

The Santiam News.

Politically Independent

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PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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TOO SOON TO CONDEMN, YET.

The NEWS editor lately heard a high judicial officer condemning our Direct Primary law and the Initiative method of making law. He cited our late legislature as a fair product of the Direct Primary and the Local Option law as a specimen of the initiative method of law making. The aforesaid h. j. o., however, did admit that the Referendum, properly used, was a very good thing.

As a matter of fact Judge no one is very proud of the legislative product of the first election under the Direct Primary. While it did very many things that are bad and cannot be defended even by the legislators themselves, and neglected many things that it ought to have done, it did do a few things that did and does redound to its credit. It did ratify the action of the people in the election of U. S. Senator, on the first ballot. It did send to Washington the first U. S. Senator ever sent there by a direct vote of the people. By this action, the legislature has made this feature of the Direct Primary permanent and assures the people that whomever they elect U. S. senator in the future, no matter what his politics may be, his election will be promptly ratified by the legislature. Another law enacted by this first people's legislature that we hope may result in good, is the Chapin Railway Commission law. How useful or good this law may be, is yet to be demonstrated. Another law enacted that the NEWS thinks will become meritorious, providing the Federal government takes hold of the matter, is the law looking to the purchase of the Oregon City locks, or the construction of locks on the East side of the river. But, Judge, if this legislature did anything else that was meritorious, we have forgotten it. We heartily agree with you Judge, that in point of appropriations and failure to provide new sources of revenue, this people's legislature was the worst ever.

In Initiative made law, Judge, the NEWS will not attempt to say that all laws thus made will be good laws. Neither are all laws made by the legislature good ones. Some legislature made laws are very bad ones and are very expensive to the people. The record of the past three or more legislative bodies will furnish plenty of evidence of this fact. Yet if a legislature utterly fails to give the people legislation largely demanded, is it not just a little consoling to know that the people can enact the law themselves? The Normal school question is one of the laws the people will have to settle and you may depend, Judge, that the people, when they get the chance, will settle the matter rightly.

It was not intended, Judge, by the adoption of the Initiative, that a general resort to law making by the people would result; but to supply a method by which the people could overcome a willful or gross neglect of the legislature to enact law generally demanded by the people, as in the case above cited. Last June, Judge, there were several Initiative laws enacted by the people. Some of them providing new methods of raising revenue, the NEWS thinks, are very good ones. Possibly, the ease by which fundamental law can now be amended, is unwise. But as no serious consequence has yet arisen from that source, we, probably, may not be needlessly alarmed. One thing is sure. The people will never treat the state constitution with greater contempt than has the legislatures of the past. But, Judge, let us give the Direct Primary and the Initiative further trial. Possibly we may do better in the future. Any way it is the voice of the people and in the end, Judge, the people are apt to be about right.

The railroads are endeavoring to get up a first-class scare for the people, in order to prevent any further adverse legislation by the various states. The railroads say they are willing to conform to the law, and any rules and regulations emanating from the Interstate Commerce commission. But the two-cent fare laws enacted by the legislatures of three or four states, has paralyzed railroad stock values and has created a panic in Wall street, New York. Such balderdash as this is too nonsensical for consideration. The people are not going to bankrupt the railroads, by any means. They simply want the railroads to do business upon a reasonable and honest basis. The people

are willing that the railroads should earn a good fair profit upon the actual money invested as a legitimate business enterprise. But they are getting very tired of paying dividends upon the water that has been injected into railway properties, and for expensive lobbies at the national and state capitols which are maintained for the purpose of influencing legislation. The people are willing that the railroads, as legitimate business enterprises, shall do well. They want them to do well and to build more roads. But the time has arrived when the people will no longer allow themselves to be buncoed by the railroads.

LOCAL OPTION.

People generally think when the words "Local option" are used, that reference to some phase of the liquor question is contemplated. This places a limited meaning to the words. It is in the broader and truer meaning that this article uses the words.

Local option, in its literal sense, simply implies the rule of the majority. Any locality where it exercises its political option for or against any public question, exercises the privilege of local option. For many years every Oregon community, outside of incorporated cities and towns, has possessed the privilege of local option on the liquor question. Every community now possesses the local option power on questions relative to our public schools. The NEWS thinks that every locality should possess a like power upon all questions pertaining to all public matters limited to its particular locality. Particularly should this apply in matters relative to the improvement of our public roads.

In every community or road district, there are public spirited citizens who are ever ready to volunteer work on the public highway. There are others, who are just as much interested—who would receive just as much benefit in having good roads, who fail to donate a day's work for this purpose. Now there ought to be a law by which a majority of the voters in a precinct could raise a special tax to be levied for road purposes. They should possess a local option on this subject. A majority should be empowered to institute a good roads movement, if they desired to do so. They should not be held or hampered by a nonprogressive minority.

If local option is desirable upon the liquor question, or upon our public schools, it certainly should exist for the public highway as well. If a community is noted for its sobriety, or for its excellent public school facilities it certainly would be and is lacking in public spirit, if it is not equally famous for its excellent public roads.

The principle of local option should be exercised by every community on questions of public import that effects its own immediate public. It should possess an option, free from fault or blemish that is fair and just to all and without the least semblance of a joker contained in the law.

