

OLGOTT PROMISES SANE GOVERNMENT

No Wild Assertions Made, Declares Governor.

MR. PIERCE IS SCORED

Statements on Administration's Share in Tax Situation Called Misleading.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Continuation of a sane, honest and conservative state government devoid of thrills, sensationalism and empty promises was promised by Governor E. W. Osgood in his final address on his eastern Oregon tour here tonight.

"I am not boasting of my accomplishments," said Governor Osgood, "but my administration has been attacked by Walter Pierce, the democratic nominee, and the democratic attack central committee have not made any wild promises, but am making my campaign squarely on my record as a public servant.

"Extravagant and misleading statements have been made as to the administration's share in the present tax situation. I want the people of Oregon to know that at no time in the history of the state have the institutions been in better condition than they are now. The executive appointments have been made on the basis of efficiency, and not at the dictation of any clique or faction. I ask you to review my administration and point out if you can where there has been any scandal. In all of the extravagant and misleading statements that have been made, the state's business is being conducted on anything but solid, sane and conservative business lines.

Costs Are Compared. "The nearest this charge has been made was the assertion that the taxes of the state have grown under my administration. No one has dared to distort the facts so far as to declare that I have increased them or that I could have lessened them to any material degree.

Governor Olgott then went on to show that instead of levying \$15,000,000 annually for state administration expense, as alleged by Mr. Pierce, the money used for this purpose aggregated only \$12,000,000, or \$3,000,000 less.

T. B. Kay, ex-state treasurer, again charged that Mr. Pierce had a record of extravagance in the legislature, that he voted for more than 95 per cent of the appropriation bills and was responsible for approximately \$3,000,000 of tax levied this year.

Tax Relief Not Helped. "As far as I have been able to determine," declared Mr. Kay, "the democratic candidate for governor has not placed his hand to relieve the tax burdens of this state."

Mr. Kay referred particularly to the taxes in Hood River county, in demonstrating the falsity of the claims of Mr. Pierce that he will reduce the taxes in Oregon 50 per cent. "This is simply a vote-catching phrase," declared Mr. Kay, "upon which Walter Pierce hopes to ride into office.

"The total amount of taxes levied on Hood River county property this year is \$228,244. Of this 50 per cent was levied by county and local authorities for schools, roads, city and town purposes, including the irrigation tax of \$62,803. I ask you in all seriousness how a governor can cut the local part of this tax in two? Reduction of the taxes is up to the voter and not up to the governor.

Pierce Plan Discussed. "When pressed for an explanation, Mr. Pierce said his 50 per cent tax reduction promises applied to state taxes. I will attempt to show you how this would work out in Hood River county. "Only 18 per cent of all Hood River county's taxes this year were state taxes. These include soldiers' bonus, 3 per cent; market roads, 2 per cent; state aid to elementary schools, 4 per cent, and higher educational institutions, 5 1/2 per cent. The latter tax includes the educational aid to the soldiers and sailors as well as all millage bills and appropriations for the Oregon Agricultural college and University of Oregon.

Bills Introduced by Pierce. "As I recall, Walter Pierce introduced several of these bills and supported all of them. The remainder of the state tax, 32 per cent of the Hood River tax bill, goes mainly to support the state's institutions and pay the cost of the state government. In case Mr. Pierce's Hood River county's tax bill in two he would not reduce it more than 2 1/2 per cent. Such a reduction would result in turning the insane, feeble-minded, orphans and other dependents upon the public for charity.

Mr. Pierce's claim that he can reduce the taxes 50 per cent is ridiculous and obviously is intended as an argument advanced for campaign purposes.

"Of the total tax bill of Oregon this year, \$40,473,906, only 23 per cent, or \$9,313,376, was levied as state taxes. The balance of \$31,160,530, was levied as local taxes. This included soldiers' bonus millage necessary for soldiers' loan bond redemption, market road millage, millage for state aid to elementary schools, and all the millage and appropriations for state educational institutions, including the soldiers' educational aid.

"Only \$2,514,030, or 6 per cent of all taxes paid in Oregon this year, were for general state purposes outside of roads and education, while 94 per cent were taxes voted by the people of the state or of local expenses under control of the people of each county and locality."

Man Hurt by Falling Tree. ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 21.—

KORITE

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(Special.)—Albert Carter, 35, was seriously injured Thursday afternoon when struck by a falling vine maple. The tree was uprooted while a donkey engine was being moved. Carter suffered a double fracture of his lower jaw and a fracture of the base of his skull. He was taken to the Aberdeen general hospital.

