

OREGON CITY COURIER

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BAIT FOR SUCKERS

This is the time of the year when the political candidate seeks a cute and catching phrase to place alongside his name on the ballot. This phrase is designed to catch the eye of the careless voter, and cause him or her to put his X where it will help the candidate.

"Lower taxes," "a square deal," "Integrity to the trust of office," "For the people," and such slogans are being nailed down by ambitious candidates. And in nine cases out of ten these slogans are merely sucker bait.

Clackamas county this coming election will be asked to re-elect many of its officers and officials. But the pretty phrasing on the ballot is not the place to look for the record of these candidates who are desirous of still hanging on to their place on the payroll. The place to look to see whether or not candidates should be trusted with a second term is at the record these officials have already made.

Some of the candidates have made excellent records. And some of them have not. The same applies to candidates who have had no previous experience. In business or professional life some of these candidates have made good records. And some of them have not. The voter should forget the catchy slogans that will grace election cards and the ballot, and should look at the actual records the candidates have made.

There is going to be a lot of hulla-balloo this election about economy. There are going to be some candidates who will really work for economy if they get into office, and there are going to be some who will forget all about economy, once they get into power. With candidates who have no previous record, it may be hard to decide as to their sincerity of intentions.

But candidates who are already holding office, or who have held office in the past, should not be hard to size up.

When Bill Spivets writes you that he wants to go back to Salem again and "make laws for the people," don't worry about the promises in his letter. See what he did when he was at Salem before. If he voted for good bills and fought top-heavy appropriations, he will be a good man to send back. But if, when he was there before, he was "absent" when the vote was taken on important measures, and if he was in the gang that planned the looting of the taxpayers, he will not be a good man to send back. It is easy to go to the record and see what these former office-holders have done; and as for those who are now holding office and who seek another term, it is far easier to weigh their qualifications.

Voters should be guided largely this year by past performances. If records are diligently looked into, if candidates are asked to explain why they did this or that, if the voters consider well the records made—then next year we should have no yelping about high taxes.

Look over the field, neighbor, and see what you think of the men who want to be allowed to run your affairs again for you. And vote for the ones that you think will run public business as they would a private business. It is easy to pick good men, when one disregards the campaign sucker bait and relies on facts and records.

FOLLOWING A FAD

It is popular these days to have "weeks" and "days." We have had "electric week," we have had various "weeks" given to the sale of certain brands of coffee, stockings and canned soups; we have had "salmon day," "apple day," "cigar day," and a host of other days.

And right now we have with us "baby week."

The Courier has been somewhat neglected by the press agents who have been fixing up "baby week" for the public, so we may perhaps be a trifle hazy as to just what we are supposed to do to our babies during this week. Judging from the other

every community in the county. The Courier has been liberally patronized in the past by advertisers, because the Courier has reached the people, and the advertisers know it.

However, the Courier would at this time like to call the attention of its readers and advertisers alike to a recent address of Herman Rosenfeld, advertising manager of the Sears, Roebuck company. Speaking to the delegates of the American Ad Club, assembled in convention, Mr. Rosenfeld said, in part:

"We have a bureau whose duty it is to reach each week the county newspapers from all over the country. There is not a paper of any consequence in our trade territory that our bureau does not get. This bureau looks over these papers and when we find a town where the merchants are not advertising in the local paper, we immediately flood that territory with our literature. It always brings results."

This is something for advertisers to think about. And it is also something for readers to think about when they hear their local merchant "cussing" the mail order houses.

CIVILIZATION

We live in an age of civilization. As proof of it observe on the one hand the war in Europe.

And on the other hand look at the congress of these United States.

Glance also in passing at President Woodrow Wilson. The President realizes, probably more fully than any other American, what a tragedy the European war is. He has sources of information that are closed to the rest of us. And so keen is his appreciation of the futile horror of that war that he is doing his utmost to

compose the battling armies of Europe.

To us, and to many others, it looks as if civilization had but few friends these days, and as if President Woodrow Wilson was one of the most staunch and able friends left. Let us leave civilization with the President.

DO IT NOW!

Registration books will close on April 18. There will be no opportunity for voters to register after that date, except in certain peculiar circumstances. It is therefore the duty of every voter, man and woman, to register before April 18.

April 18 is just about a month off from the end of this week.

There is just about a month left to register in, and during that time if we are to have a truly representative vote by the people of this county, about 75 percent of the electors will have to register. If they don't, the vote this year will not represent the wishes of the majority of the people.

It is the duty of every voter to cast his or her ballot. This year, more than ever, it is especially important that American citizens should go to the polls and express their will. Not only is this the year of a presidential election, but in Oregon there will be many matters of more than usual weight submitted to the voters.

