

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL

E. HOFFER, Editor and Proprietor

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A NEW PHASE OF OREGON REPUBLICANISM.

According to the Oregonian and the political leadership which it inspires, the Republican party in Oregon is entering upon a new era.

What is known as the assembly plan of suggesting nominations of candidates, which worked so well in the recent city election at Portland, is to be extended to county and state nominations.

The election of Mr. Simon to the office of Mayor makes the extension of the assembly plan a logical sequence.

It may prove to be an additional means of grace.

It is possible to bring out some good men by assembly who might not be willing to submit their names to a direct primary.

The opposite is equally true—vicious politicians and undesirable citizens may be nominated by assembly who would stand no show before a direct primary without having been first "suggested" by the machine.

So the assembly system solves no problem finally and its nominees will have to submit their names to the popular votes.

But assuming that some good might come from the assembly plan, the Oregonian opens the Oregon political campaign with a review of the candidates.

It gives a good deal of space to Governor Benson, who refuses to disclose his political plans at present.

As possible candidates for Governor it mentions the following:

- Frank W. Benson of Roseburg.
- State Superintendent Ackerman of Salem.
- Attorney General Crawford of Douglas county.
- Dairy and Food Commissioner Bailey of Portland.
- Dr. Jas. Withycombe of Corvallis.
- Dr. Andrew C. Smith of Portland.
- President of the Senate Jay Bowerman.
- Grant B. Dimmick of Oregon City.
- George J. Cameron of Portland.

The announcement is made that Congressman Hawley will contest the U. S. senatorship with J. Bourne Jr. in 1913. In the meantime B. F. Mulkey of Jackson goes after Hawley's place.

Following: C. N. McArthur and Wallace McCammant of Portland, Judge Butler of Condon and George S. Shepherd and T. T. Geer of Portland.

There will be four Justices of the Supreme Court to elect and other offices to be filled at the coming state election are as follows: Fifteen State Senators, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Printer, Labor Commissioner, one Railroad Commissioner, fourteen Circuit Judges, fifteen District Attorneys, and last of all, sixty members of the legislature.

Of course, a full set of officials will have to be chosen in each county, and before the next election rolls about one-half the adult population will have a chance to run for office.

The Capital Journal will not assume to dictate to the Republican party what it shall do in the matter of holding a nominating convention.

The people will regard an assembly to "suggest" candidates virtually as a nominating convention.

Whether they would accept at the primaries nominees thus suggested, virtually restoring the convention system, which the people would abolish in favor of the direct primary, remains to be seen.

This newspaper will not seek to prejudice voters against the assembly plan of making nominations. As stated in the beginning, it may be an additional means of securing good candidates.

We believe the day of dictation to officials is nearly over.

We do not believe the Oregonian can dictate policies to Mayor Simon, even if it were so minded.

We believe Mr. Simon will give Portland an absolutely business administration.

The condition Portland finds itself in precludes any other policy on his part.

Those who advocate the assembly plan are entitled to a fair hearing.

The plan is not new as it has been practiced by the Democrats in the first of the direct primary law.

I believe it will stand the test of time and experience.

I would prefer to see it obeyed and respected.

But the advocates of the assembly plan are good Republicans and entitled to consideration.

Whether the voters will agree with them and sanction their "suggestions" depends upon the quality of the product of the assembly.

As no one is proposing to repeal or amend the direct primary law the people have that to fall back upon.

They can weed out the crop planted by the assembly at the primary and at the election.

REFORMATION OF THE SALOON KEEPER.

There is an impression abroad that promises of reform on the part of brewers, distillers, etc., are frequently broken.

On the other hand, the radical prohibition element rejoices in all manifestations of lawlessness on the part of any one connected with the liquor business.

It is a trite saying that if there never had been any law-

breakers among saloon keepers there would have been no prohibition wave of a drastic character.

Reformation of the drinking habits of the people would have proceeded along educational lines.

The National Model License League has investigated conditions in Ohio in connection with the liquor business and has received a report which says in part:

"The distillers, brewers and wholesalers of Ohio assure us that they are unanimous in the determination to put the law-breakers out of the liquor business in their state. Their view of the situation is that it is suicide to permit infractions of the law."

Embodied in the Dean law, an Ohio law drawn by the liquor interests and successfully supported by them in the legislature, are the following regulations:

No man who is not an American citizen shall conduct a saloon.

A man who has been convicted of a felony shall not conduct a saloon.

A saloon keeper shall not sell to minors or intoxicated persons.

No gambling shall be allowed in a saloon.

No improper females shall be permitted upon the premises of a saloon.

No lewd or improper pictures shall be exposed in a saloon.

It is a plain business proposition that law-breaking burts any business.

The Dean law is the most drastic passed in any state for the regulation of the saloon.

It provides that any violation of its provisions must result in the saloon keeper forfeiting permanently the privilege of selling liquor in Ohio.

The Ohio Brewers Association and the Ohio Wine and Spirit Association have sent a poster circular to every saloon keeper warning him as to the provisions of the law and asking him to report violations of the law by any of his competitors.

The promise is made that the places of law-breakers shall be abated as public nuisances.

OREGON HAS A STRONG COMBINATION.

From the standpoint of development of this commonwealth, Oregon has a strong combination in the United States senate. Senators Bourne and Chamberlain are men who are in a position to secure great results for their constituents.

In the first place they are men who have never abandoned a principle which has been endorsed by the people.

One is a Republican, the other a Democrat, but both are believers in the fundamental principles of popular government.

Bourne plays golf with Taft, lunches with Aldrich of Rhode Island, and hobnobs with Rockefeller.

Chamberlain is the favorite of the Southern Democracy in the senate.

He is a graduate of two of their great Southern universities. He mingles with them socially and upon terms of the utmost cordiality.

He has access to the inner circles of the great political power south of Mason and Dixon's line.

Oregon could not be more favorably situated to get results.

The ease with which the Oregon hop growers secured a 20-cent-a-pound duty proves this.

Let those who will carp at our primary law. It has given us efficient senators.

BLACK HAND PROVES MOST KNOTTY PROBLEM

[United Press Leased Wire] Buffalo, N. Y., June 16.—The Sicilian "black hand" today is regarded by police chiefs throughout the country as the greatest problem in crime that faces them. Leading chiefs who are attending a convention of police chiefs here today have resolved that they will use concerted efforts to stamp out the society and have pledged themselves to render all possible aid in keeping the black hand members under surveillance.

It has been suggested that a special congress of leading police officials and detectives be called to decide upon measures to be taken against the bands of terrorists and assassins. An intimation was made at the meeting that aid in running the bands to earth would be given by the United States secret service.

Fairbanks has shipped \$2,000,000 worth of gold this year, and there is more coming.

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LEE WILLIAMS

Newport, Ore. Inquire at Journal Office

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