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**County Official Paper**

During the past two or three weeks the Mist has received columns and columns of plate matter concerning certain candidates for office and measures to be voted on. They are sent us with a request to use them but in no instance has there been any checks for payment enclosed. As a result none of them go in the paper. Our columns are our stock in trade. If any candidate wants to buy space in the paper, it is for sale, but we are not running a charity proposition and absolutely refuse to publish anything about any candidates or measures unless paid for, outside of our editorial columns. We have taken a political stand on a good many of the measures and candidates and our readers no doubt know just what we are advocating along these lines. In order to be specific on our choice of candidates for the leading offices we make this announcement. We are heartily in favor of the election of Taft and Sherman for President and Vice President, for reasons elsewhere and heretofore given. We are in favor of the election Ben Selling for United States Senator for a good many reasons. He is and always has been a real Progressive when others, who are now claiming to be the simon pure article along this line, only adopted Progressive principles for the purpose of feathering their own nests. He is capable and honest. He has been tried and found not wanting. He went before the people at the Primaries and won out in a fair fight and is entitled to the support of every man who is a Republican because he believes in the Republican principles. We are in favor of the election of W. C. Hawley for Congressman for several reasons. The first reason being that he is the only man nominated on any ticket who is capable of filling the office, the others being strange, untried men with no other recommendation than that they want the office. Again, Mr. Hawley has been in Congress for six years and has accomplished for Oregon much more in the way of National Legislation than any or all of the other Representatives from Oregon combined. In other words he has made good and is in a position to continue the good work. There is absolutely no reason why he should not be returned and there seems to be no doubt of his election. We are in favor of the election of Clyde B. Aitchison for Railroad Commissioner for reasons explained in another column in this issue and because, after carefully considering the qualifications of all the candidates for this important office, Mr. Aitchison seems to be the only one who is especially qualified from experience and ability to perform the duties of the office. We are in favor of the election of E. B. Tongue for District Attorney for this district for every reason there is to be found. His qualifications and standing are printed in another column of this paper over the names of the County Central Committee and, from a close personal and professional acquaintance with him and his record, the Mist endorses every word of that article. It would be a calamity to this county, at this time to do anything else than to elect Mr. Tongue. These are the principal offices for which the Mist has taken active interest in explaining to the voters why these particular men should be elected. Our support of each and every one of them has been given without solicitation and pay on the part of any one of them. We believe that the best interests of the Columbia County. The State of Oregon and the United States will best be looked after by the

election of these men and we earnestly urge our readers to consider these facts and cast their votes for them.

In about 10 days the voters of the United States will be called upon to decide who shall be the officers of the government for the next four years. They will be called upon to decide the question of the policy of the government for that time; whether the present protective policy of the Republican party shall be continued or the free-trade or tariff-for-revenue-only policy of the Democratic party shall be adopted. After all the campaigning by all the parties, it does not seem possible that the so called Progressive party, with no particular policy to put before the people, will cut much figure, other than to disrupt the Republican party and cause the election of a democrat or be the means of no election. The time is drawing near for the voter to decide on these questions. It is a time when every man should consider seriously the question. Lay aside the joking and campaign talk and sit down quietly and consider. Think of the prosperous times enjoyed under the Taft administration, the most prosperous for all classes of citizens ever enjoyed during the history of the nation. For that matter consider the prosperous times always enjoyed under a Republican administration, with the possible exception of a few months panic in 1907 under Roosevelt's administration. Think of the progress being made along all lines in the United States at the present time. Consider the qualifications of the man who is the candidate on the ticket of the party of prosperity and progress, William H. Taft. On the other hand let your mind wander back a few years and call up the times enjoyed by the people of the United States under a Democratic administration when there were over 3,000,000 men out of employment; mills and factories closed down; no money in circulation and everybody hard pressed to make both ends meet. Think seriously of these things: Consider what it means to you and your family. Decide whether or not you want a change. Ask yourself whether or not you are satisfied with present conditions. Consider the welfare of your loved ones, your wife, your children and those dependent upon you and then say, if you can, that a change is necessary. The people of this country have never faced a more serious situation than at this time. They have never been called upon to decide a more important question; one vitally concerning the direct welfare of every man, woman and child in the country. Before going to the booths and casting your vote on the 6th of November think seriously of these things and we have no doubt that your ballot will be cast for prosperity, progress and William Howard Taft.

