

What Should Be Done With the State Printing Office?

ACCORDING to figures printed in this paper the total expenditures for state printing and binding for four years ending with 1902 were \$136,465.31, not including deficits that may appear at the end of this period.

Besides this there were other printing bills and estimated expenses for water, fuel, light and contingent expenses amounting to \$16,744.82. This would make an annual expense of \$35,400 for this purpose.

The expense of state printing and binding has constantly increased and the above does not include expenses for printing and blank books done in some of the departments of the state government.

The office of state printer is created by the constitution and the printer is elected at the coming June election for the next four years. His compensation is fixed by the legislature and it is provided that it shall not be raised or lowered during the period for which he is elected.

This clause has always been used to prevent any change in the pay of this officer and the pay is computed under an old law that was passed when hand presses were in use and printing was counted by the token.

It is the most lucrative office in the state. State printers have sublet the state printing for 40 per cent of the proceeds and got rich out of the proceeds.

At present the state printing office is owned by Frank Baker, the ex-state printer. It is kept rent free in the state house. Whoever is elected state printer will have to rent the plant of Mr. Baker and pay him about 25 per cent of the proceeds for the use of the same.

The Secretary of State is custodian of the state house and supervises the printing and binding and buying of paper. The printing office was never located in the state house until Mr. Baker was elected state printer.

Under a business administration of the state printing and binding the work really required by the state could, in the opinion of competent judges, be done for \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year.

Tons of printing are sold for old junk and the office is conducted more from the standpoint of securing the volume of business to the largest possible amount than from the standpoint of printing actually needed.

An active state printer can swell the business ten thousand dollars at each session of the legislature, because the office is one of fixed instead of fixed salary.

The printing office is a menace to the state house in other ways than financially. The presses shake the walls and the large stores of paper and waste saturated with oil and ink are a source of fire danger.

The state printer should be put on a flat salary and the office should be removed from the state house. At \$2500 a year a competent man could be secured by the people—no candidate would refuse the office.

Then there would be several large printing establishments in the city of Salem employing labor and paying rent and taxes. The office would not be used to corrupt state politics and influence the legislature.

At present printers come from all over the state and with a little political pull are employed during the legislature and become part of the lobby that extends its pernicious influence to all departments of state.

The state printer and the ex-state printer and the prospective state printer are always at Salem when the legislature is in session and oppose all efforts to put this office on a salary.

There is not a newspaper in the state will tell the people the truth and the whole truth about this graft in the name of the art preservative.

There has been great progress in the inventions connected with printing, such as fast presses, type-setting machinery, stereotyping processes, but the state has no benefit from these inventions.

There is not a particle of doubt that the state is paying twice as much as should be paid for state printing. Labor is not getting this compensation. It goes to maintain a corrupt and unjust system.

This system should be changed and a more just and business-like plan adopted. The county and state conventions should declare for putting the state printer on a salary and name the amount.

The nominees should accept nomination on a written agreement to take that salary and the legislature should enact the same.

The constitution will be relied upon to prevent this but as the people elect the state printer they have the first right through their representatives to say what he shall receive.

No citizen has a vested right in a condition of things which has grown to be a colossal abuse and which can be corrected in no other way.

An Appeal to the State Grange.

THIS edition of THE JOURNAL goes to all the members of the state grange—about three hundred officials of that oldest farmer's organization—the Patrons of Husbandry.

THE JOURNAL makes an appeal to them to take a still more active part in shaping up a good policy for our state government—a better policy than has prevailed. It is very much needed.

The officers of the state grange, if they will take the facts we publish and digest them, will see the urgent necessity for a great change in the policies of our state government.

The three hundred officers of the state and subordinate granges can take the facts here presented from a non-partisan standpoint and make good use of them, with their patrons and secure a change of policy.

Under the present system the state officials are compelled to stand in with other grafts to hold their own against a legislature that has all sorts of clubs to wield over them.

A flat salary system with all fees and earnings of each office covered into the treasury would relieve our state officials of this pressure and make them free to serve the people better.

The grange should not be deceived by the theory that the initiative and referendum will cure all the abuses. It might be of some use and we are in favor of it as a help to good government. But it is not a cure-all.

The hoodie politicians and grafters who besiege a legislature would find many ways to promote their schemes in spite of it. Direct Legislation will not furnish good administration nor make men honest.

Grangers, do not be deceived by the cry, "Adopt the initiative and referendum and all will be well." Business administration and executive ability must still come from men of character and intelligence.

Sustain direct legislation but keep your powder dry for good business administration. Study what has been done in Marion county, with twice the wealth of Clackamas, and run for \$44,000 as against \$69,000 in Clackamas.

