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PEACEFUL REVOLUTION POSSIBLE

Oregon Needs a New Constitution to Kill the Grafts---Public Sentiment Opposes Appointment of the Delegates---Made a Special Order in the Senate at 10 A. M. Wednesday---The Journal Will Publish the Debate Verbatim

The Journal sent out requests for information on the subject of appointing members of the proposed constitutional convention:

The senate judiciary committee amended the bill for holding a constitutional convention in an important way—to have the supreme court appoint one-third of the members of that—30 of the 90 members.

The bill comes up for consideration at the joint convention of the legislature Wednesday, February 1, at 2 P. M., and we would like to have your opinion of that proposition by return mail.

Professor Hawley Favors Election.

C. Hawley, professor of political science at Willamette university, unambiguously said he favored a constitutional convention. "So far as I remember," he said, "there is no precedent for appointing members of the constitutional convention. There has been more in the direction of democracy, greater control in the hands of the people than otherwise."

By reference to Larned's history, 1835, it appears a bill passed by the legislature of 1892, calling a convention to revise the constitution of the state, provided for the election of delegates, but added nine more to the Governor should appoint, to represent labor interests, three in suffrage claims, and three advocates of prohibition. By the legislature of 1893 this act was set aside by a new enactment adopted, making effective, the total number of delegates to the constitutional convention

elective, 165; three to each senatorial district."

Tendency Is Democratic.

Since there is a proposal before the legislature to call a constitutional convention, the following statements taken from the latest available sources, are of interest as showing to what extent in recent times the people have demanded control of the process of providing for such conventions. Constitutional conventions are to be summoned as follows in the several states. The dates following the name of the states are those of the adoption of the constitution now in force.

First—Conventions called by a majority or more of the legislature. Maine 1875 and Tennessee 1870.

Second—Question of convention to be submitted periodically to voters. New Hampshire 1792, New York 1894, Maryland 1867, Virginia 1869, Ohio (after 1911) 1851, Michigan (after 1914) 1850, Iowa (after 1910) 1857.

Third—States having no provision for calling convention. Vermont 1793, Massachusetts 1780, Rhode Island 1842, Connecticut 1818, New Jersey 1844, Pennsylvania 1873, Louisiana 1898, Texas 1875, Arkansas 1874, Indiana 1851, North Dakota 1889, Oregon 1857.

Fourth—Convention called by a majority or more of the legislature, and a majority of the voters also. Delaware 1897, Illinois 1870, West Virginia 1872, Missouri 1875, North Carolina 1875, South Carolina 1895, Georgia 1877, Florida 1885, Ohio (until 1911) 1851, Alabama 1875, Michigan (until 1914) 1850, Iowa (until 1910) 1857, Mississippi 1890, Kentucky 1891, Wisconsin 1848, Minnesota 1857, Kansas 1859, South Dakota 1889, Montana 1889, Wyoming 1889, Colorado 1876, Utah 1895, Nevada 1864, Idaho 1889, Washington 1889, California 1879, Nebraska 1875.

There are 45 states. Of these 12 have no constitutional provision for calling conventions. Two allow the state legislature to call a convention. Seven provide that the question of a convention shall be submitted to the people at stated intervals. Twenty-seven require, in addition to the consent of the legislature, the consent of a majority of the voters to the calling of a convention. Three of these latter will soon change to the plan of periodic submission. Of those whose constitutions were adopted subsequent to the civil war, and which provide for a convention, 28 out of 30 require the consent of the voters before a convention can be called. This indicates the extent of the democratic movement, providing for the control of constitution-making by the people.

Several Salem Lawyers.

Tilmon Ford: "Elect them all. If we can't get a constitutional convention without having part appointed have it anyhow. If they don't do good work the people can reject it."

W. T. Slater: "It would be highly improper to appoint any of them. The people are capable of sending their best men and they should not be corporation lawyers."

J. A. Jeffrey: "To appoint is not in line with democratic government. It would not secure the right principle of representation. The constitution

must come from the people."

General W. H. Odell: "I am not in favor of a convention to make a new constitution, but if we had to have one, they should be all elected. It is not democratic to appoint any of them."

W. L. Tooze of Woodburn.

"I am naturally opposed to the appointment of one-third of the representatives to the proposed constitutional convention. The people of Oregon are fully capable of selecting competent men and may certainly be trusted to do so. If it is a good thing to appoint one-third of these representatives, why is it not three as important to appoint all? The necessity of a new constitution is a question upon which the common people of Oregon widely differ. Upon the question of the election or appointment of those representative men who are to promulgate the proposed new constitution, the people of this state will stand as a unit for their selection in the good old time-honored way—at the ballot-box. A new constitution formed by representatives elected by the people of Oregon will in my opinion be overwhelmingly indorsed."

District Attorney Brown.

Geo. M. Brown: "I can see no excuse for appointing any of the members of a constitutional convention. What is to be accomplished by taking the election of these men away from the people?"

A Pioneer Talks.

Hon. John Minto: "I don't want any of that appointing business. We are getting too far away from the people and that is a step in the wrong direction."

King of Fishermen.