No longer are we required to grope about in the darkness of uncertainty. The mystery is solved. The secret is out. The reason for the support of Theodore Roosevelt has been discovered. For many weeks we have been making a vain search for these reasons and at last have been rewarded. One of the most prominent Bull Moosers of this county, a member of the State Central Committee, has let the cat out of the bag. He says, "I am not very well posted on the political issues of the day, nor have we any particular reason for supporting Teddy, but we supported him at the Primary election and by Heck, we are not going to desert him now." Such political reasoning as that will certainly win in any argument, and to be serious about it, that is the most sensible reason we have heard offered for the organization of the third party and for its support. But truly it does not seem that people who are interested in the government of the country will be controlled by such reasoning.

There are several candidates for the office of Railroad Commissioner for this district among them being Clyde B. Aitchison, the present Chairman of the Commission. The others are men

practically unknown to the people of Oregon and so far as we can learn have no special qualifications for the office. Mr. Aitchison has served on the Commission since it was first organized and his experience is worth more to the shippers and people who have business with the railroads than any virtue that either of the others may possess. It is an important office and no mistake should be made by electing a man who knows very little about the business. By all means keep an efficient and experienced man in the office and a man who has given eminent satisfaction to the people.

The heir is disinherited. The child is disowned. The father repudiates his own offspring. This is the awful state of affairs in Oregon. Jonathan Bourne has claimed the honor of fathering the Direct Primary law in Oregon. He has set himself upon a throne of greatness as the originator and designer of the famous Oregon System. But now, alas, poor Jonathan has lost out under his own law and has turned against it. If there is a man in Oregon who is not worthy the support of a single friend of the Direct Primary law, it is Jonathan Bourne. During the election two years ago he used the law to further his own personal ends. He urged his friends and used all of his influence to nominate Jay Bowerman for Governor and then after the nomination deliberately and openly espoused the cause of the Democratic nominee against the man who had been nominated under his own law. Now again he has been turned down by both Republicans and Progressives and

has cast aside all feeling and respect for his law and comes out independent. The Direct Primary was a great and good law just so long as he could make it work for his own success but when the people begin to see through his game and turn him down, the law is a failure. As before stated no friend of the Direct Primary can afford to support a man who has absolutely repudiated his own offspring, one who is doing everything in his power to discredit and nullify the popular laws of Oregon.

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**Columbia Encampment No. 77, I. O. O. F.**, meets in the I. O. O. F. Hall, on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, sojourning Patriarchs most cordially invited to meet with us.  
Chas. Spinner, Chief Patriarch.  
C. W. Blakesley, Scribe.

**COLUMBIA HOMESTRAID No. 2456** Brotherhood of American Yeomen, meets the second and fourth Wednesday night of each month at Yankton, Ore. Visiting members welcome.  
E. S. Hinson, Honorable Foreman  
C. E. LAKE, Correspondent.

**MIZPAH O. S. T. E. R.** No. 30, O. E. S. Meets in Masonic hall the second and fourth Saturday of each month.  
GERTRUDE COLLINS, W. M.  
LUCY GRAY, Secretary

**St. Helens Lodge No. 117, I. O. O. F.**, meets in the I. O. O. F. building, on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, visiting members are always given a hearty welcome.  
W. A. McIntire, N. G.  
C. W. Blakesley, Sec.

**Avon Lodge No. 62 Knights of Pythias** meets every Tuesday Evening in Castle Hall, St. Helens. Visiting Knight always welcome.  
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