

Polk County Observer

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REPUBLICAN COUNTY TICKET.

- For Representative, 11th District, ELMER E. PADDOCK For Joint Representative, 12th Dist., WALTER L. TOOZE, JR. For County Judge, JOHN B. TEAL For County Commissioner, GEORGE A. WELLS For Sheriff, JOHN W. ORR For County Clerk, E. M. SMITH For County Assessor, ARTHUR R. ALLEN For County School Superintendent, H. C. SEYMOUR For County Surveyor, BENJ. F. BEEZLEY For County Coroner, R. L. CHAPMAN.

KILL THE FREAK.

Amidst the turmoil and the flood of political matter advocating this or that measure to be voted on Tuesday, Oregon electors should not lose sight of the fact that one of the wild and most erratic theories which the fruitful mind of a man trained in such things can conceive, is to be voted on, and should be defeated.

We refer to the proposal by Mr. U'Ren for the abolishment of the state senate. In fact the measure provides practically for the doing away with the present state constitution and the substitution of one built by the Oregon City Law factory. This appears on the ballot as Nos. 362 Yes and 363 No.

The measure provides for the elimination of the safe and sane methods which are practically in force in every state in the union and which have stood the test of time. In their place U'Ren proposes to try all of the unheard of theories and wild ideas which his mind has pictured as the "ideal" form of government. It is such a radical departure from established custom and sound sense, that one is astounded at the nerve displayed by the man who can calmly ask the people of the state to adopt them merely on his say so.

George A. Wells, of Buena Vista, for county commissioner, will be elected by one of the largest majorities on the ticket. He has during the past two weeks, made a canvass of the county, and everywhere he has been assured of the support of the voters of all parties. He comes from a section of the county that is entitled to representation, and the fact that he has made a success of his private interests is a strong endorsement, and that he will take into the office of commissioner the same sound judgment and integrity that has marked his daily life and his dealings with his fellow man in the past, is unquestioned. His name on the ballot adds a certain strength to it, and his election, together with that of John Teal as county judge, insures the voters that Polk county will have a county court which will stand hand in hand with the taxpayers and faithfully account for their stewardship.

A good place to vote "No" is that measure on the ballot which seeks to initiate a law providing for the appointment of a hotel inspector and giving him a nice fat annual salary and liberal allowance for traveling "expenses." What in the name of sense does Oregon need with a hotel inspector? It's a scheme to give somebody a nice job at the expense of the taxpayers. Swat it. Vote "331 X No."

There is absolutely no doubt of John Teal's election as county judge. From all portions of the county come reports of Teal support, and it's only a question of majority. The people were quick to see the advantage to them of having a man as a member of the county court with Mr. Teal's experience as a road and bridge builder and one who, having "grown up" with the county, is conversant with its every need, even in the remotest section. No man enjoys a wider acquaintance throughout the county than John Teal, and the hundreds who have visited his mountain home near Falls City, a beautiful place carved by years of hard work from the wilderness, can attest to the hospitality and welcome which everybody receives there. All interests will be Teal's interests, and every dollar of the taxpayers' money will buy a dollar's worth in return. This is not fulsome flattery. This is not printed for campaign purposes. Everybody who knows John Teal knows that every word of it is true. True as the green grass hills around his home, true as the sparkling ripples on the sun-kissed surface of his many fish ponds and honest as the rough and rugged nature of Polk's honored pioneers, of which he is one. A vote for Teal is a vote for your own interests and the welfare of your neighbor and yourself.

The Medford Mail-Tribune is warmly supporting Bourne's candidacy for the senate and the principal reason appears to be because Jonathan favors liberal appropriations for Crater Lake, which is the M-T's hobby. Inasmuch as Crater Lake isn't the whole state of Oregon, and what the people want is somebody at Washington who will, among other things, see that the state secures its just share of the national irrigation funds, it's hardly fair to ask us to send Bourne back, merely to boost the Medford idea.

The Salem promoters of the flat-salary printing law are discouraged. Grange after grange, after the fullest investigation in every case, has declared against the bill and the "Multnomah County Taxpayers' League" also in a hard blow when it found that the plan was inadvisable. These rebuffs have had the effect of putting Harris and his bunch in the dumps and they have practically given up hope of carrying the plan through on Tuesday. As a final note of warning, The Observer desires to impress upon its readers the advisability of voting "329 X No." Do that and you'll save money.

