MEDAORD MAIL TRIBUNE/DIRECT LEGISLATION VS. THE LEGISLATURE'DONT WORRY AEOUT YOUR SNE NOSE: DRESS HAIR TO SUIT IT/

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I N a recent apecch President A. L. Mills of the First NaHintative and referendum were dangerous and that capi-
talists generally were afraid of it, and that its adoption had retarded the development of the state. As a matter of fact, the initiative has never injured legisiature. A record of the measures submitted to the
legople and those adopted show that the people vote more people and those adopted show
intelligently than the legislature
The initiative and referendum has now been adopted i nineteen states, the recall in eight states, while over 350
cities have incorporated them in their charters. Ulti mately they will become unirersal, and probably national While there has been a tendency to abuse the new pro
cesses by over-use, there can be no question of their bene cesses by over
ficial effect.
The opposition to these people's laws centers in the
beneficiaries of privilege, who demand special legislation beneficiaries of privilege, who demand special legislation
that will provide them unfair advantages. No one that fears the light of day, who asks only a square deal, fears the judgment of the people and direct legislation hias come
to stay-a recognized necessity resulting from the brealto stay -a recognized necessity resu
down of representative government
The legislature at Salem is passing upon from 800 t 900 measures in the forty days of its session. It is now
the thirty-eighth day of the session and none of the needed appropriation bills have come out of the committees. They apprebing held back,
special legislation

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { specral legisiation. } \\
& \text { While the legisature is making a great hullabaloo } \\
& \text { about economy, it is opening wide the door to the theft }
\end{aligned}
$$ about economy, it is opening wide the door to the theft

of the public domain-granting bim business all the special favors it asks, filehing from the publicic for the benefit of
monopoly. Bills have passed permitting power concervs monopoly Bills have passed permitting power concerrns
to grab ali the available water power, even permitting conto grab all the available water power, even permitting con-
demnation of federal holdings. Other bills turn the streams over to logging concerns, others are in the interests of liability
tended.
Economy is a useful excuse for blocking development projects, such as reclamation work and good roads. It is a
cloak for consolidating nonpartisan commissions whose members draw no pay, and in reorgantzing boards so as to permit the creation of a state political machine by the governor, through the reappointment of the salaried em-
ployes.
As soon as every session opens, "cinch" bills and revision measures are introduced that cause a seurrying to the
capital from all parts of the state of interested citizens whose industries are struck at, and of disinterested citizens who come from public-spirited motives. Every great
corporation and every statewide organization is represented by a permanent lobby and the small ones by ten
porary lobbies for their own protection and to ward of attacks upon investments when not seeking extension of
privileges. Capital is threatened vastly more by every legislative
session of which a certain percentage of crooks are always session of which a certain percentage of crooks are always
to be found, bent on reaping a personal harvest, than by
any initiative measure, which must stand on its merits in the pitiless glare of publicity in a statewide campaign lasting thrice as long as a legislative session.
Direct legislation menaces no legitimate
or the people believe in a square deal, but every session the legislature menaces not only capital, but the rights
then the people. That is why direct legislation is growing popularity while legislatures are becoming more unpopu

## An End to Snivelling

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## THE PAGE

WEDNESDAY Matinee and Evening
THURSDAY Matinee The Master Key

What steps did Wilkerson take to seize the mine when he found the deeds stolen from Ruth Gallon were utterly worthless? What steps did John Dore, Ruth's sweetheart, take to hold the mine for Ruth? Who did the miners themselves line up with? Who brought in Mexicans to fight them? Which side won the terrific battle that followed? What did the sheriff the terrific battle that followed? What did the sheriff do when Dore asked
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