



ROBINSON'S MAJORITY 961

FLETCHER BIG MAN OF HOUSE

Fight With Highway Commission Watched With Deep Interest

E. Fletcher of Independence, representative from Polk and Lincoln counties, is developing into the big man of the house. Supported only by friends whom he has been able to enlist in his cause, he is fighting a most powerful machine of the state highway commission.

Mr. Fletcher is fighting for the location of the Pacific highway through Polk county as enacted by the legislative act of 1917 and subsequently confirmed by a vote of the people of the state through Dallas, Clatsop and Independence.

In order to change the routing of the highway the commission has caused to be introduced the house two bills, known as 312 and 314. No. 312 would give the highway commission full power to locate highways. It was introduced in the house and without opposition Mr. Fletcher fought it so



D. E. FLETCHER

It is generally thought that it barely passed through the senate. Fighting every inch of the way, Fletcher was able to kill No. 314. It was taken up for consideration in the house Tuesday. It is undoubtedly the biggest feat which has been accomplished by any legislator during the present session of the legislature.

Fourteen is the most vicious of modern legislation. It would give the highway commission practically unlimited power. The czar of a man in his palmy days would have but a small change player come to the authority the commission attempted to have itself investigated. It provided that irrespective of the protests of the taxpayers the commission could go ahead and put a county into debt without the taxpayer in Polk county file objection the commission have authority to go ahead and build highways in Polk county men proceed to collect from the cost of grading, whatever it be.

At every turn so far in the effort to keep the Pacific highway through Dallas and Independence, the highway commission is still fighting in its effort to override the people of Polk county. Mr. Fletcher is still on the job. He is not able to stem the tide of the commission's steam roller in the final dash during the closing of the session, but then again, the story of the highway commission fight the Oregonian of

SUVER GIRL IS MARRIED HERE TO C. D. RITCHEY

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Job McLeod, last Tuesday afternoon, occurred the marriage of their niece, Berniece Rebekah Larsen, to Clarence D. Ritchey, of La Centro, Washington.

As the young people stood before the large bay window, which was banked with potted plants and pussy willows, and under an arch of green vines, Dr. Dunsmore, using the beautiful ring ceremony, spoke the words which joined together these two lives.

The bride wore a most becoming traveling dress of blue tricotine, and was given in marriage by her father. After the ceremony, a three course lunch was served. A pretty bit of sentiment connected with the wedding was the fact that the bride's cake was brought to the table on a large blue and white plate which has been in the family of the bride's mother for more than one hundred years, and which has been on the table at every marriage feast which has occurred in the family during that time.

Mr. and Mrs. Ritchey, mid a shower of rice, left that evening for a week's stay in Portland, after which they will be at home to their friends at Elam, Oregon, where Mr. Ritchey has charge of some large lumber contracts.

Mrs. Ritchey is well known here, having been born and spent most of her life in this vicinity. The groom, while a comparative stranger among us, is a young man of sterling qualities and has made many friends during his brief visits here. The good wishes of friends for a long and prosperous life, will follow the young people to their new home.

Guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Larsen, father and mother of the bride, Suver, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harris, Wells, Miss Latrelle Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. Job McLeod.

LEGION FOR POLICIES AND NOT POLITICS

Independence Post of the American Legion feels that the supporters of J. F. Ulrich overstepped the bounds of decency in attempting to draw the Legion into politics in an article published in the "Recall Bulletin" of February 14th.

G. G. Godfrey, post commander, says: "The constitution and bylaws of the American Legion do not permit the Legion to enter into politics. The Legion stands for policies and not politics. Independence Post took no part in the recall fight, and the intimation that it was doing so was undoubtedly intended to create strife in the Post."

The Crab club held its regular meeting at the home of Dr. and Mrs. O. D. Butler, last Friday evening.

Thursday had this to say concerning Mr. Fletcher:

"D. E. Fletcher, representative for Polk and Lincoln counties, is the fly in the ointment. Mr. Fletcher is affable and well liked and has gathered enough friends to line up considerable opposition. "Mr. Fletcher's one hobby in this session is if possible, to force the highway commission to build the Pacific highway through Polk county as designated in the road map of 1917. The representative has successfully blocked certain bills on road matters and managed to kill another."

"Independence contends Mr. Fletcher has not been fairly treated by the highway commission, so he is raising his voice in protest. In the office of the speaker today Mr. Fletcher, Commissioners Yeon and Barratt and a delegation from Independence threshed over the old dispute and got nowhere. Mr. Fletcher had no mind for compromise and the commission stood pat. He declared his determination to fight to the finish, even after the commission submitted to him all the testimony and records which were used in the court case on the Polk county controversy."