R. D. Hume: "The power to make constitutions inheres solely in the sovereign power of the people. The legislature has no power to appoint anyone to make a constitution, and hence cannot delegate that power to appoint anyone. All the legislature can rightly do is to call a convention and provide for selecting delegates."

One of the Young Men.

Lydell Baker: "I don't believe in the supreme court appointing members of the constitutional convention any more than I believe in the legislature appointing persons to comprise the legislature. Nothing will stir the people more profoundly than making a new constitution and the people will bring up the most talented men."

In a Vein of Sarcasm.

Dean S. T. Richardson, of the Oregon Law School: "The supreme court would appoint a lot of lawyers. We can't have too many lawyers to make a constitution. It would be a good thing if the law required all the members to be lawyers. I am not in favor of a convention. It is dangerous proposition."

Opposes Centralization.

Frank Davey: "I do not believe in centralizing such a great power in the hands of any set of officers who depend upon political power for their own election. Such a system of naming constitution-makers is un-American and is taking from the people their exclusive prerogative. I believe the people have sufficient judgment and patriotism

to elect good and brainy men for the work if it is at all necessary."

ExJustice of the Supreme Court Bonham.

In answer to your note touching the proposition now pending before the Oregon legislature, to ask the supreme court to appoint 30 of the 90 members of the proposed constitutional convention, I have this to say:

"That I am not favorably impressed with the proposition for the following reasons: It is a maxim with those versed in state craft that each of the three cardinal and co-ordinate departments of our state government shall be and remain as far as possible, independent and free from the others in the discharge of official duties, so that each may be a check on the others in such matters.

"The constitution of Oregon, in defining the jurisdiction of our supreme court declares: 'The supreme court shall have jurisdiction only to revise the final decisions of the circuit courts.' I have a profound regard for the wisdom, integrity and patriotism of that august tribunal, yet I feel very confident that it would not, of its own volition, assume the grave responsibility of inaugurating an innovation of this character.

"The true theory of our system of government, as I understand it, is to keep as near as possible to what used to be called 'the sovereign people,' and to draw from them as directly as possible the power and authority requisite

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JAPANESE STRONGLY FORTIFYING HERKATAI

Trying to Spread Discension Among Russian Troops

Tokio, Jan. 31.—The Japanese are strongly fortifying Herkautai, the capture of which is believed will materially weaken the Russian position, and probably compel a change of the Russian front in that vicinity. The frozen ground prevents the construction of new earth works.

Wounded at Mukden.

Mukden, Jan. 31.—The wounded from the right flank continue to pass to the rear. It is officially reported that the wounded number 3500. General Mitenenkos' injuries are not serious. The Japanese are systematically informing the Russian rank and file of the disturbances in Russia, hoping thereby to create disaffection among the soldiers, who eagerly read such communications.

A Contraband.

Tokio, Jan. 31.—The Japanese have captured the British steamer Wyfield, bound for Vladivostok, as a contraband. The Wyfield sailed from San Francisco on December 13th, for Como, and left that port on January 6th for Moji, and is owned by J. H. Lawrence, of Victoria.

Russian Casualties.

London, Jan. 31.—Oyama reports the number of Russian dead left on the field since January 25th as not less than 1200.

Repulse Japanese Attack.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 31.—A message from Sachstun states that the Japanese attack on Landengou was repulsed, and following up the retiring Japanese made an attack on them, but were driven back by shrapnel and rifle fire.

Russians Hold Position.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 31.—Kuropatkin reports that the Russians still hold all the positions which were captured in the forward movement begun January 25th, and adds that four Japanese attacks on the night have been repulsed.

WOMAN'S TERRIBLE CONFESSION

Butte, Mont., Jan. 31.—Addie Madeline Courtney last night confessed to the authorities that her paramour, Eugene Helbrok, now under arrest, ravished and murdered the 9-year-old Ethel Gill, in this city, eight years ago. The woman says she could keep the secret no longer. She declares that for three weeks after the killing Helbrok kept her bound to her bed, compelling her to cut her arm, and with her own blood sign a statement, giving Helbrok and two unknown friends the right to kill her if she betrayed the secret.

whose propensity for marrying lead to the arrest of Hoch last Saturday night, on a charge of bigamy, was arraigned in the police court today. He was remanded until February 24, to await extradition papers. Hoch says he is willing to go to Chicago and answer the charges. Chicago authorities claim Hoch has married 24 women, the majority of whom died under suspicious circumstances.

Testimony in North Sea Case.

Paris, Jan. 31.—Captain Claude was the chief witness for Russia, who testified before the international commission this morning, confirming the previous statement that he was on watch the night of the tragedy, and distinctly saw two torpedo boats without lights, which were fired upon. Efforts were made to avoid hitting the fishing boats, which were easily distinguished.

Muchly-Married Hoch.

New York, Jan. 31.—Johann Hoch, the alleged Chicago "Bluebeard,"

Paul Stahl and Miss Greta Looney have returned to the reform school, after spending a few days in Salem.

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3000 yds Embroidery
100 doz Handkerchiefs

Bought especially for this great trade event. All new goods. Their first showing.

Embroideries, values to 35c.
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