Plans for City Improvement

THE FORMATION of improvement leagues in each ward of the city has been undertaken by the Salem Push Club on the plans advocated by the Springfield, Ohio, Municipal League—a national organization.

The purpose is to have an organization of ladies and gentlemen in each section of the city who come together and confer about beautifying their own property and the public streets and pleasure grounds.

Resolutions were adopted and will come before the council as a basis of action for a thorough cleaning and improvement of the alleys in the business parts of the city.

Private enterprise can do a great deal toward improvement of the Capital of the state. Removal of large and unsightly trees will let in the sunlight. Better lawns and more shrubbery and roses will follow.

The Oregon Wholesale Nursery Co. have generously offered to help this movement. They have beautified the premises about their offices and in this paper present one of their attractions in shrubbery.

Several parts of the city are to be treated to the skill of the landscape gardener and ornamented with drives and granite sand walks. In this manner the elevated residence parts of the city could be made very attractive.

The Salem Woman's club has been honored with the appointment of a member to the installation of clubs in their civic league work—Mrs. Dr. Calbreath having been named.

The beautification of the city is very important in view of the coming Lewis and Clarke Centennial in 1905, when the visitors from the whole world will be drawn to Oregon and will see the Capital of course.

elections on measures referred to the people of the state shall be had at the biennial regular general elections, except when the legislative assembly shall order a special election. Any measure referred to the people shall take effect and become the law when it is approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon, and not otherwise. The style of all bills shall be: "Be it enacted by the people of the State of Oregon." This section shall not be construed to deprive any member of the legislative assembly of the right to introduce any measure. The whole number of votes cast for justice of the supreme court at the regular election last preceding the filing of any petition for the initiative or for the referendum shall be the basis on which the number of legal voters necessary to sign such petition shall be counted. Petitions and orders for the initiative and for the referendum shall be filed with the secretary of state, and in submitting the same to the people he and all other officers shall be guided by the general laws and the act submitting this amendment until legislation at all be especially provided therefor.

An Old Iowa Newspaper.

THE JOURNAL is in receipt of an old Iowa newspaper reproduced in a current number of the Elkader, Iowa, Argus, a paper published at the county seat of one of the oldest and richest counties in that state.

An Appeal to The State Grange

THE JOURNAL has devoted a page a week in its daily and weekly issues and has sent out thousands of sample copies to educate the people of this state to demand a business administration of state affairs. This is not saying that our present state officials have not done the best they could under a bad system and with a reckless legislature debauched by senatorial politics. In spite of careful attention to their duties and close management of the state departments they are compelled to levy and collect state revenue of \$1,110,000 for 1902. While Marion county has shown what can be done by a business program, has wiped out \$109,000 debt, has reduced the county levy, state levies are higher than ever before.

This edition of THE JOURNAL goes to all the officers of the state Grange and to the officers of the fifty odd subordinate granges. Those organizations are asked to take up and discuss the situation.

With its powerful educational organization, the state grange, the pomona granges, and the subordinate granges of this state control thousands of voters.

They should master the facts and insist on a business program in our state affairs and in the legislature. As well try to build a house without a plan and specifications as to run a state without a definite program.

What is the program? It is just such business principles as would be employed in the management of any good factory, bank or corporation in the interest of its stockholders. How can this be done?

By putting all state officials on a salary, and covering all fees and perquisites into the state treasury a saving equal to \$50,000 a year can be effected.

By placing a limit on the total amount that shall be appropriated for educational purposes above the common schools, and limiting the extravagance of the legislature in other ways, \$250,000 can be saved.

By extending the tax on the gross earnings of corporations, that is now collected on insurance corporations alone, an income from indirect taxation can be derived of \$200,000 a year.

Saving \$50,000 a year on state offices, saving \$250,000 on the legislature, adding \$200,000 a year to the revenues, means a total of \$500,000 to the good side of the ledger.

A business program such as the Republican party of Marion county put into operation when it was driven to do so by a vigorous opposition, would reduce the state taxes one-half the very first year.

It would mean in four years a saving to the people who pay taxes of two million dollars. Is not this worth fighting for at the beginning of a four years term of state administration?

Then put this business program into the state and county platforms and make those who seek offices at the hands of the people accept nominations on those terms and enact those terms into law.

BUSINESSLIKE RECORD OF MARION COUNTY.

	1899	1902
Total State and County tax	\$178,384	\$110,000
County expenses for year	80,170	44,682
County debt on April 1st	102,703	00,000
Tax levy in mills for year	22.35	20.00

ANNUAL EXPENSE OF FIVE OFFICES.

Governor	\$ 6,950
State Treasurer	8,213
State Superintendent of Schools	7,827
Secretary of State	22,352
State Printer and Binder	45,989
Total	\$91,331

UNBUSINESSLIKE RECORD LAST LEGISLATURE.

