

COAST MAIL.

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STATE AND COUNTY REPUBLICAN TICKET.

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- STATE TREASURER,
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AN ABLE MAN FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

A. M. Crawford, of Roseburg, is an able man for the office of Attorney-general. He stands well in the legal profession, and has, beside the reputation of being an honest man.

The Journal does not believe the office of attorney-general is necessary in our state government. It should be abolished as a measure of economy, and in the interest of the state.

But the election of a man like Mr. Crawford would put character and stability into the office, and perhaps make it worth what it costs to the people.

Mr. Crawford is the Republican nominee, but is the kind of lawyer who would know nothing about politics after he is elected, and entered upon the discharge of his duties.—Capital Journal.

MUSTWORK

It is already seen that there are rocks ahead for the Republican party of Oregon as a result of the turning down of Governor Geer.

There is not the slightest doubt that, had Geer been renominated, he would have been triumphantly and easily reelected.

To elect W. J. Furnish is a different proposition. While it undoubtedly can and will be accomplished, yet it will involve a great deal more work than would be necessary with Geer at the head of the ticket.

The strength of the Republican will lie in the weakness of its opponents. The Democratic party in Oregon has no little to recommend it that there may be some excuse for over-confidence on the part of Republican leaders. At the same time over-confidence is a dangerous thing in politics, and considering the widespread dissatisfaction which is bound to exist in the ranks of Republican voters, it will not do to feel too sure of the result.

A CASE OF INGRATITUDE

Has it occurred to the Prohibitionists and Socialists that they are displaying rank ingratitude in putting up tickets in Oregon this year? Instead of doing that, they all ought to vote the Republican ticket.

The Republican party has offered them a method by which their pet measures can be placed before the people for enactment into law, solely on their merits and not complicated with partisan politics or party prejudices.

The Prohibitionists themselves understand that many people who believe in prohibition vote the old party tickets for various reasons, and that it is impossible to line up the prohibition strength in the prohibition party.

The Socialists also understand that many reforms which are undoubtedly socialistic in nature are favored by very many voters in the old parties, who would support the measures if they could do so without going back on their parties and supporting a lot of other measures which they do not believe in.

The constitutional amendment for direct legislation, which has twice passed a Republican legislature, and is to be submitted to the voters in June solely by grace of the Republican party, offers a practical method of bringing any proposed reform directly before the people, to be adopted or rejected on its merits.

With this measure in force, if the Prohibitionists can once convince the majority of the voters that prohibition is the proper caper they will have no

trouble in obtaining the enactment of a prohibitory law, without first expending their energy in over-coming the solid structure of partisan prejudice and the conviction that there are other things of importance besides prohibition. The same is true of the reforms on which the hearts of the Socialists are set.

Then does it not seem like ingratitude for those people to show so little appreciation of what the Republican party is doing for them?

CHICAGO FOR MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

One of the most significant elections that has taken place in the United States for a number of years was held in Chicago on the first day of April. The ballots held these propositions:

"For ownership by Chicago of all streets railroads within the corporate limits.

"For ownership by Chicago of gas and electric lighting plants, to furnish light, heat, and power for public and private use.

"For the nomination of all candidates for city offices by direct vote of the voters at the primary elections."

All these propositions were carried by a heavy vote. It is now some years since the American people showed plainly their determination to investigate thoroughly the question of municipal ownership of public utilities. Some smaller cities have already acted as pioneers. Now the larger ones are falling in. The experiment is an interesting one. It remains to be proved whether it will be a successful one. The most important part of the foregoing ballot was the proposition of nominating candidates for municipal offices by direct vote of the citizens at the primary elections. If municipal officers are elected by the old, bad methods, one need not be a prophet to predict that municipal ownership will fail. It may fail in any event, but under those circumstances it inevitably will fail. The nominees of the ordinary municipal convention, made up of delegates elected by the stuffed votes of corrupt primary elections, do not represent the honest citizens. Even when there are honest men among the delegates, as there often are, they are ruled by the iron-clad programme of the political bosses. Therefore, if it be possible for the citizens of a municipality to nominate candidates by direct vote, without the intervention of the corrupt machinery of primary election manipulators municipal government in American will become a really representative government.

The workings of the proposition thus carried by the voters of Chicago will be watched with keen interest by good citizens all over the United States.—Argonaut.

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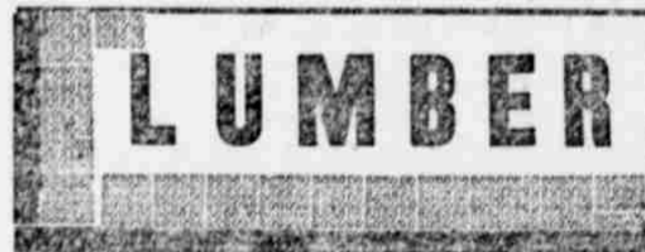
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