

People Must Awaken To Save State

Hon. Dunham Wright, of Medical Springs, Calls on Voters to Give Government Earnest Thought.

Editor of the La Grande Evening Observer:—As the columns of the Observer are always open to opinions and matters of interest to the public, may I venture an opinion as to what has brought about these high taxes we are so justly complaining of? To get right down to the middle of the whole affair, it is the voter, and the voter that don't vote, that is responsible for the whole thing.

Don't try to shift it to the legislature. They enacted all those extravagant laws, yet they had your permission to do so by your delegating them our power through your vote or referring to vote. While the elective franchise is a weapon in the hands of the voters that they can use for their own protection and to protect themselves they must intelligently use the franchise as good government can only come through and by the intelligent use of the elective franchise, so when you go to the polls the 19th of May to select your candidates for office, or even to elect them in November, ask yourselves this question when you go into the booth to mark your "x": Are they capable and are they honest?

Don't resort to the old yaller-dox system of shutting your eyes and going the straight. This is not the intelligent use of the elective franchise, hence we cannot be guaranteed good government.

The primary is for the purpose of giving the voters the opportunity to select honest, capable candidates for office. It is the duty of every voter to go to the polls and use his best judgment in casting an intelligent vote. Put forth an extra effort to be informed. A free people to be capable of self-government must be informed for monarchism flourish on ignorance. There should be no stay-at-homes on election day with those who have a right to vote without justifiable excuse. Those stay-at-homes put forth no efforts to remedy existing evils and are loudest in criticizing those that do act in those strenuous times of high taxes where many homes are in jeopardy and at the door of confiscation. There should be nothing but honest, capable, 100 per cent, red-blooded Americans put on guard and as real estate is bearing 85 per cent of the tax burden, there should be sent to our legislative halls a reasonable number of real dirt farmers, women as well as men, for women wherever tried make good conscientious lawmakers for it is the law of the country and the people that tell of their condition. Is it not a discreditable thing for our chief executive in his wisdom to have veto nearly 50 per cent of the laws enacted by a short session of the legislature? This is evidence of itself that those who delegate their power, it should be to those who will reflect their sentiments as the levying of taxes is the paramount issue before the people of Oregon today and how to do it is the question.

We must do as we did in war times, consent to make sacrifices along all lines of business, cut all salaries to where they were before the war, elect a governor pledged to veto all appropriation bills that carry the emergency clause without an emergency, abolish many costly state and county commissions. We have gotten along without them and can under the stringency of the times do so again. Here is where the real emergency comes in. Do away with all unnecessary clerks in legislative sessions. This thing of furnishing ninety \$3 a day members for 40 days with clerks at \$5 and \$10 a day for 40 days runs into money fast when the hardest work these clerks have to do is to paste bills and resolutions into an invoice.

I know whereof I speak, for I have been there for 10 years and never had the need of a desk clerk. The expense of carrying on our public school system throughout the state is being lessened hundreds of thousands of dollars and justly so. The night school for adults in Portland has been stopped at a saving to the taxpayers of more than \$10,000. The list of the many teachers of the agricultural college published in the Observer a few days ago, all drawing an annual salary of from \$4,000 to \$10,000, on short hours whereas the hay-need is doing as well as from 12 to 16 hours under a scorching sun, yet he is feeling the world and producing that which sustains all animal life and paying more than his share of taxes. Much of his earnings go to pay high salaried officers and teachers. I have been wondering if we might not have in our colleges some Daniel Websters. Young Daniel was to assist his father in saving the hay crop during his vacation. It all had to be mowed with an "armatron" mower. Daniel's acythe could not be adjusted to suit him. He was told by the impatient father to hang it to suit himself. Taking it to a nearby shade tree he hung it over a limb and said, "There father, it hangs to suit me." I realize we have many good bright boys in our colleges and if any of them make themselves out that Daniel we speak of made of him, if we shall feel amply paid for the money we

JOSEPH FINISHES A GOOD CLASS

Interesting Program Marks Close of School — State Honor is Won.

