## REFERENDING THE VAWTER BILL

N an article discussing legislative measures upon whi
there is probability of a referendum, the Portland O Ortioc Mrail Tribune Builaing: 26-27-2






 In the direction. The Leestiature ovidently supported thits contention for
there was itte aetive oposition. But since then various other parts of the
state have been utioring nild notes of protest. Here we have the true Oregon spirit. Jackson county has spent more than any other county upon highways. It
is spending half a million tollars on the state highway is spending half a million dollars on the state highway
alone, which provides entrance into Oregon from California, yet because the Vawter bill diverts twenty per cent of the state highway fund, an amount approximating $\$ 45,000$ a year, toward
endum talk is heard.

This highway is the principal trunk line of the state, and traverses its most populous centers. This particular section replaces a tortuous mountain ton has cost $\$ 190,000$. Its construction is of benefit
ing to the entire state and it should have been constructed in
its entirety by the state, as the California connection is its entirety by the state, as the California connection is
being constructed. But to wait until Orogon becomes probeing constructed. But to wait until Orogon becomes pro
gressive enough to build its own highways, put such a road out of reach for the present generation, hence the count
has taken the initiative, spent its money and asked modest co-operation from the state in its completion
The legislative appropriations and the continuing ap propriations total nearly eight billions of dollars for state
expenses the coming biennium. Of this amount, the expenses the coming biennium. bill is all that is spent in
890,000 asked in the Vawter southern Oregon-a little over one per cent, and about a third of what Jackson county contributes annually to support the state. The balance, except a few hundred thousand for eastern Oregon lunatics, is spent in the Willam-
ette valler. Yet because the one per cent goes to another part of the state, in permanent development of the state we hear talk of referendum.
Southern Oregon had a concrete demonstration of vis ionless Oregon when tie Crater lake road appropriation, making accessible its greatest natural wonder, was enjoin-
ed and invalidated by the supreme court, which rules on way for southern Oregon supreme court, for for the rest of the state. To spend $\$ 100,000$ in making accessible a na tional park, where the federal government is spending says the court, but to spend $\$ 450,000$ in building an irrigation system that benefits directly only a few thousand acres is, according to the same court, a statewide affai and perfectly constitutional.

Why," asks the Portland Oregonian, "do the south ern Oregon papers talk of the southern Oregon countie seceding from Oregon to join California? Is it to rob Ore gon or to enrich California?
a state, where they benevidently netves. It is to get out of out a development are evidenty not wanted, a state with deal, a state where co-operation is denied, a state wher ress, into a state that does things, that co-operates, con structs and upbuilds.
It has been frequently said that it would be worth mil lions for southern Oregon to be in California, where it climate places it, to escape the blight of Oregon. This is true, in a measure, for Oregon does little or nothing, and while the California policy is a broad and comprehensiv one. But better than joining California would be the cre ation out of northern California and southern Oregon of new state-the proposed state of Siskiyou.
A referendum on the Vawter highway bill is to be ex-
pected. The only obstacle is the expense entailed pected. The only obstacle is the expense entailed, in taxes. The mere talk of referendum on such a project shows what a progressive community can expect in a vis

When Is Your Soil Ready for Planting?

LAUGHS
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Brown will sing "For

Times Change
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between modern and anclent tmes?".
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the moders earn their living, while

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 ders in one shop.Blink-What were they?
Gink-One was to get ou
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Ponce de Leon Failed; His Prize is Found

STAR Theatre
MONDAY-TUESDAY
Paramount Picture The PatchWork Girl of $\mathbf{O z}$


## THE CHAMPION

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