

Ladies' Home Journal For May 15c

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Citerion of Fashion For May 5c

# AVERILL'S

## DISCUSSES THE CITY ELECTION

J. NIELSON EXPRESSES SOME OPINIONS ON MATTERS COMING BEFORE THE ELECTION IN JUNE.

It behooves the voters and citizens of the city of Bandon at the present time to begin to pay some attention regarding the coming city election. That is, who are going to represent the city at the coming election and what are their policies? I presume very few have given this matter very little consideration, and will put it off until the last minute and then make excuses that they did not have very much time to consider the matter. You now have plenty of time before the election to give this matter thorough consideration, but have you thought anything about it? It is too late to think about it after the city election is over. NOW IS THE TIME TO THINK! Now is the time for all citizens of Bandon to get together and decide upon something definite. Find out what you want to have done what you need and should have, what is necessary for the good and future welfare of the city. Put aside petty jealousies and strife and factionalism. Get together and arrange to do something that will be a benefit to the whole city.

There are many propositions to come before the people of Bandon in the near future and a few of them are as follows, which probably very few of you have thought anything about:

1. The taking over and buying the present water system.
2. The taking over and buying the present electric light system.
3. Ways and means for better fire protection.
4. Taking over and maintaining a library.
5. Sewerage system.
6. Keeping up and properly maintaining our present park.
7. Better system of municipal government.
8. Putting the city on a better financial basis.
9. City dock for the accommodation of the public.
10. City hall.

Regarding the buying and taking over the water and electric light systems, wish to state that a large number of cities are doing this, which in the true sense should belong to and be in the possession of the city. Most cities let this matter drift along until these systems get so expensive that it is almost an impossibility to buy them owing to the high cost of these systems. The time to consider such propositions is the time when the cities are small and the cost of taking over such propositions are easily handled.

There are very few who will deny that we need better fire protection but what are you doing about it? NOTHING! Is it far cheaper to let the town burn up than make any effort to protect it? Or is it better to prepare for such emergencies before they happen and avoid such costly experiences? This should be one of the main issues at the present time. Understand that the city contem-

es buying a fire engine. What are they going to do with it after they get it when there is no water? How are they going to get over some of our streets in the winter time when they are impassable? What good would it be for putting out fires in the residential part of the city? What is it going to cost and what good will it be after it is bought? How many have asked themselves these questions? If a main of cast iron or some other suitable metal pipe were laid along the present First street with hydrants at each street and enough hose so that it will reach to Second street and by putting an electric pump in some suitable place in the river you will then have fire protection that can be used any time instantaneously night or day. In the event that the city takes over the present water system the pipe can be used as a water main and there will be nothing wasted or thrown away. Even if you buy a fire engine and do not get a proper person to handle it, how long will it be before it will be out of commission? These are not toys and it will take a man to look after it continuously who understands how to handle one and how much is this going to cost for the good (?) you might get by having it?

The library is getting to be largely patronized and it is worthy of some consideration. Many large cities are maintaining their libraries for the benefit of the public. It is far better to have children and young people patronize a library than to roam the streets. The school children use the library for reference work which in itself is a great thing. It is growing and being used and patronized more all the time and being a public institution, why shouldn't the city take it over and maintain it?

Sewerage in this city at the present time is worthy of serious consideration but what has been done about it? It is getting to a point where the public has to be looked after and not selfish interests. We hear that everybody is kicking and fighting about anything of this nature being done? WHY? Have you ever asked yourself this question? Haven't the property owners a right to know what such propositions are going to cost and what are the benefits going to be? It is queer if a person is not entitled to this information. Property owners are not opposing improvements but it is the cost. If a thing can be gotten for one dollar, that is far better and more serviceable why should they pay two dollars, and it will not answer the purpose after being done? Do you blame property owners being opposed to such propositions? The same matter applies to street work and other improvements.

We have paid for a city park but what has been done about it? If we own ground for such a purpose why don't we use it for such purpose? It is the public property, or, at least, it is supposed to be.

It is up to this city to make improvements in the way of municipal government. At the present time we can't groan or kick unless we look up and see what the city charter has to say about it so as to be sure it is legal or illegal. If such is the case, it looks like we need something that will fill the requirements and wishes of the people. Other cities are beginning to make changes, and why shouldn't we? A number of cities are adopting what is called "City Managers" plan of Commission form of government which is something on the order of a board of directors of a corporation which, in substance is

about as follows: The people first elect a council consisting of three, five or seven or more persons who are called councilmen or directors who have the supervision of the city business in the same manner as the directors of a private corporation. The directors or councilmen so elected appoint what is known as the City Manager who is the same as a manager of a private corporation whom they can hire or pay off any time with or without cause. The city manager has the power to hire or pay off all the other city officials. Of course the city has a charter by which it is governed. By this system the city has a head at all times and it is held responsible for his actions and if he is not capable, can be paid off at any time and the same applies to the other city officials. They can be paid off at any time providing they do not attend to the business for which they are hired or are not capable to fill the positions. Under this method all the routine and cumbersome systems and methods can be avoided. Results at the least possible cost is what we want. Financial conditions in the city need attention at the present time, which is the most essential part of any business and it applies equally as well to the city's business and standing. Without credit and financial standing we cannot expect to do very much in the way of improvements and extension work without being hampered. No business can nor can a city.