COURT UPHOLDS MUSTOE

Name of Walla Walla County Man Ordered Put Upon Ballot.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—S. C. Mustoe's name will go on the ballot as republican nominee for county school superintendent. This was decided today when Judge Mills in superior court dismissed the mandamus proceedings begun yesterday by W. A. Toner. Judge Mills, in an oral decision, declared directory and mandatory law which requires a candidate for school superintendent to file, at least 20 days prior to the election, proof of having taught one year in state schools. Mr. Mustoe filed his certificate the afternoon of October 18. Mr. Toner contended that this was 19 days before the election, under the law. Attorneys for Mr. Mustoe contended that it was 20 days. Judge Mills did not go into this question. He declared, however, that the question of filing the certificate had not been brought up until after the election, "no court in the land would set aside the action of the voters had Mr. Mustoe been named."

KIWANIS CLUB IS FORMED

Temporary Organization Is Made at Vancouver Meeting.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Temporary organization of a Kiwanis club was made here at a meeting held in the American Legion building last night. 30 members of the Portland club were present to assist in getting the baby club started on the right path. The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 26, at 12:15 o'clock, at the Young Women's Christian association clubrooms, when the charter will be closed and permanent organization effected.

The temporary officers are Dr. J. T. Allen, president; Judge George R. Simpson, vice-president; Roy C. Sizge, secretary; E. A. Hannah, treasurer.

Flour Brands Not Changed.

There will be no change in the well-known brands packed by the Portland flouring mills because of the change in ownership whereby the Sperry Flour company of San Francisco took control. The assurance was given yesterday to the Associated Industries of Oregon by the Portland flouring mills, that the Portland flouring mills will address the Portland club at its Wednesday luncheon on what the operations of the Sperry company will mean to Portland.

Grave of Viking Queen Is Discovered in Norway.

Bodies of Ruler and Servants Are Buried in Perfect Ship.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—Professor Brogger, a Norwegian archaeologist and lecturer, has announced an important find in southern Norway which throws a new light on the art of Norway and Europe during the 9th century.

The find is the grave of a Viking queen, believed to have been one of those women who led the Vikings against their enemies. In the tumulus of the queen was unearthed a Viking ship in almost perfect condition. The bodies of the queen and her servant were within a special burial chamber of the ship, and supplied with the most complete equipment for the future life yet known in northern pagan times. This included a four-wheeled wagon, four sledges, beds, looms, buckets and a completely furnished kitchen, together with 14 horses, four dogs and two oxen.

Phone Your want ads to The Oregonian. All its readers are interested in the classified columns.

TAXES MUST DROP, ASSERTS PIERCE

Efforts to Cut State Expenses Pledged.

ORGY OF BONDS FOUGHT

Democratic Candidate for Governor Advocates Severance Levy on Timber.

How he considers the tax problem should be solved is contained in the following formal announcement, issued yesterday by Walter M. Pierce, democratic candidate for governor.

"When I am governor I promise to advocate and demand economy in every department of state government, so that taxes will be reduced to the lowest possible point consistent with good government. To this end I will use the veto sparingly.

"One great difficulty today is that one-half the property of Oregon is exempt from taxation, the timber in the forest reserves being a conspicuous example. The only income from the reserves is the rentals from stockmen for grazing, of which 65 per cent goes into the federal treasury. I hold that since no tax is derived from this vast body of timber, all the rentals from grazing should go into the treasury of Oregon to compensate for the vast body of taxable property held by the federal government, out of taxation. As governor I would urge the practice of the office in a movement with other governors and delegates in congress to bring this about. This change would produce about \$350,000 a year new revenue thereby lessening to that amount the burden on property now taxed.

Third of Timber Exempt. "Practically one-third of the standing timber in the state of Oregon is in the forest reserves and pays no tax. Under the present law this timber will be cut off, leaving blackened stumps and unproductive property, and be shipped out of Oregon without paying a dollar of tax to the state. Not only is Oregon being made poorer by the removal of this timber, but the natural beauty and scenery of the state is being marred. A severance tax collected as this timber is cut and shipped would be a large source of revenue. A big body of such timber is now contracted by the federal government to people from distant states, and it will be removed without paying any tax unless a severance tax is at once imposed. As governor, I would do all in my power to levy such a tax on all timber taken from the forest reserves.

