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DON'T FAIL TO VOTE.

Voting is not a mere privilege of citizenship; it is a duty. The integrity of the public service depends upon the faithfulness of the voter in the discharge of this duty. The exercise of an intelligent and conscientious choice in the election of public officers is, in a republic, an obligation to society at large. It is as much a public obligation as the payment of taxes. Yet, strange as it may seem, the very people who are most indifferent about voting are often in other respects good citizens, diligent in the performance of all other duties to the public.

A quadrennial election is at hand. There are six tickets in the field, representing perhaps not perfectly in detail the principles of six political parties. These parties cover a wide range of political thought and offers widely different programmes of political action. Every man who thinks at all on these subjects must have a choice; and if he be a conscientious man he ought to vote that choice. This is more incumbent upon him because he knows that the people who have no conscientious scruples rarely ever fall to vote. As is unusual in prosperous times, there is no great excitement over the approaching election; but it is hoped that every good citizen in the country will go to the polls and vote. This is one of the evidences of good citizenship, and no man can afford to neglect a plain duty to the public.

J. W. White, former republican candidate for superintendent of public instruction, has issued a circular in favor of the free text book amendment. He reproduces a circular which he says was sent out by the American Book Company urging the people to vote against the amendment. In conclusion he says: "If the amendment is killed the Book Trust will secure another indefinite contract." Now if Mr. White will make it clear to the people what possible difference it could make to the Book Trust whether the amendment is adopted or not he will deserve a prize. Mr. White surely does not think that every local board would order whatever text books it pleased from whatever publisher. The state adoption scheme will be even more certain to stand under the amendment than under the present arrangement. There surely never was a campaign in Missouri in which as many preposterous things have been said as in this one, and perhaps Mr. White feels that his alarm cry cannot materially increase the total volume of absurdity.

John A. Sheridan, one of the convicted St. Louis hoodlums, died of tuberculosis in Jefferson City this week.

THE INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

Frank L. Schofield, president of the Missouri Bar Association, in an address delivered at the last meeting of the Association reviewed with great care the proposed initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution of Missouri, which the voters of the state are expected to pass upon at the election next week. He calls attention to the fact that the amendment is framed in three paragraphs,—the first providing for the referendum in the case of statutes passed by the legislature; the second, for the initiative and referendum in the case of legislation desired by the people but not acted upon by the legislature; and the third, for both the initiative and referendum in the matter of constitutional changes.

Mr. Schofield calls attention to the fact that while a casual reading may lead to the conclusion that the first paragraph exempts appropriation acts and acts for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety from the review at the hands of the people, a more careful examination of the language shows that such is not the case. Such acts are permitted to go into effect immediately but still may be set aside by a popular vote. He further shows that the amendment fails to state what majority, if any, is required to annul an act of the legislature, and when the decision of the people is to go into effect—an omission the more striking in view of the fact that the other amendments carry provisions specifically defining these particulars.

Of the second and third paragraphs of the proposed amendment, Mr. Schofield says:

"It is to be observed that under the provisions of the 2nd clause and in respect of legislation enacted in pursuance of the authority therein conferred, the General Assembly has no office to perform or any function or duty whatever; and further, by a later provision, 'the veto power of the governor shall not be exercised as to the laws approved or enacted by the electors.' In a word, this clause of the proposed amendment erects an additional and entirely separate and independent legislative body, to-wit, the body of the electors at large, and upon which it confers the full legislative power of the state in all matters of ordinary legislation.

"The third clause has reference wholly to constitutional amendments and provides in substance that twenty per centum of the electors in the various congressional districts of the state shall have power to propose any amendment to the constitution, 'and require that such amendment be referred to the next general election, provided, the election does not occur within six months after the filing of the petition with the secretary of state, and such constitutional amendment shall be in effect from and after the date of the official declaration of the result of the vote, if approved by a majority of those voting thereon.

"In this case, as in the other last referred to, the action provided for must be both initiated and consummated by the people alone and wholly independent of any action on the part of the legislature.

"There are some other especially noticeable features contained in this proposed amendment which remain to be pointed out. One of these is that it contains no provision authorizing the legislature by any action on its part to submit any statute to a popular vote before it shall become effective. If the General Assembly exercise the legislative power at all, it must do so by the enactment of a competent act, valid and effective without any action on the part of the electors. On the other hand, all the legislative power exercised by the people under the provisions of the amendment, must be initiated and carried forward without reference to or requirement of any previous action by the legislature. If a reference be desired even by the legislature itself upon any measure upon which they have acted, this can be accomplished only by original petition signed by the requisite number of voters and lodged with the secretary of state.