There is nothing in lawsuits excepting to fight for a principle as the taxpayers have to foot the bill whether the city wins or loses. They have to dig down in their pockets and pay for the improvements and the law suits. What they win in one way they lose in another. What we need in this city is good substantial improvements wherever necessary but the cost not to be more than what they should be. It is not the improvements that we are fighting; it is the cost and the methods of improving.

The city hall is something that has been needed for some time and as all towns and cities are having good town or city halls, why can't we have one here? It is certainly needed.

In order for the majority of the citizens and voters of Bandon to get the best results it is up to them to get together and arrange for something definite. Select men who are not afraid to state their policies and what they will work for if elected. Get men that have made a success of their own business and it is evident that they can at least try to make a "howling success" when elected at the coming election as there are many things they will have to contend with and overcome. But help them along and work with them. Show them that you are interested in the city's welfare and by doing this you can expect to get desired results.

JOHN NIELSON.

### For Joint Representative.

I am a candidate for Joint Representative from Coos and Curry counties before the Republican primaries May 15th.  
 E. J. LONEY,  
 Port Orford, Ore.

### Announcement

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the nomination of sheriff by the democratic party at the primary election May 15, 1914. If nominated and elected I will conduct the office along the most economical lines possible, consistent with efficiency, and do my best to enforce all criminal laws.

W. W. Gage

## SEN. SMITH HAS A PLAN

COOS COUNTY SOLON SUGGESTS FOUR YEAR TERM FOR REPRESENTATIVES AND MORE PUBLICITY.

Marshfield, April 14, 1914

To the Editor:

The plan of Portland in urging 12 of her leading citizens to stand for the nomination for state representative, on a platform of economy and efficiency should be adopted by every county in Oregon.

That too many laws are enacted and too much money appropriated by the legislature all must admit. But the important question is: what are we going to do about it? First in importance I suggest publicity. Since many of the members of the last legislature are candidates either for reelection or some higher office, a complete record of each member giving the amount of appropriations voted for; the number of votes cast to raise the salary of some public official; creating new official positions, etc, would make interesting reading for the electors and serve as a warning to future legislatures against extravagance and reckless legislation.

Many unnecessary laws as well as excessive appropriations are the result of inefficiency and inexperience on the large part of legislators. A careful business man would not employ a bank cashier, a manager for a store, factory or farm, who had no knowledge of that particular line of work; but the people frequently send men to the legislature who have but slight conception of needed legislation or the requirements of state institutions, apparently overlooking the fact that they have the power to spend millions of dollars of the peoples' money.

I expect to introduce a resolution at the next session of the legislature submitting a constitutional amendment to a vote of the people providing a four year term for Representatives.

If this resolution passes and is approved by the people, the legislature would always have at least forty-five experienced members. Another abuse is the perfunctory manner in which joint committees from the House and Senate investigate and report on the needs of the various state institutions. In place of appointing members with a view of their fitness for the position, the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate usually pay a political debt by appointing members who desire to be placed on a certain committee. Provision should be made for one or more committees composed of members of well known business judgement and honesty, to make a thorough investigation of all state institutions during vacation, and submit a detailed report to the next legislature of the needs of the various institutions, and the amount of money necessary for their proper maintenance. Such committees should, of course, be paid a reasonable compensation for their services. From half a million to a million dollars can be saved by every legislature by the exercise of business methods and honest effort on the part of its members.

The future growth and development of Oregon depends in a large measure, on the reclamation of its arid lands. But the 1913 legislature, in my opinion, established a dangerous precedent by appropriating nearly half a million dollars to take over a bankrupt irrigation project in Eastern Oregon.

A few years ago, the reclamation service made a thorough investigation of what is called the "Malheur Project" and reported that 100,000 acres could be reclaimed at an expense of \$42.00 an acre. Suppose the business interests of Malheur county should ask that the next session of the legislature for an appropriation of \$4,000,000 for this project. I wonder if the members who voted to establish this precedent would vote consistently in order that all sections of the state might be treated with equal fairness.

All of these projects are of vast importance to the future greatness of the state of Oregon. But in justice to the taxpayers of all sections of the state, should be left to the general government. In any event the state should not go farther than to co-operate with the government and appropriate dollar for dollar.

A forty day session as provided by the law which was adopted more than a half a century ago is entirely inadequate for the careful consideration of the vast amount of business that comes before the legislature of the present day. The last session considered nearly 1000

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bills besides many memorial and resolutions. It is to be hoped that the Constitutional amendment providing for a longer session will be adopted at the next election. The writer joined with President Malherky in a resolution, at the last session, proposing to submit to the people a constitutional amendment limiting the members to five bills each, but the resolution was defeated in the Senate.

I now suggest a commission consisting of the Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer and Commission of Labor to examine all bills and report to the legislature their opinion of same which would have the effect of weeding out many unnecessary and unconstitutional measures.

In conclusion I wish to indorse with emphasis the many suggestions that have been made to allow the Governor power to veto single items of a general appropriation bill. Strict economy will never be obtained until this is done.

I. S. SMITH.

## City Transfer

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