

HE'S A NATIVE SON

JOHN W. ORR REPUBLICAN NOMINEE FOR SHERIFF.

Brief Biographical Sketch of Man Whose Slogan Is Performance of Duty.

"Cleaner politics and a strict enforcement of the law" is the platform on which John W. Orr, republican nominee for sheriff, went before the people at the primaries, his only promise then, as now, being the faithful fulfillment of his oath of office, honestly and conscientiously, without fear or favor. Such a platform as this should have the encouragement and support of every law-loving citizen, regardless of party affiliations. And those who are personally acquainted with Mr. Orr, know that when he makes a statement he means what he says. Mr. Orr made the canvass for sheriff under adverse circumstances two years ago, carrying the banner of his party when defeat was practically certain.

Now, when victory is possible, every republican should rally to his support and give him a rousing majority in appreciation of past faithful service to his party.

John W. Orr is the son of Samuel Orr, a native of Ireland, who came to this country when a mere lad and to Rieckreall, Polk county, more than forty years ago, and who is well and favorably known to the pioneer settlers of this and adjoining counties. Coming here from New Zealand, Sam Orr bought a tract of land from James Kinsey, it being a part of the latter's donation claim. It was undeveloped, and in his own language would hire a saddle mare. Here he resided until 1905, during which intervening years by ditching, tiling and intelligent cultivation, working early and late, he developed one of Polk county's best farms. It was here that John W. Orr was born and reared, as were also his brothers and sisters—Mrs. J. B. Nesmith of Portland, Robert Orr (dead), Mrs. Otis Waite of Rieckreall, Mrs. E. A. Stenson of Rieckreall, and G. A. Orr of Portland—and it is here, on the old home place, that he still resides, an honored and respected "clasp of the old block." The elder Orr, who was a warm personal friend of the distinguished Col. James Nesmith, is now a resident of Portland.

When a lad the subject of this biographical sketch attended school at Rieckreall, working on the farm during his spare time, and later he attended a business college in Portland, where he equipped himself with the commercial branches, since which time he has, with the exception of a short term of bookkeeping for the Capital Lumber company of Salem, tilled the soil. Ten years ago he was united in marriage with Miss Estella Dalton of Monmouth, to which union one offspring was born, a daughter now seven years of age. Mr. Orr is what is commonly known as an enterprising and prosperous farmer. He stands high in the councils of his fellowmen in his community, and is active and liberal in all progressive movements for the upbuilding and development of the country. In business affairs of that section he has through merit gained an enviable prominence, while socially he is a recognized leader among men. At present he is chairman of the school board of District No. 26; president of the Parent-Teachers' association, and director of the Rieckreall band, which he gratuitously organized. He is something of a "junker," belonging to the Masonic and Artisan orders of Rieckreall and the Moose of Dallas, in addition to which fraternal organizations he is a member of the Grange.

Mr. Orr was urged into his present candidacy by the many friends he made during the campaign of two years ago, when he was defeated by Mr. John Grant, said to be the strongest man for the place in all Polk county, and particularly insistent were the loyal supporters of his own community, which, though normally democratic, gave him a majority of close to three to one, a fact in itself very significant.

* **WOULD CONDUCT STATE** *
* **AFFAIRS BUSINESSLIKE.** *

"If I am elected governor I shall insist upon the most rigid economy in state expenditures, and will put forth my best energies to conduct affairs on a business basis, I assure you that petty politics will not be a part of my program. It is my opinion that we have had too much of this in the last four years.—James Withycombe.



John W. Orr, Republican Nominee for Sheriff.

HARRY H. BELT

ASPIRANT TO CIRCUIT BENCH IS WORTHY.

Well Known Throughout His District, Which Comprises Three Counties.

When a man has lived in a community for several years and at the end of that time there is no one ready to say anything derogatory to his character, his ability in his business, or his fairness in participating in the daily affairs of his community, that man is surely well fitted for the trust which is implied in public office. Moreover, it is like painting the rose to write or say nice things about a man of whom everybody speaks well. When no charge is made against which he is to be defended, when no fault is found which a friend may explain, when no shortcoming is mentioned which may be denied, there is little need to say anything.

Such seems to be the case with Harry H. Belt, candidate for the office of circuit judge. Of course no one sets him up as a paragon, a saint, or any other kind of an impossible man. And like his fellow men, has the frailty which ennobles human beings. But as a neighbor he is kind and helpful; as a citizen he is loyal; as a lawyer he stands high among lawyers. Whatever else is needed to make of him a good judge? Nothing but the votes of his fellow citizens.

The republican nominee for circuit judge for Polk, Yamhill and Tillamook counties, Mr. Harry H. Belt, was born in Salem, November 24, 1883, and consequently is approaching the age of thirty-one. He comes from a pioneer family of Oregon. His boyhood days were spent in Dallas, where he attended school, afterwards graduating from the State Normal. Having fitted himself for educational work, he taught school three years and was then elected county superintendent of Yamhill



Harry H. Belt for Circuit Judge.

county, without opposition, at the age of twenty-four years. During a portion of this time Mr. Belt had been reading law with a view to becoming a disciple of Blackstone, and he resigned the superintendency in order to devote his entire attention of study and practice. His early legal training was under the immediate direction of his uncle, that well-known jurist, Judge George H. Burnett, now a member of the Supreme court. From October 1911 to March 1914 Mr. Belt was

associated with Mr. Oscar Hayter of this city in the practice of law, and is now a member of the law firm of Brown, Sibley & Belt. Notwithstanding the fact that his father is a dyed-in-the-wood democrat, Harry H. Belt has supported and voted only the republican ticket, and is a firm adherent to the policies of that party, though not a politician in the true meaning of the term. He has a host of warm personal friends throughout the district. The large

majority he received over his opponents in the nominating primary—about 1300—is evidence not only of Mr. Belt's popularity but of confidence in his ability as a lawyer and his competency as a jurist. While young in years he is old in experience. Robert S. Bean began his career on the bench at 28; George H. Williams at 27, and Lawrence T. Harris at 32.

