

Mt. Scott Herald

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POLITICAL PREFERENCES

The Mt. Scott Herald has not had the space to spare or the inclination to shy its hat in the political ring to any extent in the present campaign, no doubt observed by its readers.

Our ambition is simply to publish a good, clean community newspaper that will subscribe the interests of the Mt. Scott district, faithfully furnishing the happenings of this locality each week, and assisting our utmost to better the condition of its residents.

The publisher being a comparative stranger in the city, county and state, has not the temerity to attempt to advise older residents what local candidates to vote for, who are no doubt familiar with the vices and virtues, sins of omission and commission of those desiring official preferment at this election. The writer invariably chooses those whom he believes the most competent and capable, regardless of political affiliations, creed, clique, clan or length and color of hirsute adornment.

Our preference for the highest office in the gift of the people of this United States would be Senator Harding for "reasons too numerous to mention." Regardless of who is selected next Tuesday, any change from the present administration will be for the better, we believe, although if Governor Cox should be elected he would be a very little better than a rubber stamp in the hands of the present incumbent—whose administration, most autocratic, has failed miserably to handle war or peace with efficiency.

A railroad claim agent's house in Seattle was badly damaged last Monday by a bomb thrown by an unknown person, probably the work of some one who failed to receive even a pleasant look for damages sustained by the criminal carelessness of the company in transportation of freight. While the Herald does not approve of such overt acts, a recent experience of the writer with a railway company in moving goods to this city would make some people anarchistically inclined. The law admits of such delays perpetuated by claim agents and little 2x4 deputies that if goods are damaged by breakage you might just about as well let 'em go and forget it. It is no wonder some people lose all control of their better selves under such circumstances.

In some sections of California the Japanese now have control by lease and otherwise of 75 per cent of the land under cultivation. In Oregon they are becoming more a menace every day. In Seattle Japanese are practically the owners of many blocks of business and residential buildings. It's about time for residents of the Pacific Coast to realize the situation. In Japan, a foreigner cannot get a look-in for lease or purchase of a foot of ground. Why should we tolerate lease and ownership of lands by the Japs in this country?

As it occurs regularly four times a year, the Herald has five publications days this month—a long month for the publisher and printer.

Every man in the world who has ever amounted to anything has at sometime in been the subject of persecution and derision.

Dan Kellaheer for Mayor, means 5c car fare. Vote 99 X.—Pd. Advt.

MINOR NOTES.

A counterfeit \$100 federal note is in circulation. We haven't been stung as yet, and have no fear of the future.

In the good old days gone by, a dry cellar was one of the main inducements featured by one desiring to sell his house. A "wet" cellar would sell twice as fast these days.

Husbands come high in Seattle. A woman in that city recently was compelled by the court to pay \$6000 for alienating the affection of another woman's hubby. We'll wager there are husbands in Portland that could be bought for a whole lot less money than that.

Look out for your dog; unless you have a license tag attached. The dog catcher started on his rounds last Monday.

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WARNING

Holders of U. S. Liberty 4 per cent bonds of the second issue should convert before November 15 and holders of the first issue 4 per cent bonds should convert before December 15, into 4 1/4 per cent bonds of the respective issues, in order to obtain the higher interest rate during the next ensuing period; and failure to exchange also will result in loss of market value in case of subsequent sale.

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RECOMMENDATIONS ON MEASURES

The Oregonian Analyzes State Bills and Amendments

Following the the Oregonian's analysis of the several measures on the state ballot and its recommendations thereon.

Compulsory voting and registration amendment. 300 yes; 301 no.

This amendment establishes nothing except the authority of the legislature to compel by subsequent enactment all qualified persons to register and vote. Similar measures in other countries have failed of their purpose and even to approach effectiveness in this country would require establishment of some form of police espionage antagonistic to American ideas of liberty.

Vote 301 no.

Regulating legislative sessions and payment of legislators. 302 yes; 303 no.

Constitutional amendment lengthening the legislative term from 40 to 60 days, and increasing the pay of members from \$120 to \$300 and forbidding in most instances the introduction of new bills after the 40th day. Adoption would promote a more orderly consideration of laws. This prospective improvement is worth the additional cost.

Vote 302 yes.

Oleomargarine bill. 304 yes; 305 no.

The bill is an attempt to legislate oleomargarine, coconut butter and all other butter substitutes from the market by imposing a high license upon sale and upon use in public places. State and federal laws now amply protect the consumer from deception. The bill is defective in that it prescribes no license for retailers and its effect would largely be to transfer manufacture of wholesome butter substitutes in this state to other states but still permit retail of imported products. Bad in both principle and detail.

Vote 305 no.

Single tax amendment. 306 yes; 307 no.

Eliminates all taxes except taxes on land with the ultimate but unstated object of expropriation thru high taxation of all lands and conversion of all farmers into tenants of the state. It is a measure heretofore rejected by the voters on numerous occasions. Similar measures adopted in Canadian provinces have proved an economic failure and are being abandoned as rapidly as possible. It is a dream of theorists, some of whom have money, and has been worked to death in Oregon by propagandists in need of meal tickets. Whether its proponents have been subsidized this year has not been disclosed.

Vote 307 no.

Amendment fixing term of certain county officers. 308 yes; 309 no.

An amendment giving to five county officers the same tenure of office as other county officers and state and city officers in general. Corrects an unreasonable discrepancy and would promote better performance of county business.

Vote 308 yes.

Port of Portland dock commission consolidation. 310 yes; 311 no.

