

CANDIDATES VOICE OPINIONS ON KLAN

Colonel White Hits Row on Race and Religion.

W. M. PIERCE TALKS TAXES

Messrs. Purdy and Starkweather Think Ku Kluxers Have Right to Organize.

(Continued From First Page)

of unprincipled political manipulators to make religious and racial antagonisms the outstanding issue in the present campaign. Nor have I failed to observe the efforts of political gangsters, some of them resurrected from the stinking sepulchres of Oregon's rotten political past, dragging into the battle the ancient poison stink-pot of prejudice and dissent. Nor have I failed to see the swollen war-chests that reek of corporate greed and a lively anticipation of favor to be had at the expense of the people of Oregon.

But I have not thought that the people of Oregon, whose soundness, virile patriotism and passionate love of state and country has asserted itself so strikingly in dark hours of threatened national disaster, could be swayed by the little maelstrom of a deliberate religious and political brawl kindled and fanned to white heat in Portland.

Your questionnaire confines the matter to the Ku Klux Klan, but very generously permits replies to assume a broader scope, which is a most fortunate and gratifying concession, since the Ku Klux Klan is only one group in the brawl.

Your concession permits me to look the whole situation squarely in the face. There are two well defined warring camps in the brawl and those who are fanning the flames expect to draw the lines so tightly that all other issues will be lost sight of in the wrangle. One camp is busy rallying support under a denominational and racial standard and the other under the banner of an anti-denominational and racial standard.

Into each camp there is being fed lurid rumor, report and alarm of every sort that cunning manipulators can devise in the hope of keeping the issue a running sore and drawing as many voters as possible into the lineup of the respective warring camps.

Without such agitation the wound quickly heal under the beam of sound American citizenship that heals all wounds in this great free country.

Had such virus been openly infused into our community or national life during the period of our national crisis the leaders would have faced trial for sedition. In those days all true Americans faced the common cause of our country without regard to race, color or creed. Protestant, Catholic and Jew fell together in the common cause of America on the battlefields of France, united in the common creed of the constitution of the United States and banded together in the inseparable bond under the Stars and Stripes.

And it is no less seditions to fan the flames of division and dissent in a primary campaign at the very hour when the last of those who made the supreme sacrifice over there, unquestioned as to race or creed, are lying in silence to their eternal resting place in Oregon.

If such a brawl is the deciding issue in this campaign, then I must refuse to be a party to it.

If victory is unattainable on the broad grounds of sound American citizenship and good government, then honorable defeat ought to be the deliberate choice of any candidate whose first thought is the ultimate welfare of this state which we have inherited from the sacrifices of hardy American forefathers and which we of today merely hold in trust for our children.

You ask if I belong to the Ku Klux Klan. I do not, have not and will not.

You ask if the Ku Klux Klan has endorsed me for office. It has not.

You ask if I have sought its endorsement. I have not.

You ask if I believe the governor's proclamation was inspired by politics. I do not feel called upon to question the sincerity of any official act upon which I have no information as to the details.

GEORGE A. WHITE.

KLAN SUPPORT ACCEPTABLE

Mr. Starkweather Doubts That Operations Are Issue.

PORTLAND, May 15.—(To the Editor.)—In response to your question relating to the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, I herewith submit my replies:

Q. Do you believe the operations of the Ku Klux Klan are a menace to political freedom and public safety?

A. I do not.

Q. Do you consider the Ku Klux Klan and the things it stands for an issue in the primary election campaign?

A. I do not.

Q. Have you encountered any political activities by the Ku Klux Klan?

A. No.

Q. Has the Ku Klux Klan endorsed you for office?

A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. Have you been receptive to or sought the political endorsement of the Ku Klux Klan?

A. I have not sought the endorsement of the Ku Klux Klan. I do not know just how you might define receptivity, but I will say that I am receptive to the extent that I would not repudiate the endorsement of the Klan should I receive it, any more than I would repudiate the endorsement of any other reputable organization.