One-half of the property of Oregon is exempt from taxation, much of the other half is paying little or no tax because much of it is invested in shares of stock, bonds and property hidden away from the assessor. This leaves but a part of the taxable property to bear the entire cost of government. This property which bears the terrific burden consists of farms, cattle, horses, city buildings and homes.

Tax Held Country's Highest. "In 1921 there was raised by direct taxation in this state \$9,493,106, an average of almost 9 1/2 mills on the property taxed. This is the highest direct property tax levied in the United States for state purposes. It constitutes nearly one-half of the cost of the farmers' taxes, and in the city it often means one-fourth of the entire tax.

"In Minnesota, in 1920, the direct property tax for state purposes was \$1,667,423, which is about one-sixth of what Oregon property-owners were called upon to pay for state purposes, and yet the assessed value of taxable property in Minnesota is two and a half times that of Oregon. Minnesota raised the balance of her state revenue from indirect sources.

Lighten Burden, Is Aim. "Wisconsin, in 1921, raised by direct taxation only \$7,801,454 for state purposes, and yet the assessed value of taxable property in Wisconsin is four times that of Oregon. The balance of her state expenses were raised by fees and by taxes on net incomes.

"In Oregon we can relieve the property owners by collecting a large part of the cost of state government from similar sources, viz: (1) a tax on net incomes; (2) a severance tax; (3) a tax on gross earnings of public service corporations. I favor such a programme that any tax derived from these sources and other enterprises with that expense. Such a plan would save the taxpayers approximately \$100,000 a year, and I favor it.

Oregon Heavily Bonded. "Oregon is, per capita, the heaviest bonded state in the union. We are in the midst of a wild orgy of bond issues. The thought seems to be that we can go out borrowing money regardless of a payday to come later. There is a possibility of having to levy a further property tax to pay the interest on these enormous bond issues. A halt should be called in the plastering over our state of these mortgages on the next legislature, coming from the tax-burdened people, will feel as I feel that there must be relief. It is not a question of party politics, but a vital question of property rights, prosperity and the welfare and happiness of the people.

"Voters of Oregon, the issue has July 4, 1922.

Greater Economy Pledged. "Other states have systematized and simplified government by applying to public business the same rules of efficiency and economy used in private business. It has not been done in Oregon because politicians, payroll functionaries and hangers-on have combined to obstruct the cutting away of salaries and sinecures. I stand pledged to a policy of simplified government economically administered.

"We can dispense with many automobiles now operating at state expense. The use of state-owned automobiles by officers and state employees is subject to gross abuses, as every taxpayer knows, and this vicious practice must be abolished.

"Every man on the state payroll should actually work, and every man drawing a salary without earning it should be fired.

"It is commonly reported and widely believed that too small a percentage of the money provided for highways goes into actual construction of roads. For example, Jay Bowerman was long on the payroll as an adviser for the highway commission, when it is the business and duty of the attorney-general to act as counsel for that body. This is waste of highway money. The general dissatisfaction with the engineering and other overhead cost, which runs into very large amounts. Statements are broadly made that narrower roads in Oregon are costing more per mile than wider roads in some other states. There have been instances in which costly highways have had to be rebuilt within a year or two. Road building in Ore-

gon has been a vast and expensive enterprise, in which there should be no leaks or wastes. I have faith in the gentlemen serving as highway commissioners, but hold that there should be a very thorough investigation of the operations of the men and some of the contractors working under them, to the end that excesses may be stopped off, all leaks stopped and a dollar's worth of road be built for every dollar of public money spent.

Governor for Everybody, Promise. "Jay Bowerman is attorney for the state banking department in several cases now pending in the courts of Oregon. It is the business and duty of the attorney-general to act in that capacity. As governor and a member of the state banking board I would insist that the attorney-general and his deputies attend to the legal business of the state banking department.

"When governor I shall be governor for everybody. I have promised nothing to anybody, and am free to use the appointing power without dictation. My administration will not be wholly a man's government, but a government of, by and for men and women.

"As governor I shall demand of the legislature that every appropriation bill shall be itemized, and I shall veto every appropriation bill that is not so itemized. In addition to that, I shall veto every unnecessary, useless or questionable item in every appropriation bill passed by the legislature.