Total State Revenue Required for 1902	\$1,100,718
Increased State Revenue Required for 1902	460,543

All Bills to raise revenue were pigeonholed.

State tax levy higher than for many years.

LEGISLATIVE EXTRAVAGANCE EXPOSED.

	Present Expense	On Fair Allowance	Reduction Possible
Salaries, Fees and Perquisites for two years	\$122,000	\$ 80,000	\$102,660
Clerkship graft by legislature of 1901	22,000	12,000	10,000
Higher Education, Normal Schools, Universities, etc.	351,409	150,000	201,409
Scalp bounty for two years	115,000	000,000	115,000
Total Saving Possible on Four Items	671,069	242,000	429,069

The appropriations made by the legislature of 1901 approximate nearly two millions. The above are only sample items of reckless disbursement.

Initiative and Referendum Amendment

AT THE coming June election the people of the State of Oregon are to decide a very important matter. They will by their votes either adopt or reject a Constitutional Amendment embodying the initiative and referendum, in what may be termed a "mild form."

The two last Legislatures voted to submit the proposed amendment to the suffrages of the people at the polls.

There has been organized the Direct Legislation League of Oregon, whose avowed object is 'the adoption by the people of the initiative and referendum amendment to the Constitution of the state of Oregon at the general election in June, 1902.'

The proposed amendment is short and easily understood. It is printed below, in full:

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon

Section 1 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

Section 1. The legislative authority of the state shall be vested in a legislative assembly, consisting of a senate and house of representatives, but the people reserve to themselves power to propose laws and amendments to the constitution, and to enact or reject the same at the polls, independent of the legislative assembly, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the legislative assembly. The first power reserved by the people is the initiative, and not more than eight per cent of the legal voters shall be required to propose any measure by such petition, and every such petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed. Initiative petitions shall be filed with the secretary of state not less than four months before the election at which they are to be voted upon. The second power is the referendum, and it may be ordered (except as to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety,) either by petition, signed by five per cent of the legal voters, or by the legislative assembly, as other bills are enacted. Referendum petitions shall be filed with the secretary of state not more than ninety days after the final adjournment of the session of the legislative assembly which passed the bill on which the referendum is demanded. The veto power of the Governor shall not extend to measures referred to the people. All

Clayton county, Iowa, is veritably the blue-grass paradise of the finest part of Iowa—the northeastern corner, a land of fine pastures, flowing springs and streams, fine building stone, grand timber, rich soil.

This part of Oregon is full of people from northeastern Iowa and they are all doing well and happy in their new homes in the west. One of the latest arrivals is L. Y. Ehrlich, formerly the Elkader miller, who is investing in a flouring mill in western Oregon.

Mr. Ehrlich is a successful man of some means, and seeks our milder and more equable climate as many others have to get rid of catarrh. He speaks in the highest terms of the Willamette valley.

Mr. Ehrlich is impressed with our cattle industry, wool and a hair products, flax industry, dairy and stock industry, grain and fruit farms, hops and canneries, mining, fisheries, lumbering and other money crops.

The old paper above referred to has a characteristic item—it was printed Jan. 28, 1873—relating to Oregon as follows:

In a letter from Dr. S. Taylor, of Fayette county, in crossing the plains to Portland, Oregon, he tells of the fatigue, trouble and danger, both from the Indians and starvation which he experienced. On reaching destination had all his horses stolen, and set up a boarding house, board \$9.00 per week, labor worth \$2.00 to \$4.00 per day.

Here are some other items that show how we have made history as a people in the past fifty years:

Territory of Washington created by act of Congress.

QUICK TIME OCEAN SERVICE.—The steamer Atlantic made her last trip to and from Liverpool to New York in just 30 days.

ISSUE MARCH 4TH, 1853.—Revolution at Washington. M. Fillmore will become President ex-officio and Franklin Pierce President de-facto.

Going out—Whig office holders. Coming in—Democratic office holders.

There are six public schools in Chicago with an aggregate attendance of 2,951 pupils.

John P. Kriebs & Co., dealers in general merchandise, state no ship-plasters will be received in payment for goods, and in another column of this issue is a list of banks known as issuing "Wild Cat Currency."

Humanity and Christianity triumphed over barbarism in the Virginia Legislature. The house of delegates refused to pass the bill compelling free blacks to remove from the state or be sold into slavery, and adopted as a substitute a bill appropriating \$30,000 annually for colonization of Africans.

Salem As the Center of a Great Shipping Trade

AT THE heart of the Willamette valley, Salem is already the center of a great fruit shipping business. Hundreds of carloads of apples, pines, cherries, and strawberries are sent out from here annually.