The only way to be sure of your vote is to register before April 18; and the only way to be sure of doing that, is to DO IT NOW.

It does not take long to register. If you can't come to the county seat and register in the county clerk's office, you will find a deputy registrar in your own community. It will pay you to take the time at once to see that your name is duly enrolled

when the raid was made. The Courier always has had, and still has, a high opinion of United States regulars. But the detachment at Columbus, New Mexico, must have been very sound asleep the night the Villa bandits stole past their camp and reached the city that they pillaged and shot up.

After the regulars woke up they did splendid execution. They not only repelled the Mexicans, but they pursued them so closely that many were left on the field dead or wounded, and much of the loot stolen by the bandits was abandoned in their flight. The cavalymen redeemed themselves and in a measure blotted out the tragedy which the carelessness of somebody at first made possible. However, the fact remains that those Villa thugs never should have passed the American line. Of course they went pass again, everybody will be awake in the future. It is now only to be regretted that they passed the line once—had sentries been awake, there are a lot of bodies in the cemeteries today that wouldn't have been there. It is a pity that there was laxity.

THE COUNTY FAIR

Purchase of the present county fair grounds at Canby by the county, on account of which it is to be found elsewhere in these columns, may not be as ill-advised as some people think. The purchase will save the county money that has already been dumped in the enterprise, and will make it possible for the county to establish the fair in a more central location. It will also open a way for the establishment of a county poor farm—which is very badly needed—and will enable the county court to get some



What the Public Wants to Know

By O. W. EASTHAM, Republican Candidate for District Attorney.

The community is not really interested in the office-seeker's "glad hand" or his well arranged line of "bank".

The public wants an answer to two questions:

- (1) Is he Able to "deliver the goods"?
- (2) Is he Determined, in Dead Earnest, to "deliver the goods"?

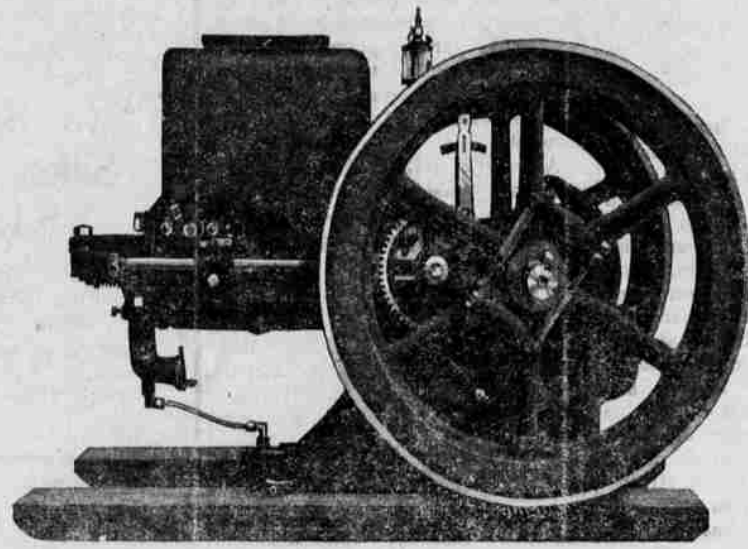
What does a candidate for the Republican Nomination mean in saying "It may be necessary to have special counsel to help out". (Letter to the Enterprise dated Jan. 26.) Does he mean that he may not be able to "deliver the goods", or does he mean to place his O. K. on the employment of special counsel to assist the present District Attorney—one single fee that I know of being \$250.

What does the same candidate mean (same letter) in saying, "It may be necessary to expend several hundred dollars a year for the purpose of hiring detectives". Does he mean that the Sheriff and his force of deputies may not do the work the County pays them to do, or does he mean to place his O. K. on the Levings job, approved by the present District Attorney, which cost the County about \$2500. Indeed the County has had some detective experience and Oregon City has had some.

My statement, published two weeks ago, was: "This year, as a fair estimate, the office will cost between \$5000 and \$6000. The amount should be \$2100 and no more". The present District Attorney has not challenged that statement.

I said that "The expense of the office will be just \$2100 if I am on the job". No loophole there for "Expense or special counsel" or "Hire of detectives". No chance to arrive at the same old \$5000 result under a different system of book-keeping.

(Paid Adv. by O. W. Eastham, Residence 620 11th Street, Oregon City, Oregon)



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embroidered in it. He is suffering jibes and sneers and attacks that are beyond erasion, but he is holding firmly to his course, so that the United States may keep honorably out of the conflict. He is working for civilization.