Johnny Orr has made a whirlwind campaign for county sheriff. And everywhere he has journeyed the people have said, "What's the matter with Orr?" The duties of the sheriff's office are multifarious, and they bring into requisition the talents of an active brain and well-trained business ability. John Orr has made a success of his own business. He has a fine farm near Rickreall and is recognized as one of the influential residents of his neighborhood and of Polk county. He promises the county a faithful and efficient administration of the duties of his office and those who know him are fully confident that he has the ability, the desire and the intention to carry them out to the fullest extent.

At the recent meeting of the Oregon State Editorial association, held at Hot Lake, resolutions were adopted favoring the "abolition of the state printing office" and suggesting that all contracts for state printing be awarded to the lowest bidder and thus bestow the benefits upon dozens of the privately owned plants in the state and, at the same time, insure the state's printing at the very lowest cost. If the editors who fathered this resolution are in earnest the first step necessary is to vote "329 X No" next Tuesday. The success of the measure "329 Yes" will fasten the state owned plant upon Oregon for good, and the only way to stop it is to vote against the proposition.

Walter L. Tooze, Jr., has just returned from a campaign trip to Lincoln county where he found sentiment overwhelmingly in his favor as candidate for joint representative. He has been assured that he will carry Lincoln county by at least 250 majority. That he will also carry Polk county is true and therefore his election by a substantial majority is confidently believed. He is a young man of energy and with advanced progressive ideas and, at the same time, he promises to safeguard the interests of the people at all times. He stands for no special interests. He has his political reputation to make and therefore will jealously guard it and endeavor to discharge his trust with fidelity and fairness to all.

The Observer is opposed to the scheme to create an expensive state highway department and a state commissioner with a salary of \$4,000 and the making of an annual appropriation of "not to exceed \$12,000 for the maintenance of the department." The state highway department plan has been tried in the state of Washington and proved a failure. But it was an expensive experiment and cost the taxpayers a nice wad of money before the voters got wise to themselves. Each county is competent to build its own roads and to manage its own affairs. The home rule bonding plan for counties is acceptable, for it leaves the matter entirely within the counties and permits the voters to say whether they want a certain road built, but it does not curtail with the expensive trimmings and chances for soft jobs contemplated by the other similar measures on the ballot.

The schools of Polk county are extremely fortunate in having at the head of the educational system, a man of H. C. Seymour's ability and untiring energy in the promotion of their interests. Since first assuming the duties of the office, Mr. Seymour has labored early and late to place the schools of Polk county at the head of the state, and that he has succeeded is realized when it is remembered that Polk is known far and wide as the "Blue Ribbon School County in Oregon." It has taken work, and a lot of it, to accomplish this result and Harry Seymour has been the "man behind the gun." He has received many eulogiums of praise from other educators, especially from State Superintendent Alderman and other prominent Oregon men, who warmly commend his work. The fame of his school standardization scheme has extended afar, and county school superintendents as far east as Kansas and Missouri have written him personal letters asking for details of his plan. In asking the voters of Polk county to give him a second term, he is not only seeking their endorsement for his past work, but is anxious to put into execution still other plans calculated to advance the standing of the educational standard of the county. All interested in the welfare of the Polk county schools will give Harry Seymour a second term.

Elmer E. Paddock, for representative, will be elected. In independence where he has lived for many years, and where he successfully conducted a mercantile business, his candidacy is received with approval. His neighbors know him and are enthusiastic in his support. He has made a thorough canvass of the county and reports that everywhere he has received the warmest encouragement. His platform and his promises convey to the people the assurance that their interests will have his careful consideration. Those who know the man do not hesitate to declare that he has always been found faithful to his word and that he means exactly what he says. He has always been a steadfast adherent to the doctrine of "equal rights to all and special privileges to none" and will carry that teaching into the halls of the state legislature. With Elmer E. Paddock as Polk county's representative, the voters will know that they will have at least one man in Salem who will oppose, to the full strength of his ability, a vote upon the state treasury under whatever guise they appear.

Francis Feller, of Woodburn, is a candidate for the house of representatives from Marion county. Francis probably believes that good "fellers" are wanted at Salem.

Arthur R. Allen, of Rickreall, is a young man of ability who has made a clean, open and energetic canvass for the office of county assessor. The fact that he has been deputy assessor for two years, and that he has satisfactorily placed the values on the property of the people of his district is fully shown by the large vote which he received there in the April primaries. He carried his district by substantial majorities over his competitors which ought to be, and is, the strongest endorsement he could possibly have. That he has the ability to successfully manage the duties of the office to which he aspires is unquestioned, and that he will take to the office the same characteristics and desire for fair play that he has used in his field work, is assured.