There has been organized a fruit growers union that will make a specialty of handling the strawberry crop. Over one hundred acres are held by members of the union and will be handled by the organization.

The business will be done by a board of five directors who will employ an agent during the berry season which lasts about six months. The Union will deal directly with the great distributing factors.

The Salem fruitgrowers' Union has not been heard from much of late. But those who are interested in making it a success have not been idle.

Arrangements have been made so that the growers of the country around Salem can have the privilege of putting 200 crates of strawberries onto refrigerator cars here and shipping them through to Great Falls, St. Paul and other points in that region, at car load rates.

Arrangements have also been made for handling car loads of strawberries at Butte, Montana, for the Union. A deal has been closed with a broker who will handle them there. Willamette valley berries will go on the same terms as those grown at Hood River.

The growing and shipping of small fruits from this point is going to be a big thing for this country and city. The business will grow rapidly, once it is under full headway, and it will be put in fine shape this year, by the work of the Salem Fruit Growers' Union.

Salem strawberries can be grown in unlimited quantity and quality second to none but have never been handled through an organization to secure co-operation in packing and distribution.

The fight of the Salem berry growers union this coming season will be to make a reputation for quality and firmness of product, that will stand shipment and stand up in the retail market alongside the Hood River berries. The Salem Union brand must mean certain things. Our product will be at a premium or a discount in proportion to our success in making that reputation.

Strawberry Industry at Newberg

THE EDITOR of THE JOURNAL and the Industrial Agent of the S. P. Co., are at Newberg today to talk to the fruit growers of that town and vicinity on the possibilities of establishing the strawberry industry there.

Newberg has a favorable location to grow strawberries to perfection for shipping and for the cannery. Fifty to one hundred acres of this most popular of all berries could just as well be grown there as not.

With the Lewis and Clarke exposition coming on in a few years, a number of localities in western Oregon can be profitably employed growing this fruit for the next few years.

Any town located on the river or by rail within a few hours of Portland can do a great big trade in strawberries if the people will only take hold and organize the industry.

Newberg should put in fifty or one hundred acres of strawberries and grow varieties that will stand shipment and be good for canning, then pack a uniform product and can their surplus and refuse stock.

The industry can be established with little or no capital and be a profitable business for the community by the end of the first first year. It will employ all the surplus labor of the town during the berry season.

The strawberry comes before other fruits and when men, women, and children want employment. It is the natural concomitant of a town or city, as the labor employed at making the crop can live at home.

The strawberry helps the dairy business because more cream and butter are used with strawberries than with any other one fruit. Each gallon of berries take at least a pint of cream. Each acre of strawberries uses the cream of five to ten cows.

Strawberries make an increased demand for cream and butter at the time when the meadows are lush, when the flow of milk is largest, and if it were not for the strawberry the butter market would be broken at that season.

This part of western Oregon will yet feed the world on canned strawberries. The fruit can be grown here in the greatest perfection and cheaper than anywhere else in the world. Now only the refuse of the crop is canned.

When properly put up and fine fruit is used the canned strawberry will be the most popular canned fruit sold, as the fresh strawberry is now the most popular fresh fruit.

The location of Newberg is favorable to the strawberry industry. It is naturally as good a place to establish the industry as Hood River. Its proximity to the Nehalem mountains and to the river are natural advantages.

The Roseburg Plaindealer, a Republican paper, hits the nail on the head:

"A hoodler is a brigand and can claim no protection in any honest party. His exposure is a public boon, and his punishment a necessity for the common good."

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The people have lost faith in the promising politicians. They are looking for the man who says little and does something.

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We have to have some rain in Oregon, but thank God we don't have to pray for it.

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There are no more pearl-handled pen-knife administrations needed in Oregon.

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Astorian.—The Salem Journal is trying to bring about the defeat of Congressman Tongue. The Woodburn Independent thinks Claud Gatch of Salem, could wrest the nomination from the Hillsboro men.

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Albany Democrat.—"Progressive Salem will grow faster than any interior town in Oregon this year," optimistically says the Journal in the right kind of spirit. May it and all the towns in Oregon grow to beat the band this year. We must all grow together if Oregon is to have a permanent improvement; but these other towns will have to get up and tighten their belts if they get ahead of Albany. It is going to do some growing itself.

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Another notice should be printed and stuck up in the theaters besides one requesting ladies to remove their hats—one to request people not to get up and go to putting on their wraps until the play is over.

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The flag up over the Ladd & Bush bank was as hard to pull down as the one in the Philippines.

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Once more the lower delegates will organize to get help from this government. How ridiculous! When we have long ceased to assist struggling Republics and have entered upon a career of an Empire.