

The Santiam News

Politically Independent

Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY

T. L. DUGGER
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year in advance	\$1 25
One year, at end of year	1 50
One year, at end of 2 years	1 75
One year, at end of 3 years	2 00
Six months in advance	75
Three months in advance	50
Single copy in wrapper	05

ADVERTISING RATES:

Car of thanks	50
Special obituary notices, per line	05
Extended wedding comments, per line	03
Display ads, to be changed weekly if desired, one column wide each insertion, per inch	15
Business locals per line first insertion	10
Each subsequent insertion per line	05
Long time standing ads, contracts made on application.	

YES, WE KNEW

IN A RECENT ISSUE of the Morning Oregonian, that paper asks if the NEWS editor did not know that the legislature could not repeal the initiative and referendum and other reform laws. Yes, we knew that fact and we, also, know that the legislature can so hamper these laws with requirements and limitations, that the purpose for which they were enacted can be defeated. At least, it is morally certain that Statement No. 1 will be counteracted in some way.

But will the Oregonian tell when the Oregon legislature has not violated the state constitution, if we except the session of two years ago? Section 3, of article 14, of our state constitution provides "That all the public institutions of the state, hereafter provided for by the legislative assembly, shall be located at the seat of government." Several years ago, when the legislature undertook to provide for the building and maintenance of a branch insane asylum in Eastern Oregon, the courts decided that such would be a public institution and the construction thereof was inhibited by the section and article above recited. This being true, the state colleges at Eugene, Corvallis, Monmouth, Weston, Drain and Ashland and the Soldiers home at Roseburg, were all constructed in violation of the constitution. As public money has been appropriated for the maintenance of these public institutions by every legislature since their construction, the constitution was violated in each instance. It makes no difference if the public money was appropriated for a worthy purpose, fundamental law was violated, just the same.

If the republican legislatures consider the constitution so insignificant that they could and did violate its provisions whenever it suited their purpose to do so, may not such legislatures be regarded as unsafe custodians of a principle or law which they despise and ridicule at all times? For this reason the NEWS in common with other friends of our reform laws, believe a legislature composed of boosters of the assembly, would be most unfriendly to all laws emanating directly from the people.

But there is still another way, by which these obnoxious (to assemblyites) laws can be stricken from our statute books. Every assemblyite with whom we have talked about the subject, favors the calling of a constitutional convention, for the purpose of revising and drafting a new constitution. If such convention should be composed of men, a majority of whom oppose our reform laws, (assemblyites,) it is safe to say that none of these laws would be reported in the new instrument. The people would then be required to defeat the said proposed new constitution, else lose the reform laws we now have and with the loss of the initiative, it would require years to return to the advanced ground in government which Oregon now occupies.

Possibly the people have adopted reform laws somewhat rapidly. If so, the Morning Oregonian is largely to blame. Occupying as it has and does, such commanding influence in the politics of the state and favoring, as it has almost invariably, the ring methods of manipulating the same, together with its general standing with corporations and corporate interests, that paper had much to do in creating the conditions which made these same reform laws necessary. If some of these laws are too drastic and bear too heavily upon those people who are responsible for the assembly, the Oregonian and its fellow assemblyites should not feel chagrined; for, remember, the assembly, practically says to the people, "You may have sense to vote, but not enough to select the candidates for whom you vote." Possibly the enacting of laws requires quite as much thought as does the selection of candidates. If so, the Oregonian should extend a charitable feeling toward the people for their ignorance and lack of experience in legislation. We apprehend, however, that the ignorance of the people is not the main instigation or cause of the assembly. There is more behind the movement than the selection of suitable official timber. A legislature can be manipulated and controlled (sometimes). Ninety legislators are much more easily reached and influenced (?) than are over 100,000 voters. And, too, it is less expensive. This is the reason why they are so bitterly opposed to Statement No. 1. They say it makes possible the election of a democratic senator in a republican state, as in the case of Senator Chamberlain. Now, if there is a just reason why a republican state should not elect a democratic senator, if he is the better man, we would like to hear it. If

Statement One increases the opportunity to use the political knife, the Oregonian ought not to object as it threatens the knife, openly, for all Statement One republicans.

The fact of the business is, Editor Scott, while being one of the very ablest editorial writers of the nation, is a disappointed man. He had political aspirations and may have them yet, for the U. S. Senatorship. From all accounts, he nearly effected combinations, at one time, by which his ambition would be gratified. He came near being the legislative choice for that office, but failed. Some bold bad man without the fear of God in his heart, used the knife with telling effect. Mr. Scott well knows that he could not be elected to any responsible office, by the people direct. With the "holy statement" out of the way, there is a possibility, though not a probability, that he yet might reach the goal of his ambition; either in his own selection or someone whom he might dictate.

The Oregonian is an advocate and an exponent of the delegate system of government. Oregon has progressed beyond that system. She is the pioneer among the states in the direct system of government. Because she is the pioneer and must carve her own model, it would be a wonderful achievement if she did not make an occasional mistake. But, granting that the system of direct election of all officers by the state and of direct legislation is imperfect and may be made better, there does not seem to be a very extensive disposition on the part of the people to return to the old order of things.

Since the people of Oregon have taken over the government into their own hands, the state has made more financial and industrial progress than in all the years of her previous history. We do not say that our reform laws are responsible for this progress; but we do say, and without fears of successful contradiction, that these laws have not been a bar or clog to progress.

