down in the republican column and she won't this time.

A cold snap is as bad as the fishing season for making liars. A West Alton man says that a citizen of that town threw a cupful of water at a cat one cold morning this winter. The water froze into a chunk of ice in the air, hit the cat in the head and broke its skull. Then he tells about a Flint Hill woman who left a lamp burning all night in the kitchen, and when she tried to blow it out in the morning found the flame frozen hard. She broke it off and threw it into the woodshed, where later it thawed out and set the shed on fire. As if those two were not enough, he winds up with a story of a St. Charles doctor, who, just before he started out on a drive, took half a dozen good sized drinks of fine old bourbon. It was a cold night and his breath was frozen into chunks. He put the chunks into a pail when he got home and thawed them out and had a quart of pretty fair whisky.—Alton Telegraph

Hon. Wm. Smith, the democratic nominee for joint senator for Baker, Harney and Malheur counties, is one of the most able lawyers in Oregon and is at present senator for Malheur and Baker counties. During the last session of the Oregon legislature he received the democratic votes for United States senator throughout the session. He is very popular and there is no reason to doubt but that he will be returned to the senate by an increased majority.

The Engineering News has gathered statistics concerning the establishment of municipal bath-houses. It finds that 36 cities and towns have either all-the-year or summer public baths. Portland will be added to the list at an early date.

The quality of directness is characteristic in all men of great executive ability, because they value time too much to squander it in useless and meaningless conversation; it is an indispensable quality of the leader or manager of all large enterprises.—Success for April.

Depew follows the lead of Senator Hoar in the groundless contention that to elect senators by popular vote will unfavorably affect the character of the senate, and is therefore an obnoxious innovation. There is no more danger of electing senators by popular vote in states with limited franchise than there is in electing representatives. Whatever change the amendment would make in the character of the senate would be for the better.—Oregonian.

Mr Stewart Edward White has just completed for the Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia, a stirring serial story of love and adventure in the Northwest. The tale is entitled Conjuror's House: A Romance of the Free Forest. The scene is laid at an isolated outpost of the Hudson's Bay company, and the characters are a devil-may-care young soldier of fortune, the old factor and his beautiful young daughter. This fascinating story will begin in The Saturday Evening Post for April 19.

The same magazine announces for early publication one of the chief literary prizes of the year—a short serial by Gilbert Parker, author of The Right of Way.

Stephen Allen, once mayor of New York City, carried these maxims in his pocketbook:

1. Keep good company or none.
2. Never be idle.
3. If your hands cannot be usefully employed, attend to the cultivation of your mind.
4. Always speak the truth.
5. Make few promises.
6. Live up to your engagements.
7. Keep your own secrets if you have any.
8. When you speak to a person look him in the face.
9. Good company and good conversation are the sinews of virtue.
10. Good character is above all else.
11. Your character cannot be essentially injured except by your own acts.
12. If any man speaks ill of you, let your life be so that none will believe him.
13. Drink no kind of intoxicating liquors.
14. Ever live (misfortunes except) within your income.
15. When you retire to bed, think over what you have done during the day.
16. Make no haste to be rich if you would prosper.
17. Small and steady gains give competency with tranquility of mind.
18. Never play at any game of chance.
19. Avoid temptation through fear you may not stand it.
20. Earn money before you spend it.
21. Never run into debt unless you see a way to get out again.
22. Never borrow if you can possibly avoid it.
23. Never speak evil of any one.
24. Be just before you are generous.
25. Keep yourself innocent if you would be happy.
26. Save when you are young to spend when you are old.
27. Read these rules at least once a week.

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