

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

BY HOFER BROS.,
Publishers and Proprietors.

FRANCHISE SHOULD BE GRANTED

The Front street franchise in the city of Portland should be given to the Willamette Valley Traction Co. OR THERE WILL BE SOMETHING DOING.

The people of the Willamette valley will not stand to have their most cherished enterprises held up and made sport of by a few politicians.

The city council cannot let a quarrel between any number of applicants for franchises hold up A LEGITIMATE ENTERPRISE WELL UNDER WAY.

The work on the Willamette Valley Traction Co. has been suspended until the franchise is granted that will insure entrance to Portland.

Hundreds of men have been discharged, and all work on building the long freight leading north out of the city has been stopped at Salem.

Thus are the dilatory tactics of a few Portland grafters allowed to BLOCK THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY for the coming year.

The time has come for the valley towns to unite and hold a mass meeting and condemn the obstructive tactics of the Portland machine.

One dose of the real feelings of this section, made manifest in the most practical and effective way would bring the Portland gang around.

That franchise should be granted without delay, and let the unemployed laborers and the capital ready to build this line go to work.

Let us not be children and made monkeys of any longer. The time has come to strike and say THE REST OF THE STATE SHOULD BE DEVELOPED.

It was all right for the whole state to pour its treasure into Portland for the past two years, but when we want to grow it is all off.

STEPHEN A. LOWELL FOR SENATOR.

The announcement that Hon. S. A. Lowell of Pendleton, would become a candidate for the United States senate, subject to the Direct Primary, will be received with a great deal of pleasure.

It is now certain that three gentlemen of ability and standing in the Republican party will seek that nomination under the Direct Primary law at the election April 20th.

When the direct primary law gets into full operation there will be no more thought of a man becoming a candidate for the United States senate than for any other office under that law.

The Republican nominees will go upon the Australian ballot just as regularly as any other nominee, and the legislature will declare him senator-elect just as regularly AS IT NOW DECLARES WHO IS ELECTED GOVERNOR.

The fact that six months intervene between the election of the senator and the announcement by the legislature will no more change the result or call it in question THAN THE FACT THAT FIVE MONTHS INTERVENE between the election of a presidential elector and the delivery of the returns in Washington, D. C., in March following November.

There would be still less objection to the Direct Primary law way of nominating a senator and the Direct Election of the senator if there were several more aspirants for the nomination.

The full trial and the fair test of the law will put it into complete operation. The only danger to the law is that THERE WOULD BE NO

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CHOICE EXPRESSED BY THE RE-PUBLICANS AT THE PRIMARY.

So the people who favor this great reform will rejoice that Hon. S. A. Lowell, of Pendleton, has come into the field for United States senator.

AGAINST STREET IMPROVEMENT

The adoption of \$2.50 per day as a minimum scale of wages for common labor on public work in the city of Salem is going to make street improvements almost impossible.

The improvement of Summer street which was well under way, is now understood to be abandoned, because of an alleged disagreement among the property owners, BUT PROBABLY FOR OTHER REASONS.

There are plenty of unemployed men in the city who would be glad to get work at \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day on public work. Of course, the \$2.50 per day is given ONLY TO THE FRIENDS OF THE GESNER MACHINE.

But the policy of the Gesner machine is not beneficial to laboring men in general. Men on the city work were already getting \$2.00 per day, while laborers in the sawmills got \$1.50 per day.

Of course, there is only a limited amount of this work at \$2.50 per day. BUT THERE IS NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER WHO CAN BE PROMISED WORK, or given work long enough to be in line on the day of the primaries.

The moral effect of the resolution of the city council is bad, because it discourages street improvement in general, while helping a few in particular.

Direct Primary Laws.
(West Side Enterprise.)

Reforms are not wrought without effort and without cost. It is not to be expected that so great a reformation as the avoidance of the corruption and debauchery attendant upon the election of U. S. senators will be accomplished without strenuous opposition. True, the voters of Oregon have it within their power to pledge their candidates on this important matter. A long step in the direction of election of U. S. senators by the people has been taken by the victory of the people is not yet complete. Arrayed against the Oregon plan is the powerful influence of the corporate, trust and special interests represented in the U. S. senate.