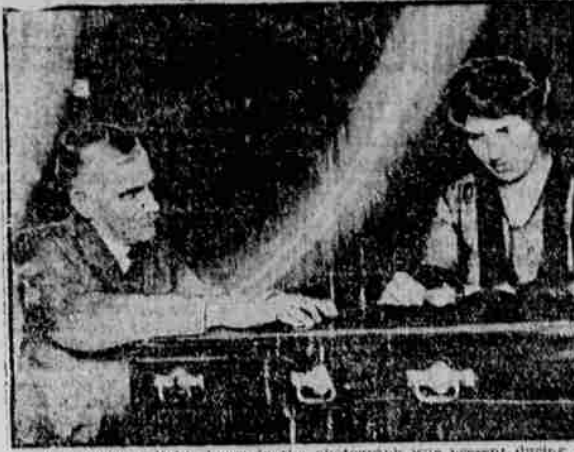
(Special to The Observer)

JOSEPH, Ore., May 12. — With the hall decorated in pink green and pink carnations, commencement exercises at the high school were held last evening and the public schools closed for the summer vacation.

Professor Jory has had a splendid year with school work getting desired results in Joseph. He is one of the able school men of the northwest and the exercises last evening were the final words in his work here.

The class was composed of Ruth Yeager, Irene Gault, Douglas Wilson, Henry Swartwood, Esther Ebon, Kermit McCully, Eva Patton, Ted Mays, Dorothy Smith and Belva Rouse. Before the diplomas were presented by W. G. Boser, chairman of the board of education, a program consisting of prayer by Rev. Willis, and address to the graduates by Bruce Dennis, of the La Grande Evening Observer, a vocal solo by Mrs. A. K. Parker of Enterprise and a talk by Professor Jory, was enjoyed by a large

Strange Light at Seance



The orb of light shown in the photograph was absent during a seance held by Dr. Hereward Carrington. Conan Doyle's assertion of it would prove interesting.

crowd that filled the high school auditorium.

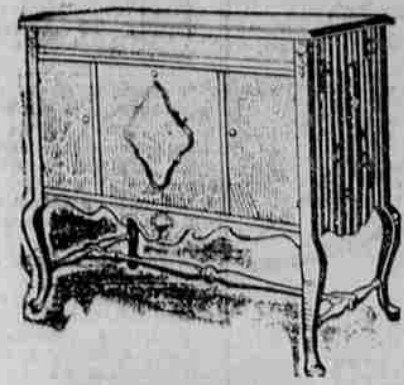
In the state essay contest for fifth, sixth and seventh grades on the subject of dental hygiene, Miss Maud Church of the seventh grade was awarded state honors.

Joseph people regret very much that Professor Jory intends leaving in the state of Washington next year.

The "Liberty" Age.

Liberty day is usually thought of by Americans as July fourth and Liberty year is recalled from our histories as 1776, but statistics indicate that the liberty year of men and women differs. The average age of men seeking divorce is thirty-four and the average age of women on the same quest is twenty-nine.

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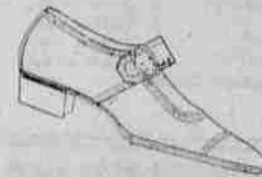
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Elect IKE PATTERSON

REPUBLICAN NOMINEE FOR

GOVERNOR

at the primaries Friday, May 19.



He is a man of rare personality and proved executive ability. Here, briefly, is his story: Isaac Lee Patterson was born in Benton County, Oregon, in 1859. Attended country schools and worked his way through Christian College, Monmouth. Became a successful merchant in Salem. In 1894 was elected State Senator from Marion County. In 1898 was appointed Collector of Customs at Portland, by President McKinley; re-appointed by President Roosevelt in 1902.

A Record of Achievement

WHILE he was collector, the business of Mr. Patterson's office practically doubled yet he reduced the cost of running his office by \$6,380 a year. Since 1906 has been a successful farmer at Eola, Polk County. In 1919 and 1921 served as State Senator from Polk County. As chairman of Senate Finance Committee led the fight against wholesale salary increase bills and defeated most of them. In 1921 voted against increasing Governor's salary.

Vote for Patterson and Stop this Waste!

Since 1913 State taxes have increased 748.7 per cent! This gross extravagance must be stopped! Mr. Patterson has pledged that when elected he will make a substantial decrease in your state taxes by efficient and economical administration. A vote for Senator Patterson is a vote for clean, economical business-like government.

PATTERSON CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

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Paid Adv.

STAR

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