"Another notable feature contained in the measure is that under this provision the General Assembly will possess the power to repeal not only any law of their own enactment, but also and with equal facility any law enacted by the people. In a word, it is proposed by this constitutional amendment that the legislative power of the state shall hereafter be vested in and exercised by either one or the other of two distinctly separate and entirely independent bodies; one, the

General Assembly as now constituted; the other, the whole body of electors acting through petition and at the polls; each equally competent of original and final action in precisely the same field, covering all matters both ordinary and extraordinary, except, perhaps, matters of municipal concern to cities and towns; and each equally adequate, by repeal, to undo and set at naught the whole or any part of the constructive work of the other.

"A still more interesting feature of the proposed amendment is to be found in its opening sentence: 'The legislative power of any municipal division of the state (such as city, town or village), on its own municipal matters, is inherent and shall be vested in the electors of each municipal division, subject to such laws of a general nature, having uniform operation throughout the state as the General Assembly may enact.'

"Should the amendment be adopted, this clause, if I read it aright, must bring about results of exceeding importance. If the legislative power in respect of all municipal matters is to be inherent in every city, town or village, instead of being derived from the state, then this measure of ultimate sovereignty is not only to be divested out of and withdrawn from the state, but it is to be partitioned off into innumerable fragments and distributed out among the various cities, towns and villages, each possessing the inherent right of defining, extending or limiting its own powers in respect of all municipal matters subject only to such limitations as may be imposed by laws of uniform operation enacted by the General Assembly. A further serious question is here presented, namely, if the legislative power of each municipal division is to be inherent and vested in its own electors, how is such power to be exercised otherwise than at the polls? If this indeed be the effect of the proposed amendment, what authority will remain in municipal assemblies, boards of aldermen, and other municipal legislatures as at present constituted? I merely venture to suggest these questions among others of greater or less weight involved in the amendment to our constitution now proposed."

THE IRRIGATION MOVEMENT.

Few people have any conception of the progress that has been made by the national irrigation movement. In less time than anybody thought it possible this movement has gotten the attention of the public and has secured the active championship of one of the great political parties. It is in many respects a beneficent movement and promising of good results. The immediate object of those who are active in promoting the movement is, however, open to suspicion. For instance, President Maxwell of the National Irrigation Association, in a recent address said: "President Roosevelt never spoke truer words than when he told the people of this country in substance, in his first message to Congress, that the western half of the United States under a wise national policy of forestry and irrigation, could be made to sustain a larger population than the whole United States contains today. That means to double the internal trade and commerce of this country and to double the home markets of our manufacturers. No foreign market is as good as the home market. Every manufacturer knows that."

It would appear then that the prime object of the president of the association and the prime object of leader of the party which is in an especial sense championing the movement, is to increase the home market of the tariff grafters. But while the republican party may be depended upon to champion any cause which may seem to serve the purpose of the tariff grafters, selfishness is by a law of nature seldom far-sighted. Irrigated lands are invariably divided into small holdings, and irrigation may in time serve to increase the influence of our agricultural population in matters of public policy. And when that day comes the tariff graft will have to walk the plank.

The voters of Lafayette county should remember that a United States Senator is to be elected by the legislature which will be selected next Tuesday. This ought to be enough to bring every democrat in this county to the polls. Missouri may have had greater men in the senate than Cockrell, but it has never had a more diligent one, a more conscientious one, or one who enjoyed in greater degree the confidence of his constituents, great and small.

THE AMENDMENTS.

Voters ought to be studying the amendments to be voted upon Nov. 8, so they may exercise an intelligent choice at the polls. These amendments will be found published in full in this issue of the INTELLIGENCER. Read them and deliberate carefully. The INTELLIGENCER has reviewed these amendments several times, and while it is not enthusiastic about any of them, there seems to be room for diversity of opinion upon at least two of the proposed changes—the first and the fifth.

The first proposed amendment relates to the pensioning of disabled policemen in the cities of over 100,000 inhabitants out of funds provided by the cities themselves. It cannot go into effect without being voted upon favorably by the cities. As an abstract proposition the INTELLIGENCER is not very friendly to a civil pension list, but if these cities want to pension their disabled policemen and to pay for it out of their own resources, it may not be the proper thing for us of the country to refuse them the privilege.

The fifth amendment relates to an extra tax of four cents on the one hundred dollars valuation for a period of five years for the purpose of erecting a new state capitol building at Jefferson City. The only objection to this amendment arises from a doubt as to whether the revenue will prove sufficient to build such a capitol as Missouri deserves to have. The main part of the present building was erected nearly three quarters of a century ago. It is anything but creditable to the state of Missouri, and if the proposed tax would yield sufficient revenue in five years for the purpose intended, there would be scarcely a valid objection to be offered. But it would be a great mistake for Missouri to build a cheap building. This is the fifth state in the union in wealth and it is destined to advance to a higher rank. We should not be content with less than a \$5,000,000 capitol building. The one we build next should not be soon outgrown. It has been estimated that the proposed tax would yield from \$3,000,000 to \$3,500,000. And it would not be impossible to vote an additional sum at the end of the five years.