The NEWS believes that the people can be trusted to do what is about right in most things. They may, because of lack of sense, make occasional mistakes. If so, if the Oregonian will kindly point out wherein they are mistaken and the people believe that that paper is honest in its criticism, the mistake can and will be corrected. The Oregonian thinks a mistake was made in the election of Senator Chamberlain. The people do not think the criticism is honest and impersonal. Hence, there is not now and probably will not be, a disposition to correct the so-called mistake. The NEWS in common with a vast majority of the people, thinks the assembly was a grave tactical political blunder. The Oregonian thinks otherwise. The people, next November, will save the republican party and the state from entering a political condition which means corruption, graft and untold evils.

So the NEWS, in its small way, will continue to advocate the march of political progress. Not unwise and spasmodic leaps, but in a steady, sensible march which, all the time, will bring the people in closer touch with the government.

WHO WANTS OFFICE?

THE TIME WHEN candidates for county offices should file their petitions is now near at hand; yet we have heard of but few people who have been spoken of in connection with any particular office and of but two or three who have signified their willingness to become candidates. There seems to be a lethargy in the ranks of both parties in bringing out candidates, which is most unusual.

For the legislature, we have heard of but two or three possible candidates mentioned. Hon. M. A. Miller, of Lebanon, will be a candidate to succeed himself in the state senate. As his record, during several terms in that body stands clear and consistent, he is sure to secure the nomination and, later on, the election unless a very strong man contests against him. Lane county will probably, furnish the candidate for joint senator, as it is her turn.

For the lower house, we have heard the names of F. J. Denny, A. R. McCall, ex-Representative Philpott and Atty. Tussing mentioned. But whether either of them will accept the nomination if tendered upon a silver platter, we know not. We have not heard who the republicans have in contemplation.

For county clerk, Deputy Clerk Marks, we understand, is an active candidate for the nomination. Democratic clerk timber, so far as we have heard, is not yet in evidence.

For sheriff, the republicans have two candidates for the nomination and who will file petitions. For the democrats, Sheriff Smith is the only possibility we hear mentioned. He will not file a petition; but if his friends want him, they must write his name on the ballot at the primary election, providing no one else wants the place and files a petition therefor, he will accept. For a fact, there is not another man in Linn county, who can fill the office more acceptably to the people, than he and no one is as competent at the present time.

Grant Froman, we are told, will file a petition for the republican nomination for recorder. No democrat, so far as we have heard, is asking for the place.


W. W. Francis, the present county treasurer, will ask the people to reelect him to succeed himself. No democrat has yet signified his willingness to handle the county's money bags.

One commissioner to succeed Commissioner Russell is to be selected. In justice, the candidate should be selected from the forks of the Santiam. One-half of the area and pays one-half of the taxes and has one-third of the population. The western portion of the county has the judge and one commissioner. The NEWS believes the fair thinking men of the county will concede the justice of giving this section of the county, the commissioner elect. Mr. T. M. Holt, a republican, would make an excellent commissioner. He has no peer as a road builder in the county, hence would be valuable to the people to look after this portion of the county business. The NEWS prizes him in nomination and will work for him should our republican friends look with favor upon his candidacy. Mr. Holt is a modest man and the office will have to hunt him and not he the office. He is sure of election if nominated.

Undoubtedly, candidates should have their names before the people at this time. The people want to know for whom they may vote in time to bring out other candidates, in case those offering themselves should be objectionable. The county is entitled to good officers and the people will select them if given an opportunity.

OFFICIAL

Base Regulation Ball



SUPPLIES

Received direct from A. J. Reach & Co., makers of the best goods on the market.

COOL DRINKS, ICE CREAM, CIGARS, TOBACCO, STATIONERY, POST CARDS AND GROCERIES

C. G. GOUGH

SCIO OREGON

Standard Liquor Co.

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Telephone Main 175 148-156 Commercial St.

A. G. MAGERS, Prop. Salem, Oregon

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE

Carefully prepared by competent and experienced employes thoroughly familiar with the records of Linn County. Accuracy, neatness and dispatch is our motto. We are now abstracting the instruments filed daily and can serve the public most efficiently. We use the most modern and up to date system of abstracting. An unlimited amount of money to loan on 6 per cent. per annum on approved farm security BOTH PHONES IN THE OFFICE TELEPHONE OR WRITE

Albany Abstract Co., L. M. CURL, Manager

THE IMPROVED

Nonpareil



COPPER RIVETED

OVERALLS

A Splendid Overall for every use. Cut generously full. Two hip pockets. Felled seams. Continuous fly.

For Sale at all Dealers. **MURPHY, GRANT & CO.** Manufacturers San Francisco California

THE ESMOND HOTEL

Centrally located, good rooms, prices moderate, courteous treatment

Corner Morrison and Front Streets

PORTLAND OREGON

The Scio Livery and Feed Stable

J. R. POUND, Prop.

SUCCESSOR TO J. L. CALAVAN

WEATHERFORD & WYATT

Attorneys-at-Law

Office in Blumberg Block

ALBANY : : : OREGON

Hacks connect with all trains both at West Scio and Munkers. Our rigs are first-class and our horses good drivers. Prices reasonable.

A. G. PRILL, M. D.

Physician & Surgeon

Telephone, Exchange No. 11

SCIO : : : OREGON

The Best Place in Portland to Eat is at

Pap's Coffee House

at West end of the Morrison Street bridge.

CHARLES J. MAHER
(Successor to Riner Bros.) PROPRIETOR.

A. SHANKS

—Manufacturer and Dealer in—

Harness and Saddles

Carriage Trimming Repair Work Sulkitted
All Work Strictly Guaranteed
SHELBURN, OREGON

SUBSCRIBE FOR

THE SANTIAM NEWS

\$1.50 PER YEAR