Provides for the consolidation of two commissions performing the same functions and authorizes the single commission to issue bonds for river channel and inner harbor improvement, and for acquisition, reclamation and disposal of low lands in and abutting harbor. While approval of the entire state is required it involves no statewide taxes or issuance of state bonds. Is wholly local in its application to the Port of Portland. Does not specifically commit port commission to the much discussed Swan island project. In its progressive and investment character it is similar to the interstate bridge, Columbia highway and general road programme.

Vote 310 yes.

Anti-compulsory vaccination measure. Amendment. 312 yes; 313 no.

Title of this amendment is a misnomer. It is an anti-medication measure and is plainly designed to permit freedom of movement in public places of disease carriers. There is no compulsory vaccination in Oregon and none suggested. Amendment is denounced by scientists of national repute as a menace to public health and as a distinct backward step.

Vote 313 no.

Amendment fixing legal rate of interest. 314 yes; 315 no.

Fixes the legal rate at 4 per cent and the contract rate at not more than 5 per cent. Attempts by law to reduce interest rates are as old as history and have never failed to promote a money stringency, and actually increases the rate of interest by compelling borrowers to resort to unscrupulous lenders. No home owner with a mortgage on his house would be able to renew it if this amendment passed, except by violating the law and paying a higher rate for the attendant risk.

Vote 315 no.

Roosevelt bird refuge measure. 316 yes; 317 no.

Cedes Malheur lake to the government for a perpetual bird reserve. Out of the irreconcilable evidence at hand The Oregonian has reached the conclusion that part of Malheur lake area is valuable for agriculture and part is not; that adoption of this measure would mean surrender of certain valuable property held in trust for the public schools, in return for which countless aquatic and marsh birds, some of which are enemies of farm

pests, would be better perpetuated it is a transaction on which the voter should use his own judgment. No recommendation.

Divided legislative session amendment. 318 yes; 319 no.

The aim of this amendment is the same as that of 302 yes-303 no, heretofore discussed, but it seeks to attain it in a different way. It provides for a recess of nearly 60 days after the legislature has been in session 40 days and for reconvening of that body thereafter for ten days in which only final action would be permitted on bills considered in the first period. Does not increase per diem of members but adds somewhat to cost of legislature by lengthening session and increasing mileage traveled. Those in favor of this measure should also vote 302 yes, as widespread discrimination between the two by those who favor an improvement in legislative procedure will mean the defeat of both. If both pass the one receiving the largest affirmative vote will prevail.

Vote 318 yes.

State market commission act. 320 yes; 321 no.

This measure gives state encouragement to co-operative and other methods of reducing the spread between what the producer receives and the consumer pays. It is in the interests of both classes.

Vote 320 yes.

What Portland Ballot Offers.

The Oregonian presents herewith the results of its study of the ordinance and charter amendments to be voted on in Portland November 2, together with its recommendations thereon:

Zoning ordinance. 500 yes; 501 no.

A measure heretofore adequately discussed by the press. It establishes districts wherein certain type of buildings and property users are permitted or prohibited, the object being definitely to fix the character of these districts as regards erection of factories, business houses, flats, apartments, residences or other structures. It is in line with the best ideas of civic improvement and betterment.

Vote 500 yes.

Amendment authorizing additional municipal judge and establishment of night sessions. 502 yes; 503 no.

An incident in city growth. The present municipal court is so overburdened with work that proper consideration cannot be given to cases and it is constantly running behind in its work.

Vote 502 yes.

Amendment authorizing five-year lighting contracts. 504 yes; 505 no.

Contracts may be entered into for lighting streets and public buildings now for only two years. A lower rate can be had on a five-year contract. An economy measure.

Vote 504 yes.

Amendment ratifying reinstatement of certain civil service employees. 506 yes; 507 no.

Involves the civil service standing of 34 city employees who at one time left the service, but have been re-employed. A perfunctory measure involving no new principle.

Vote 506 yes.

Amendment authorizing levy of three mills annually in addition to the maximum of eight mills authorized by the present charter. 508 yes; 509 no.

This is a re-submission of a measure adopted one year ago. It merely authorizes a continuance of the present tax rate, the increase of a year ago having been made temporary in the hope that municipal living costs would come down. There having been no reduction in the cost of materials or labor the extra three mills are as necessary as they ever were.

Vote 508 yes.

Charter amendment authorizing transfer of property under control of dock commission to port commission. 510 yes; 511 no.

This amendment permits transfer of property as provided in the port and dock commission consolidation measure on the state ballot. It will be without effect if the state measure fails but will be necessary if it carries.

Vote 510 yes.

Amendment authorizing progress payments on street and sewer construction work. 512 yes; 513 no.

Street and sewer construction contractors must now await completion of their work before receiving payment from the city. Large contracts are therefore bid on only by concerns having strong financial backing, and competition is thus limited. This amendment authorizes issuance of warrants up to 80 per cent of the work performed during the progress of the work. The warrants draw 6 per cent which would be paid by the improvement district until retired by sale of improvement district bonds. It is believed that despite this interest charge for a short period the property owners would profit by obtaining a lower contract price on the work. As progress payments are optional with the council the plan can be abandoned if it does not make the predicted saving. It is a safe measure and worth trying.

Vote 512 yes.

As Liberty Bonds and Liberty Loan notes gradually find their trend of the bonds towards par. It way into the hands of permanent holders, it is the opinion of financiers that we may look for an even trend of the bonds towards par. It is the wise investor who is holding onto his bonds.

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