The simple fact that, by economical management and business judgment, County Clerk E. M. Smith has been able to save for the taxpayers of Polk county more than \$3,000 in one year, above the expenses of the office, is surely something that should commend his administration to the people of the county. This result cannot be accomplished in a few weeks, and the familiarity with the office and its many duties to enable an official to make a record like that in one year. No inexperienced official can hope to do it. That Ed Smith is a careful and painstaking official no one will deny, and that he is always "on the job" all who have visited the office will attest. Other men may also fill the office acceptably, other men may make competent clerks, but right now when the people are bearing heavy burdens of taxation, that \$3,000 in hard cash saved to the taxpayers in one year is not to be overlooked. That is the result of experience and competency, and could not be accomplished by one unacquainted with the office, simply because he would have to learn the business before he could hope to duplicate the performance. In the calm realization of these self-evident facts, it profits the voters of Polk county to make a change in the office? Why change?

To the Taxpayers and Voters of Polk County

As the Democratic nominee for the office of Sheriff of Polk County, I respectfully ask your support at the general election to be held next Tuesday, promising you that if elected I shall continue to serve you to the best of my ability. As to my record as Sheriff, the people alone must judge. However, I deem it not out of place to submit a few facts for your consideration.

The first year I filled this office, the tax roll amounted to \$101,025.33. The roll for the year 1911, now being closed, reaches a total of \$305,551.99. The number of legal papers coming into my hands annually for service is now nearly four times as great as the number served during my first year in office.

Notwithstanding this enormous increase of business, the cost of conducting the affairs of the office has not been increased to the taxpayers. While three times as much money is now being handled annually, the collecting is being done with the same number of deputies. I might add that the delinquent tax this year was less in dollars and cents than when the tax roll was only one-third as large. Polk County can safely invite a comparison of its delinquent roll with that of any other county in the state, be such county large or small.

The results attained are due to improved systems adopted in handling the public money, and to the further fact that the expense gained in the office work enables myself and my deputies to perform a vastly greater amount of work in a day, without increased cost to the taxpayers.

On this record, I respectfully solicit your aid in the coming election, assuring you that your support will be gratefully appreciated. JOHN M. GRANT.

To The Voters of Polk County

I desire to make a final statement to you, inasmuch as I have found it impossible to meet you all personally, on account of my farm and business duties taking up part of my time. I desired to see you and become better acquainted and exchange ideas with you in regard to what Polk County may desire at the hands of its next representative.

Too often candidates for our State assume to discuss national issues in which they will have no voice whatever, for the purpose of appealing to party prejudice, when they should acquaint themselves with State and County affairs, so as to be prepared to do their duty in our State Legislature. I, therefore, have refrained from discussing national issues and have confined myself entirely to County and State problems, so that if elected to the State Legislature, I may be qualified to fully discharge my duties for the benefit of all the people, especially those of our County. There are two fundamental propositions before the people of Polk County, namely: Taxation and Appropriations and Good Roads, in which the people are vitally interested. I am therefore in favor of good roads leading into our local trading and shipping centers, but am opposed to the proposed State Highway measure as being detrimental to the best interests of Polk County, and especially shall I oppose the Columbia river bridge which will surely be forced upon us next State Legislature. In regard to taxation, I find what the State of Oregon wants is reduction in taxation with more taxpayers and fewer tax-dodgers. I am opposed to extravagance of every nature in public office, and believe the people's money should be used carefully and judiciously so as to secure the very best results. I wish to say I am under no personal obligations to any person, party or interest, and if elected as your representative, I will be absolutely free to work for the best interests of all the people. Having lived all my life in Polk County, I believe I understand the needs of this County, and being more than an average taxpayer, I shall scrutinize carefully every appropriation bill that may come before the legislature and oppose any thing that is extravagant and not for the benefit of Polk County and the State of Oregon. Having signed Statement No. 1, I

will, without hesitation, vote for that candidate for U. S. Senator, who receives the highest vote at the general election next Tuesday, and will respectfully ask for the support of all voters, irrespective of party affiliations. (Paid Adv.) VERD HILL.

MAJORITY RULE AMENDMENT Proposed by Initiative Petition.

For the amending of Section 1, Article IV, of the Constitution of the State of Oregon so as to require a majority of all electors voting at any election to adopt constitutional amendments and pass initiative measures and a majority vote only of electors voting thereon to reject measures referred to the people. VOTE YES OR NO.