Recently he came into conflict with congress. He threw down the gauntlet, and demanded that a poll be taken. The poll in congress resulted in the President being upheld in his course. But though congress is supposed to be a manifestation of a high state of civilization, it now develops that the members thereof didn't know what they were voting for when their balloting upheld the President!

The result was in the interest of civilization and in the interest of the broader humanity which the vision of Woodrow Wilson sees. But congress didn't know it—congressmen and senators admit it.

This being the case, are there any civilized Americans, who think that American civilization is worth preserving, who care to trust the destinies of this nation to that bunch of congressmen?

We do not believe there are many. We believe that in this day of world-wide upheaval and counterplot, the real Americans would prefer to have Woodrow Wilson keep his hold on the helm of the ship of state, and not relinquish it to a group of congressmen who know no more about what they are doing than do the individuals who

among the voters—for after April 18, if you haven't registered, you will have no direct voice in the affairs of the county, state or nation this year. Hence if things do not go in the way you think they should, you will be responsible—for your vote might have changed things.

Get busy and register. Do it today. DO IT NOW. You will want to vote, and the only way you can get to do this is by registering before April 18.

MEXICO AGAIN

The one bright spot in the fervid history of the past week around Columbus, New Mexico is the fact that after the United States cavalry woke up and got on the job, President Wilson and the administration stood squarely behind the American soldiery and endorsed their every move. There was no hesitancy, immediate pursuit of the villa bandits was taken up, and this pursuit had the solid backing of the President. American honor was at stake, and President Wilson showed his enemies that when once the national honor was involved, no action could be too quick or positive.

As we say, that was the one bright spot. In the news of the massacre of Americans, however, there are some spots not as bright. In fact it is highly improbable if things could have been worse had the militia, instead of an attachment of regular army men, been guarding the border

return for the very great annual outlay that is now passed out to the indigent poor and to the lazy.

In fact, with a county poor farm, where paupers can be worked at least to the extent of raising their own vegetables and dairy products, and where all can be housed in a group, the county should save much of the duplication of outlay that now trickles from the treasury in the form of charity. Also, the creation of a county poor farm will probably force many people off the lists of county relief, who are now hanging on because the bounty of the county court provides them an easy living.

The Courier recently enumerated a number of cases that are drawing down county money and living in idleness. Probably these people, rather than go to the poor farm, will get out and rustle for themselves. And as long as the contemplated purchase of the present fair grounds does not carry with it the continuance of the county fair at that location, the step will probably be a good one in the long run. Opponents of the scheme, who live in the northern part of the county, should take the entire plan into consideration before they condemn it.

DO IT NOW!

Do it now. What? Register.

April 18 is the last day you can register. Why wait till then?

Last Friday the sun was shining. Yet some people say Friday is an unlucky day.

The county now has a road boss and a road engineer. The result ought to be that the county will shortly have some better roads.

Jokers in the county seat heaved a dummy into the river last week, and then called the coroner. Some people have odd ideas of humor.

And now some mean person has gone and said that if the Fallsarians join the militia, that the Fallsarians' roster will look like a sieve.

Oregon City will soon be the mecca for sportsmen again, and the river near the falls will be thick with boats and lines. Is your tackle ready?

Vermont turned down prohibition. Maybe somebody showed the Vermonters a picture of the Multnomah hotel, in Portland, which closed after Oregon went dry.

Speaking of preparedness, we note by the government crop report that there is more produce in the hands of the farmers right now than ever before in history.

Indications are that one of the most picturesque fights of the coming campaign will be over the constable's office. Yet it isn't a job that many people care for.

Speaking of the weather, it is a curious coincidence that the coming of March caused an abrupt stop in the stream of spring poetry that was flowing into the Courier office.

It is reported that everybody is digging in the cellar these days in the hopes of finding something. Such industry may yet produce a fortune—it has done so once, it seems.

We trust the street committee of the city council is still investigating the authorship of that mysterious ordinance that was aimed at the city's water front. They haven't reported yet.

Even the Booth-Kelly mill has voluntarily raised the wages of its employees, according to the Oregonian. This is a sort of double-action republican admission that times are prosperous.

Judge Gatens is quoted as having said that "every home should have a boss." Most of the homes with which we are acquainted have a boss, all right, and she is pretty steadily on the job.

It might be appropriate to recall at this time that there is spread on the city records an order, issued by Linn E. Jones when he was mayor, that public meetings in which hysteria played a large part must stop not later than half past ten in the evening.

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The Cancelled Check

In the course of business a bill is sometimes presented for collection where it has already been paid.

This may happen to you as it has to so many. Such an occurrence is annoying and requires explanations and sometimes the receipt.

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