There is much less room for diversity of opinion as to the second, third and fourth amendments. The second would establish the initiative and referendum, a nostrum of visionaries which has proved of no practical utility where it has been tried. The third would commit the state to the second-hand school book business. There is no occasion for such a thing. If we had compulsory education in Missouri, the argument would be stronger but still not necessarily valid. Under the present system local school boards are authorized to furnish school books to those who are unable to pay for them. This proposition is in line with a great many other similar socialistic schemes. It is better to draw the line before it is to late.

The fourth amendment is the most preposterous proposition ever submitted to a vote of the people. It would compel the railroads to furnish transportation to public officials so that public officials may not be bribed by the railroads giving them transportation voluntarily! This proposition will doubtless be followed up by one to compel the baking powder companies to furnish public officials all the baking powder they can use so that they may be removed from temptation; and to compel the insurance companies to insure their property free of charge for a similar reason. It is incredible that this proposition should receive any considerable vote in its favor.

The Jackson Examiner reports the discovery of natural gas at Independence. The owner of the ice plant was boring for water and at one hundred and seventy-five feet struck gas in considerable quantity.

MOTHERS PRAISE IT.

Mothers everywhere praise One Minute Cough Cure for the sufferings it has relieved and the lives of their little ones it has saved. A certain cure for coughs, croup and whooping cough. A. L. Spafford, Postmaster, of Chester, Mich., says: "Our little girl was unconscious from strangulation during a sudden and terrible attack of cough. One Minute Cough Cure quickly relieved and cured her and I cannot praise it too highly." One Minute Cough Cure relieves coughs, makes breathing easy, cuts out phlegm, draws out inflammation, and removes every cause of a cough and strain on lungs. Sold by Crenshaw & Young, Druggists. 11-5ml

Glover Branch went to Higginsville Thursday morning.

The Difference in Cost

between a good and a poor baking powder would not amount for a family's supply to one dollar a year. The poor powder would cause doctors' bills many times this.

Dr. PRICE'S cream Baking Powder

is the most economical in the end, because it goes further in leavening and insures perfect, wholesome food.

When ordering of the grocer always call for Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder by name for good health and good food. It makes the finest cake, puddings, flapjacks, biscuits and bread.

NOTE.—There are many imitation baking powders which are sold from five cents to twenty-five cents a pound. They should be carefully avoided as they are made from alum and are unhealthful.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO.,
CHICAGO.

Education Notes.

The teachers of Jasper county in association take high educational ground. They passed resolutions favoring free text-books, compulsory attendance, increased importance, larger salaries and more efficient teachers. These are of vital importance to educational progress. Missouri is moving in direction of better things educational and is justly proud of its record.

The Supreme Court of Kansas has just rendered a decision against the Board of Coffeyville in a case wherein the School Board adopted a rule prohibiting negro children from attending white school. Missouri long since adopted the policy along this line. The Democratic State Platform pledges to continue to provide separate schools for the races.

There is a controversy over grand prizes awarded by the St. Louis World's Fair to individuals on account of their participation in the educational exhibits. It seems that New York and Pennsylvania each have a man considered worthy of such high honor. Missouri received a few gold medals. The whole thing smacks of stage-play and man-worship. No person suspected Schoeffer and President Jesse were on exhibition. New York and Pennsylvania made fine educational exhibits. So did the University of Missouri. But these were exhibits of men. Some one has made himself ridiculous and will do worthy men great injustice by coupling their names with awards to individuals. Away with such nonsense.

Among the many good things coming to Missouri on account of the Fair one adverse criticism has been made. A wail of a lunatic has been heard through the Denver Post. Some would-be investigator claims to have spent several days among the people of Pike County and discovered that the people of that section take no interest in schools, do not send their children to school, that small children are forced to work in the pearl industry, etc. It is a slander on the good people of Pike county and the state. There no better schools than those complained of. There are no better people than those of "Old Pike." The story as printed is the product of a diseased imagination and found its way into an irresponsible newspaper.

From careful investigation it is learned that 75 per cent of the country schools of the state change teachers annually. Of these, 25 per cent are taught by persons who are teaching their first schools. Of the other 50 per cent, fully half are taught by poorly prepared teachers who drift from district to district. This constant change in teachers is operating against educational progress. The best schools are taught by the same teachers for several years. School boards do well to determine early to

have none but teachers who have established reputations, to employ the best and keep them.

THOUSANDS CURED.

DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve has cured thousands of cases of piles. "I bought a box of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve on the recommendation of our druggist," so writes C. H. LaCroix, of Zavalla, Tex., "and used it for a stubborn case of piles. It cured me permanently." Sold by Crenshaw & Young, Druggists. 11-5ml

Mrs. C. W. Allen returned to Kansas City Thursday morning. Her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Fletcher, accompanied her home for a visit.

Lexington "Red R" "Mecca" "Beacon"

The first three brands of flour made of soft wheat and the fourth of hard can not be surpassed in quality. Absolutely the best flour made in Missouri. Every lb. warranted.

Lexington Flouring Mills.