A law should be enacted either through the initiative or by the legislature, that would grant precinct option on all public questions of a local nature. If the majority of the people of a precinct are progressive and want good public improvements in all lines, it certainly should not be held back for want of legal authority.

What is our country coming, to any way? In San Francisco we see grafters and boodlers being prosecuted with fair prospect of their being landed in the penitentiary. In Oregon, convicted land swindlers who have held high offices of trust and honor are about to commence doing time for their misdeeds. At the national capital an ex-congressman is being tried for malfeasance and dishonesty in public office. The heads of great railroads are importuning the president to use his influence with the various states, to forego any further adverse legislation to the railroads and in the people's interests. Something has surely awakened the long suffering public, that high official wrong doers should be brought to book and the arrogant railroad magnate forced to plead for mercy from the public it has plundered so long.

Now that our Fair has taken definite shape, grounds selected, etc., the details only remain to be carried out. Of course our first Fair will not be any where as nearly complete as will be the case in following years. The amount of money that will be at the disposal of the Board of Directors, something less than \$900 will not pay for the construction of very extensive cattle sheds and buildings, required for a successful exhibition. In addition to the above something near \$300 in lumber and labor has been contributed. Yet everything planned and to be done this year will be of such character that it will not be required to be done over next year. If the friends of the enterprise will come forward and give the Association 50 more memberships, much of the difficulty of this our first Fair will be overcome. The grounds just East of town, with an excellent camp ground adjoining, are ideal. If the management can have the assistance of the people generally, our first annual Fair is bound to be a splendid success.

The man or woman who lives for self alone, whose every object and aim in life is to further his or her own interests, regardless as to how the interests of others may be effected, can write truthfully; the word FAILURE, at the end of life, and no one will dispute his or her right to do so. There is more in this life and let us hope in the life to come, than pure, unadulterated selfishness. What advantage is it to amass a fortune of millions of dollars if, in order to do so, you have reduced to penury and want, hundreds of your fellow beings? "What profiteth a man if he gain the whole world yet loseth his own soul.

COMMON SENSE

Lead most intelligent people to use only medicines of known composition. Therefore it is that Dr. Pierce's medicines, the makers of which print every ingredient entering into them upon the bottle wrappers and attach its correctness under oath, are daily giving in favor. The composition of Dr. Pierce's medicines is open to everybody. Dr. Pierce being desirous of having the scientific method of investigation turned fully upon his formula, being confident that the scientific composition of these medicines is known to everybody. Being wholly made of the active medicinal principles extracted from native forest roots, by exact processes original with Dr. Pierce, and without the use of a drop of alcohol, triple-refined and chemically pure glycerine being used instead in extracting and preserving the curative virtues residing in the roots employed, these medicines are entirely free from the objection of doing harm by creating an appetite for either alcoholic beverages or habit-forming drugs. Examine the formula on their bottle wrappers—the same as sworn to by Dr. Pierce and you will find that his "Golden Medical Discovery," the great blood-purifier, stomach tonic and bowel regulator—the medicine which, while not recommended to cure consumption in its advanced stages, it will do that you do cure all those catarrhal conditions of head and throat, weak stomach, torpid liver and bronchial troubles, weak lungs and hang-coughs, which, if neglected or badly treated lead up to and finally terminate in consumption. Take the "Golden Medical Discovery" in time and it is not likely to disappoint you if only you give it a thorough and fair trial. Don't expect miracles. It won't do supernatural things. You must exercise your patience and give it time for a reasonable length of time to get its full benefits. The ingredients of which Dr. Pierce's medicines are composed have the unqualified endorsement of scores of medical leaders—better than any amount of lay, or non-professional testimonials. They are not given away to be experimented with but are sold by all druggists in quantities at reasonable prices.

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Notice For Publication
UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE
PORTLAND, OREGON
NOTICE is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 2, 1908, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the states of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory, as extended to all the Public Lands States by act of August 14, 1907, and E. Rossell of Oregon, county of Linn State or Territory of Oregon, has this day filed in this office her sworn statement No. 726, for the purchase of the S. E. 1/4 of Section No. 26 in Township No. 16, S. 41, Range No. 1 East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes and to establish her claim to said land before Register of U. S. Land Office at Portland Oregon on Friday, the 21st day of May, 1907.
she names as witnesses: James King of Scio, Oregon; James L. S. Rossell of Scio, Oregon; Edna E. King of Scio, Oregon; Noah A. King of Scio, Oregon.
Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 21st day of May, 1907.
ALGERNON S. DRESSER
Register

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The Local Markets.
The following are prices quoted on Thursday of each week by our dealers:

Wheat, per bushel	84
oats, per bushel	24
corn, per bushel	100
barley, per bushel	20 00
clover, per ton	40 00
hay, per ton	34 00
alfalfa, (country) per roll	40
eggs, per dozen	12
chickens, per pound	12
hens, per pound	12
ducks, per pound	12
geese, per pound	12
turkeys, per pound	12
veal, per pound, live weight	08 1/2
lamb, per pound, live weight	08 1/2
steak, per pound, etc., etc.	08 1/2
Mutton, per pound	08