Q. Do you believe that the governor's proclamation is inspired by political ambition or is warranted by the facts?

A. I do not believe that the proclamation is warranted by the facts, but I also am sure that no man who has been honored by the state of Oregon as has Governor Olcott would delib-

FOUR GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES DISCUSS THE KU KLUX KLAN ISSUE RAISED BY GOVERNOR OLCOTT.

Following are excerpts from letters to The Oregonian, written by candidates in response to a request that each clearly define his attitude toward the Ku Klux Klan and Governor Olcott's denunciation of that organization. The responses of five other candidates were published in a previous issue. None now remains to be heard from.

George A. White, republican candidate.—My service as a citizen, in peace and in war, has taught me confidence in the undying loyalty of the average American and has brought me to view as enemies of our country those who would sow the seeds of group dissent and division. I have had, and now have, no intention of prostrating myself as an American citizen before any denominational or anti-denominational or racial group for the purpose of winning political favor and support. Protestant, Catholic and Jew fell together in the common cause of America on the battlefields of France, united in the common creed of the constitution of the United States, and banded together in one inseparable bond under the Stars and Stripes. You ask if I belong to the Ku Klux Klan. I do not, I have not and will not.

Harvey G. Starkweather, democratic candidate.—I do not believe the operations of the Ku Klux Klan are a menace to political freedom and public safety. I do not consider the Klan and the things it stands for an issue in the primary campaign. The Ku Klux Klan has not, to my knowledge, endorsed me for office. I would not repudiate the endorsement of the Klan should I receive it. I do not believe that the governor's proclamation is warranted by the facts, but I am sure that no man who has been honored by the state of Oregon as has Governor Olcott would deliberately prostitute his great office by issuing over the seal of the state a proclamation designed to serve his private political ambitions.

Walter M. Pierce, democratic candidate.—I hold that the paramount and only issue at this time is the reduction of taxes and the shifting of a part of the burden of taxation from real estate to intangible wealth, which now pays little or no taxes. As a democrat I cannot see why I should be asked to take part in the great split in the republican party. The only endorsement I have sought, or seek, is that of those who believe as I do that government should be simplified and taxes lowered and made equitable.

Will E. Purdy, democratic candidate.—This extra stir by the governor at this time has been planned by the invisible leaders of the state for the purpose of befuddling the republicans of the state. The people must elect to the office of governor one who will take the kick out of moonshine and knock the hell out of those drawing state money without first earning it. In conclusion, I will state that I am not a member of the Ku Klux Klan. I have never conversed with a member of that order to my knowledge. I have never seen any of their literature. I know absolutely nothing about them, excepting what I have read in newspapers.

Information so obtained cannot always be considered a reliable guide in the forming of an opinion causing one to endorse or denounce a person or organization. It is my opinion, however, in this connection, that people have the right to organize themselves into a body. That they have a perfect right to include or exclude any person or persons from membership as they see fit; that they can legitimately proceed and not let the right hand know what the left hand does.

Years ago a republican city attorney found a law under which I could be arrested for carrying a big bass drum and old glory on the streets while preaching the gospel of Christ. Surely if the Ku Klux Klan is doing as good a work, "under cover," as I am in authority could find a law justifying action against them, without any proclamation from a governor.

WILL E. PURDY.

MR. PIERCE ON SIDE-LINES

Democrat Refuses to Take Part in "Republican Row."

LA GRANDE, Or., May 15.—(To the Editor.)—In reply to your questionnaire, I respectfully submit the following as my answer:

As a farmer and stock raiser, I know the desperate situation confronting those engaged in these basic industries, and I hold that the paramount and only issue at this time is the reduction of taxes and the shifting of a part of the burden of taxation from real estate to intangible wealth which now pays little or no taxes. I do not think this supreme issue should be confused, and probably defeated by the introduction of issues which have no bearing upon the vital purpose of bringing the government back to simplicity and economical administration.

In any event, as a democrat, I cannot see why I should be asked to take part in the great split in the republican party brought on through abandonment by its leaders of the last reduction issue, and the substitution by those leaders on both sides, of extraneous issues which create hatred, passion and feuds in communities.

The only endorsement I have sought, or seek, is that of those who believe as I do that government should be simplified and taxes be lowered and made equitable.

WALTER M. PIERCE.