322 X Yes. 323 No.

The Majority Rule amendment, as shown above, is just as it will appear on the ballot. This is one of the most important measures the voters of Oregon will be called upon to decide at the coming election.

It will take from the minority the measure to pass initiative measures and pass laws that only a small percentage of the people understand, and confirms the majority in its rights to rule. Has it not been the purpose of the initiative to give the people—the majority—the right to rule? Surely. How can the majority rule if 25 or 30 per cent of the voters are allowed to enact laws?

Look at it this way and you will see the danger in the law which the proposed amendment will remedy? A certain clique, or certain interests desire a law or laws passed; they send out an army of paid canvassers to solicit names for the petitions at so much per name, the petition is filed and the measure goes on the ballot; those who have initiated the measure and those who signed the petitions—a small per cent of the electorate—vote for it, a few people who know that the proposed law is aimed at the rights of the people vote against it; but the majority who read in one paper that the law is a good one and who read in another paper that it is a bad law, frankly admit that they do not understand it, and refrain from voting. What is the result? The people who have initiated and who are deeply interested in the measure—a small minority, about 25 or 30 per cent of the electorate—are counted for it, as are those who did not vote on it at all and it is declared passed.

That is what has happened in the past and what will happen at the coming election. That is Minority Rule, not Majority Rule.

The proposed amendment will safeguard the rights of the people and make the rule of the majority, majority rule indeed, and not minority rule as at present.

Is it right that our state constitution should work so that conditions could possibly arise when less than a majority of the votes cast at an election could amend the Constitution?

Is it not evident that this is the weak spot in our initiative law? Is it not true that all are affected by the passage of bad laws as well as good laws? Is it not true that all must pay the cost of legislation?

Is it right to say that the approval of a minority of the total number of votes cast at an election should have the right to pass any law or amend the Constitution when all of the people of the state are affected by such legislation?

Is it not better to have the approval of a majority of the total number of votes cast at any election than to pass any law without it?

If you will carefully consider the merits of the Majority Rule amendment you will vote so that in the future the voters of Oregon will take more interest in legislation, for it will have a tendency to restrain experimenters, causing less untried and experimental measures being proposed thus giving the voter more time for the consideration of important measures.

By voting for the Majority Rule amendment you will correct the abusive use of the initiative law, and thereby preserve it in the State Constitution.

You, Mr. Voter, are to decide this very important question, and in order to decide it right you should vote 322 X Yes on November 5.

MAJORITY RULE LEAGUE. (Paid Adv.)

To The Voters

As the Republican candidate for the office of County School Superintendent, I am nominated at the Primary election April last. I wish to further announce my candidacy by saying that when I was a candidate for my first term as School Superintendent, I promised that I would give my best work for the schools of the county. Now as to my having kept that promise I ask that you look up my past record and the conditions and standing of the schools of the county. I have spent my entire time in work for the betterment of the schools of the county and am asking an election for a second term on the record I have made.

If re-elected, I will follow the same policy as in the past and will give my best work for the advancement of the schools of the county.

Thanking you for whatever support you may give me, I am respectfully,

H. C. SEYMOUR.

(Paid Adv.)

BLANKET TIME

Jack Frost has already given us a taste of the kind of weather he is going to give us for the next few months. Get a supply of warm blankets now and defy him to do his worst.

We have gathered here the best stock of blankets we have ever shown. Blankets of every description from the best mills in the country. Great, big full sized blankets--the soft warm kinds that put you to sleep in no time. Every blanket is reliable or it would not be here.

Placing our orders during the mill's dull season enables us to offer unusual values for as little as 85c ---All prices up to \$10.00.

Ask to see our Cotton Comforts and Sheets. They're made to keep you Warm. Home made Wool Comforts at reasonable prices. Cotton filled Comforts at \$1.25 and up. Cotton and Wool Bats for making Comforts. We have just what you want.

Dallas Mercantile Co. WILL R. HOWE, Manager

Aluminum Ware Special Sale

20 Pieces of Ever Wear \$11 Aluminum ware for Regular Price \$13.15 Including the Following Pieces:

- 5 Stew Pans 1 Double Boiler 1 Frying Pan 3 Cake Tins 1 Gem Pan 2 Pie Tins 1 Steamer

With each \$1.00 purchase we give away a ticket on a \$65.00 Laurel Range which will be given away absolutely free December 14.

CRIDER'S GENERAL STORE

Dallas Iron Works Modern Store Fronts Soehren Warehouse Co. CEMENT CURBINGS AND WALKS