Lincoln Steffens, a fearless newspaper man who, through the Oregonian and others of a syndicate of Sunday papers, is giving his observations and analysis of officialdom at Washington, says that the senate, in its own estimation, is the "Savior of the Country." The man of people, Mr. Steffens says, look as bad or worse to the senate than the senate does to the people. United States senators refer to the people as they do to the weather, says Mr. Steffens. Their antipathy to President Roosevelt is because the people believe in him and are back of him. When the people get restless over any legislation or lack of legislation, that section where the discontent is marked is referred to as the cloud.

Just now there seems to be a cloud staring on the western horizon. Rumblings are heard from Oregon and also from Idaho. Oregon has seen her legislatures corrupted and debauched and gone without a senator two years; she has seen legislators elected to represent the people, struggle ineffectually for 40 days to affect organization; she has seen the entire body dissolve and go home leaving all the state institutions without a dollar's appropriation, and the people have had to pay interest on funds to run the state government, all over the election of a U. S. senator. The people of Oregon have taken the reins in their own hands and provided a way whereby they may nominate candidates for senator themselves. Idaho is endeavoring to do the same thing by a little different process.

This restoration in Oregon is a menace to the senate. The senate itself does not want the people to elect their own representatives to that American House of Lords. A legislature of 50 people is easier handled than a whole state. Should the Oregon plan carry, it would be a dangerous precedent, for other states would surely follow. Those who have thought the battle won in Oregon and that the senate of "special interests" would permit without fiercest opposition, the people of a far western state to nominate their own U. S. senator, are doomed to disappointment. Though the direct primary nominating law provides a means for the people to nominate the senator, every means known to corporate interests and special interests will be resorted to between now and the convening of the next legislature to thwart the purpose of the people. The party lash will be applied and hob nobbing and other in-

aginary dangers will be held up to the people. Nothing but determination to the end on the part of the voters to exercise the power placed in their hands will win out. The Oregonian and its editor, Mr. Scott, were among the original promoters of the direct primary law. Mr. Scott has recently returned from Washington, where contact is had with members of the senate, and the Oregonian is now turning the hose on that part of the primary law providing for the nomination of U. S. senators by the people. This notwithstanding that it was the names of such men as Mr. Scott, Senator Mitchell, General George H. Williams, T. T. Geer and other prominent Republicans, attached to literature scattered broadcast over the state that first attracted general attention to the necessity of such a law as the people now have, and the Oregonian falls to support.

The direct primary law, every feature of it, is as good now as when the editor of the Oregonian and other leading Republicans were advocating it. Distrust of the people in nominating a candidate for U. S. senator comes with poor grace now. It was put on the statute books for the people. Let the people now avail themselves of the full benefit of it.

Smiles

Albany lacks sand.

Hoch killed one too many.

Everybody chere up. John D. Rockefeller has been found.

Portland should not kill the valley goose that lays the golden egg.

If Hoch meets all of his wives in the next world he'll have a hot time.

It is time a few sidewalks went down on South High and Liberty.

Make the quarters of the fire department boys more comfortable.

The man who does nothing but play politics works the people harder.

Portland city duds are driving the rest of the state away from Portland.

Exchange: The direct primaries will show some men how they can't run.

The Journal will agree with some things in kindred that it will not take as dictation.

The bees lives well if he has no visible means of existence but what he makes out of politics.

The people are fit to elect all other officials, and after awhile they will be fit to elect U. S. senators.

The bosses who have run things must will run things least, is the prediction of the direct primary.

The Democratic banquet next Tuesday will show great harmony on the question of eating and drinking.

A Salem man has been found who has lived happily with a woman nearly 25 years and don't know her age. Some men have no curiosity.

The privilege of changing your mind over night as to who shall be U. S. senator "for sufficient reason" is not going to be obtained as easily as some people imagine at the hands of the people.

It is good for Republicans to dwell together in peace and unity. After awhile all Republicans will favor direct nomination and direct election of senators of the United States by the vote of the people.

West Side Enterprise: If the people look as bad to the senate as the senate does to the people, and the senate looks as bad to the people as the people do to the senate, there is a very wide gulf between the two.

Albany Democrat: The question has risen in Eugene whether there is any one living who held office in Lane county 50 years ago, and a few have been found scattered over the coast. Linn county has at least two, Jason Wheeler, who was sheriff, and Luther White, representative and surveyor. R. P. Bolte was district attorney for several years previous to 1854.

Southern Oregonian: Hon. Walter L. Toome, of Marion county, has been spending the past week in Jackson county. He is a candidate for congressman from this district, and it looks very much as if he will win the prize. Mr. Toome is well qualified for the position, popular wherever he is

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