

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

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A VERIFIED PROMISE—It has all the signs of a job, and what more than not doing this job? That it will come true is clear from the high places of the north for the month of the Lord both speak it—Isa. 25:1-7.

Football teams can't go on winning—or losing—forever. Witness the Oregon-Washington contest Saturday. And mention might also be made of Georgia Tech-Notre Dame.

Support Hoover for "safety, solvency and sobriety" is a phrase used in some eastern advertisements for the republican ticket. The safety and solvency of the country can best be promoted by his election, we agree; but even Herbert Hoover will have difficulty keeping all Americans sober.

The Observer expects and hopes to see Walter Stevens, of Union, re-elected to the county court at the coming election. Stevens has been a valuable man as commissioner, as conscientious and energetic in looking after the county business. There is every indication that he will be returned to office by a large and complimentary majority.

The Lower Gove market road is a practical example of county money well invested in highways. It's the type of improvement that will pay the county well. The only unfortunate thing is that our market road fund is limited and will allow as much work each year and no more. And that argues in favor of road bond issues, but with the various projects submitted as separate measures. Only under such a plan will voters go ahead and finish the road-building job in Union county.

A HANDICAP FOR VOTERS

This year in Union county there are over seven thousand registered voters. In Oregon there are more than four hundred thousand. The increase in registration generally in the state has been 23 per cent this year. And it is natural to assume that hundreds and probably thousands of citizens expect to vote on November 6th who have not voted for several elections—and many of them have probably never voted at all.

What will they know about the ballot when they enter an election booth? To many it will be entirely strange. Those who have never or seldom seen one will express their preferences slowly and with difficulty. Some will express them incorrectly and (legally), and their ballots will be thrown out and their franchise lost simply because they were not previously educated as one of the primary duties of citizenship.

It is to correct this condition, no doubt, that a grantee in the Willamette valley passed a resolution requesting the legislature to pass a law requiring the mailing of a sample ballot to all registered voters in the state before each election. That would permit voters to see and study the ballot, determine how to mark it correctly, before they go to the polls. It would remove an existing handicap for voters that would promote more intelligent voting and better citizenship.

The cost of mailing sample ballots to all registered voters, however, must be taken into consideration. With 127,400 registered voters in the state and a conservatively estimated cost of five cents each for sample ballot, envelope, and mailing, the expense to the state would be approximately \$21,250 each election. A cost that would be prohibitive in the light of the evil it seeks to correct.

An alternate plan that would accomplish the same purpose and one that is in general use in many states of the union as a means of educating voters on the appearance and mechanics of the ballot before elections, is the publication in at least one newspaper in each county of the ballot form. That is done with a minimum expense to the state and is regarded by governing experts as even more successful in getting the attention of all voters than a mailed ballot could be.

In Oregon the publication of the official ballot in 440 Portland newspapers and in one newspaper in every other county in the state would cost a total of not more than \$1,100 as opposed to \$21,250 if the mailing plan were used. And a conservative estimate of the number of registered voters reached by these newspapers, including duplications, would be 540,000.

Some such scheme of presenting an actual sample ballot to the voters before each election takes place should receive the attention of the legislature at the coming session. It would be instrumental in improving and speeding the exercise of franchise. It gives the voter a better chance, in fact, more representative. And being a firm believer in the advantages of newspaper space, The Observer naturally thinks ballot presentation in newspapers would be more effective and far more economical than any other method.

ABE MARTIN



A straw vote only shows how eligible voters might vote if they were to vote. It's not the poll. Gov. Austin I. Heppner if he should be the nation's vice president?

84th Birthday Celebrated At Imbler Dinner

By Mrs. C. M. Hale
Special Correspondent
IMBLER, Oregon—The 84th birthday of Mrs. C. M. Hale was celebrated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stanley and their mother, Mrs. C. M. Hale, at Imbler, Oregon, Saturday afternoon, October 20th. The celebration was a most enjoyable one and was attended by a large number of friends and relatives.

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Cove Club Has Enjoyable Party At Miller Home

By Mrs. T. R. Conklin
Special Correspondent
COVE CLUB—The Cove Club had an enjoyable party at the home of Mrs. Frank Miller at her home Saturday afternoon. There were tables of bridge and other games. High scores were made by Mrs. Margaret Miller and Mrs. Georgeanna Clark.

The party was a most enjoyable one and was attended by a large number of friends and relatives. The celebration was a most enjoyable one and was attended by a large number of friends and relatives.

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VOTE!

For These Capable, Trustworthy Candidates For Office

Republicans Nominated These Citizens -- Voters Are Urged To Elect Them

For President and Vice-President
Herbert Hoover and Charles Curtis
Prosperity with Tariff made by its Friends

For Representative, Union County
H. H. Weatherspoon
Incumbent. Seniority on Committees will be his on Re-election

For Secretary of State
Hal E. Hoss
Efficiency and Experience in Public Service

For State Treasurer
Thomas B. Kay
The ever reliable watch dog of the Treasury

For Judges of Supreme Court
John L. Rand and George Rossman
Trusted and Tried and Not Found Wanting

For Representative in Congress
Robert R. Butler
To Hold Eastern Oregon's Present Committee Assignments, Judge Butler Must Be Sent to Congress

For Joint Senator
Colon R. Eberhard
Experienced Legislator, Able Debater; Will Support, Not Hinder, Republican State Administration

For Joint Representative
T. G. Johnson
Farmer and Resident of Wallowa County for 25 years

For County Commissioner
Carl G. Helm
His Record is His Best Recommendation

For County Assessor
D. H. Proctor
Many Years' Experience in This Office

For County Coroner
Dr. F. L. Ralston
Present Incumbent Your Coroner Should Be An M. D.

For County Treasurer
Florence Bacon
Present Incumbent, Prompt and Trustworthy

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