RIGHT TO ORGANIZE AFFIRMED

Mr. Purdy Knows Little of Klan, Says Statement Issued.

SALEM, Or., May 16.—(Special.)—In response to your telegram requesting my opinion relative to the governor's proclamation against the Ku Klux Klan, I will say that in my opinion this extra stir by the governor, at this time, has been planned by the visible leaders of the republican party for the express purpose of "befuddling" the republicans of the state and causing them to take their minds from the real issues involved in this campaign.

No candidate who has been over the state recently can be ignorant that the people of the state are thoroughly disgusted with the high taxes and the state's increased indebtedness. There are but two political parties in Oregon. One of these must bear the responsibility for this expensive administration.

It cannot all be laid to the governor. It is true, hence Messrs. Lee.

GEORGE A. WHITE.

Black Currant Is Destroyed.

OLYMPIA, Wash., May 14.—(Special.)—All black currant bushes in

Spokane Has Rabid Coyotes.

OLYMPIA, Wash., May 16.—First reports of rabid coyotes in Spokane county were made to Predatorial Animal Inspector Bach here today. Concentration of hunters in that vicinity was directed, Robert Tullock, a federal predatory animal hunter, has been ordered from White Sulphur Springs, Mont., to Newport in Pend Oreille county, to specialize on extermination of cougar and bobcats in the Newport district.

Shagit, Snohomish, Whatcom and Jefferson counties, where white pine blister rust was reported, have been destroyed, C. L. Robinson, supervisor of horticulture, said today. This completes the removal of the agency through which the disease spreads.

RAYMOND, Wash., May 16.—(Special.)—The bid of the Penn Bridge company of Seattle and Portland for order issued by the state department of agriculture. A small area of

city at unit prices and aggregating \$148,000 has been accepted.

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Men's Suits

of high quality
\$35, \$40, \$45, \$50

Morrison at Fourth

Bean, Patterson and Hall are all partly responsible for the failure thereof. The present controversy between them cannot settle the vital issues involved. The people must elect to the office of governor one who will take the kick out of moonshine and knock the hell out of those drawing state money without first earning it.

In conclusion, I will state that I am not a member of the Ku Klux Klan. I have never conversed with a member of that order to my knowledge. I have never seen any of their literature. I know absolutely nothing about them, excepting what I have read in newspapers.

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WILL E. PURDY.

First Forest Fire Reported.

OLYMPIA, Wash., May 14.—(Special.)—The first forest fire of the season in this state was reported to Supervisor Page today. The fire originated in an old burn near Toulin postoffice, east of Castle Rock, in Cowlitz county. The fire was in green timber and was not spreading rapidly, it was said. District Warden Wallace of Chehalis and H. C. Couch, Cowlitz county warden, were directed to take charge of the fire and to engage whatever crew was necessary to subdue it.

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Tub frocks—

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Linen from 10.50 Gingham from 10.50
Eponge frocks, 15.00 Dotted Swisses, 27.50

Sweaters—

in firm, woolen weaves Bright tones of tomato, jade, tangerine, or soft tones of orchid and beige give one a colorful choice in slipover or coat-style sweaters. And never was a more perfect-fitting selection—at such extremely low prices!

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Are you going to permit your primary to be the battle ground for contending factions over an irrelevant religious issue which is wholly foreign to the principles of the Republican party, and the ideals of Americanism that have been taught by the founders of the Republican party? Mr. Bean is a Republican true to the faith. He is for no faction and against no faction, but guarantees equal and fair treatment to all citizens alike. There is no union of church and state in our form of government. Do not permit this issue to be forced upon you. The Republican party is composed of men of all races and all religions. Let us keep the faith; let us preserve equality of opportunity for all men, and above all, let no clique or faction control the Republican primary for the purpose of punishing another faction. Let us adhere to the Constitution and the principles promulgated by Lincoln and Roosevelt.

Bean-for-Governor Committee

JOHN M. PIPES, Secretary,
811 Chamber of Commerce.

(Paid Advertisement)

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Makes tidy-looking feet—that give the right impression. SHINOLA brightens up your dull-looking shoes, and makes them wear longer.

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