That Harry H. Belt, whom the republicans have named for circuit judge of this judicial district, will in the years to come be recognized as one of the foremost legal lights of this commonwealth is a prediction made by many of his professional friends and acquaintances. And this in itself is a recommendation that is significant; one that should appeal to the voter at the November election.

MISLEADING ARGUMENT.

There is a good deal of "bunk" in the democratic plea favoring the support of the democratic state ticket "in order to uphold the hands of President Wilson." In such a case the voters should give first consideration to their own state government, which of course is a separate and distinct affair from the national government.

Of course the election of a democratic senator and congressmen might measurably aid the president in carrying out administration policies, although even this aid seems rather unnecessary, as the democrats have had little trouble thus far in putting their plans through congress. But certainly there is small excuse for pleading for the election of a democratic governor "in order to help the president." And the voters of Oregon should not permit themselves to be fooled by any such fallacious and misleading argument.

Nor will some of the democrats forget that many of their own partisans this year are at least lukewarm in their support of President Wilson. In fact it would seem our democratic friends should use the soft pedal when tempted to urge support of the democratic state ticket as one means of "helping" the president.

QUALIFIED FOR PLACE

C. W. Beckett Makes Statement to Polk County Voters.

The position of county commissioner is an important one, as upon the county court rests the responsibility of the proper conduct of county affairs. The men comprising this governing body should possess good judgment, backbone and, above all, an uncompromising and unquestioned integrity. Such a man is C. W. Beckett, the republican nominee for commissioner. In the event of his election, which seems most probable, the taxpayers may rest assured that the county's affairs will have Mr. Beckett's best attention. In a brief platform or declaration Mr. Beckett says:

"I promise as efficient, progressive business administration of the affairs of the county as is consistent with economy. I favor such permanent road work as is permissible with reasonable taxes, and the distribution of the road work in an equitable manner all over the county. I firmly believe in good roads, but do not believe



C. W. BECKETT

in burdening the people with taxes. All county work should be done as cheaply as private work, and I will make it my business to be on the job all the time and see that we get the full worth of every dollar expended.

"I think the county should be on a cash basis all the time, and will avoid plunging the county into debt. I will try to give every citizen a voice in the conduct of the affairs of the county, but will not be dictated to by any one. I have made absolutely no pledge of any kind to any person and will go into office absolutely free and unhampered by any obligations to any one for any job or influence of any kind. Courteous treatment to every person, of no matter what condition or class, who may come before the county court, will be my rule of conduct."

Mr. Beckett is one of the substantial farmers of Polk county. He has large rural interests, and is interested in its welfare from every angle. And he will do exactly what he says he will.

MAKE WISE CHOICE

REPUBLICANS NAME CAPABLE MAN FOR TREASURER.

Fred Holman of Falls City Was Born and Reared in "Good Old Polk" County.

Fred J. Holman, the republican nominee for county treasurer, is a native son of Polk county and his father was Preston Hilmon, a pioneer who came here from Missouri in 1848, and whose death occurred in 1892. The subject of this sketch first saw the light of day on a farm six miles south-west of Monmouth on April 8, 1878. He attended the Elkins district school, and later the State Normal, leaving the latter institution of learning in his junior year. In 1905 he was united in marriage to Miss Beulah Van Loan of Minneapolis, Minnesota, the first acquaintance having been formed at Independence, where Miss Van Loan was visiting friends. To this union one child, a daughter, was born seven years ago.

For the past several years Mr. Holman had made Black Rock his home, until he recently moved to Falls City. He was assistant postmaster at that place under M. L. Thompson, and also under H. W. Hall, receiving the appointment as postmaster three years ago last December, which responsible position he resigned a short time ago.

Mr. Holman was also bookkeeper



FRED J. HOLMAN

at Falls City for Walter L. Tooze and then later when Mr. Selig succeeded to the business he became manager of the store. In all his dealings with the public he has been courteous and obliging, making friends with those whom he came in business as well as social contact, and it was largely through this instrumentality, coupled with his fitness for the office he seeks, that the nomination was given him at the primaries last spring. While always taking a lively interest in matters political, Mr. Holman has never before sought a public office within the gift of the people. As a republican he has supported that ticket in every election since he gained the right of franchise by age, and believes that the Grand Old party and the principles for which it stands are good enough for him first, last and all the time.

In his campaign for the nomination Mr. Holman made no pledges and if elected will assume the duties of the office unincumbered by political obligations. His slogan in public life, as in his past private career, will be a full day's work for a full day's pay. He is well qualified to perform the various duties devolving upon him as treasurer of Polk county, and The Observer predicts his election by a majority that will reflect the confidence imposed in him by the people. The affairs of the office under his business-like management will, according to his own statement, be economically and efficiently conducted.

STUDY PROPOSED LAWS.

Voters should devote a few hours of their time until election day in carefully studying the initiative measures to be submitted to a vote in the election of November 3. The voter should carefully consider his own interests before casting his ballot. He should decide whether he will be any better off if he votes for the universal eight-hour law, thereby making it impossible for industries of this state to operate in competition with industries in states where same legislation prevails. He must decide whether it is just or fair to make employers, who are already heavily taxed, subject to a further drain. Study these proposed laws with a fair mind and you will come to the conclusion that the state of Oregon is already suffering from too many freak laws without adding any more. The state legislature is able to pass enough laws of that type to suit the most fastidious.

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