"I shall exercise my prerogative to call to the attention of the legislature and suggest to it the enactment of such laws as will reduce the expenses of government to the minimum and equise the burden of taxation, so that all property shall bear its just burden.

"I can and will point the way for relief. I know the majority of the next legislature, coming from the tax-burdened people, will feel as I feel that there must be relief. It is not a question of party politics, but a vital question of property rights, prosperity and the welfare and happiness of the people.

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crystallized around this theme of taxation. High taxes are bad advertising. High taxes are keeping newcomers and new capital out of the state and driving old settlers away. Business is being discouraged; progress is being halted. Taxation is the weight that is dragging us down.

"Our friends who are now in control of the state and legislature confess that they are helpless to supply a remedy. They are trying to confuse voters by injecting personalities and by throwing mud on their backs. They are garbing my speeches and putting words in my mouth that I never uttered. They are trying to divert me from my fight for lower taxes. They are in a sad plight because under their administration they have created a situation from which every taxpayer is crying aloud for release.

"I refuse to budge one inch from this matter of taxation. It is the dominant issue. For more than 20 years I have talked and worked for lower taxes and this will continue to be the first theme in my thoughts.

"Taxes can and must be equalized and reduced, and I have here pointed out some of the ways the thing can be done.

"WALTER M. PIERCE"

District Oddfellows Meet.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—The district meeting of the I. O. O. F. lodges of the district including Onalaska, Olympia, Shelton, Chehalis, Centralia, Tenino and Buxton, was held today at Onalaska. A business session for the afternoon, with open house at night at the Onalaska clubhouse, featured the occasion.

Autoist Sues for Damages.

MONTESANO, Wash., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Sui for damages of \$380 has been filed in superior court here by Herman Anderson against Fred Achey. The action is resultant from an automobile collision on or about

PRIMARY LAW ADVOCATED

PROMINENT IDAHO REPUBLICAN TAKES STAND.

John W. Hart, National Committeeman, Says He Favors and Will Work for Such Law.

BOISE, Idaho, Oct. 21.—(Special.)—John W. Hart, republican national committeeman for Idaho, tonight issued a statement declaring he favored passage by the next legislature of a state-wide primary law and that after the people elect a legislature he would earnestly seek to have such a law enacted. Mr. Hart's statement in part, follows: "I voted for the first primary law which was passed in Idaho. I was in favor of the legislature passing a primary law at the last session. I voted for a state-wide primary plank in the committee on resolutions at Wallace. I recognize that there is an honest difference of opinion in the republican party concerning the primary law. The only way for the people to express their will for or against the primary law, or any other issue, is through their representatives in the legislature. Should they express such a wish I feel sure the republican members of the legislature will accede to their demand and give the people of this state a good, workable law properly safeguarding the integrity of political parties.

"Such a law I am heartily in favor of and shall earnestly seek to have enacted. We should respect the will of the people in regard to this, regardless of how we may feel personally about the matter."

Work on New Art Building Begun.

EUGENE, Or., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Hoover & McNeil, who have the contract to erect the new art building at the University of Oregon, yesterday took out a city permit calling for the expenditure of \$28,500, the contract price. Excavations have already been made for the structure and work on the foundations and walls will start immediately.

Legion Backs Hotel Project.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—A resolution endorsing Centralia's campaign for a new \$300,000 hotel was adopted by the Grant Lodge post, American Legion, at its regular meeting Thursday night. The veterans also pledged support to the annual membership drive of the local Red Cross chapter, which opens next month.

New Zealand Ram Imported.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—A Corriedale ram, four years old, said to be the highest priced ever exported from New Zealand, the home of the Corriedale

breed, has been received by Rex Ford, local breeder of purebred sheep, and heads the Borwick flock in this county. The price paid for the ram was \$1000 and an additional \$300 was required to transport it across the water.

Hunter Becomes Target.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Harry Schermer of this city, was shot at three times recently while in the mountains hunting. The first shot grazed his wrist and he fell to avoid being hit, and two more shots went past. The man who fired the shots stated that he fired but once, but upon examining his gun, found that three shots had been fired. Mr. Schermer was uninjured.

Forty More Muscovites Made.

ALBANY, Or., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Forty candidates from all parts of the state, mostly from western Oregon, were initiated into the mysteries of the Oddfellows, at a big convocation here tonight. About 200 delegates, including Portland's clown band, patrol team and the Muscovite drill team from Salem, participated in the parade on the streets of Albany at 8 o'clock.

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