And Polk county is still functioning in the same old way. Asa B. Robinson is county judge, receiving a much stronger endorsement in Wednesday's election than he was given when first elected to the office a little more than two years ago. It was some little fight, or rather, the preliminary skirmishes gave indications of a real battle—but it proved to be largely smoke on the part of the recallers.

And this election has broken an Oregon record. Recalling county judges has become quite a pastime in Oregon, and Polk is the first county to kick over the traces in the little game. By a vote of nearly two to one Polk voters have declared that they are in accord with Judge Robinson and the policies he represents. It is certainly a fine endorsement—leaving no possibility of a misunderstanding in the matter.

And a peculiar part of this election is that there was no just cause for its foundation. During all the time the campaign against him was being waged there was not one development which reflected upon his character as a man or his ability and honesty as a public official. There were insinuations, of course, and there were people who were dissatisfied with some of his road policies, but there were no instances of where the law had been violated, where he had squandered the people's money or committed any other act which might make it plausible for attempting to railroad him out of office.

The recallers made the unique pre-election claim that the stars were with them, but the sun was apparently with the Judge. For the first time in weeks the sun furnished real service and it no doubt had considerable to do in dispelling the "black cloud" which has been hovering over Polk county for weeks. Of course more than 2500 other sons and daughters joined in the affair.

There was keen interest in the election all over the county, and Mr. Robinson carried 27 of the 37 precincts. In Independence he was given very strong endorsement, the Airlie man getting but 31 of a total of about 700 Buena Vista, however, is entitled to the blue ribbon, giving him 143 votes with only two against him. Dallas landed in fine shape with a handsome majority, West Salem, Spring Valley and Eola tallied on the right side, and so did East Rickreall.

Mr. Ulrich polled his heavy vote in Monmouth, the Falls City country, Suver, and carried his own precinct of Airlie by 22. He also carried West Rickreall, Buell, Oakdale, Rock Creek, Salt Creek by small margins in most cases.

Table with 5 columns: Precincts, Robinson, Ulrich, Ma. U., Ma. R. Rows include Douglas, Jackson, Salt Lake, Spring Valley, Eola, W. Rickreall, E. Rickreall, Buena Vista, Suver, Airlie, Bridgeport, Salt Creek, McCoy, West Salem, Black Rock, Pedee, Buell, Brush College, Lewisville, Oakdale, Rock Creek, Falls City, Monmouth, First Dallas, Second Dallas, Third Dallas, Fourth Dallas, First Independence, Second Independence, Third Independence, Fourth Independence, and a total row.

The first returns to be received in Independence were from Buena Vista and were such a landslide for Mr. Robinson.

CIVIC CLUB'S CARNIVAL A BIG SUCCESS

With a community house for Independence as a big objective for some time in the future, the members of the Woman's Civic club put on the first of a series of "separation" parties in the armory Monday evening.

The affair was a gratifying success from every standpoint. The ladies are about one hundred dollars to the good and those who attended the affair were furnished unique entertainment, including delicious refreshments.

Attractively arranged on one side of the armory were the refreshment booths and they functioned to capacity until everything in the edible line had been exhausted. Then there were the entertainment places, where you could get your fortune told, gain a peep at "Stella," a glimpse of the "hereafter" and uncover the identity of "Shadow."

The punch booth was presided over by Mrs. Walter Plant, Miss Plant and Miss Rose.

Waffles—Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. J. W. Dimick.

Coffee—Mrs. O. A. Kreamer, Mrs. Hugh Hanna.

Waffles—Mrs. M. J. Butler, Mrs. Howard Morland, with Mr. Morland and Dr. M. J. Butler as chief swappers.

Noodles—Mrs. F. L. Chown, Mrs. Lester Neal.

Doughnuts—Mrs. E. M. Young.

Pies—Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Fitchard.

Prunes—Mrs. Eldridge, Elmer Chown.

The "heart" booth was presided over by a bevy of high school girls, and Mrs. Rourke was the fortune teller.

And for real thrills there were "Stella," in charge of Mrs. Hubbard and Mrs. Sarah Young, and "Hereafter" as portrayed by Mrs. Clyde Ecker and Miss Madeline Kreamer.

As for "Stella," it was intimated by some that she had a resemblance to Max Goldman, a well-known local merchant, but of course that must have been imaginary as "Stella" was declared by her sponsors to be a female of the species, and as Kipling claimed, more savage than the male. "Ye who enter here leave hope behind" was the way Dante characterized one of the portals to the lower region: "Hereafter," perhaps, did not take you clear to the bottom, but it gave one the impression that you might be slipping over the brink with no assurance of a safe landing place.

But to go back to life's realities, can you imagine attractions like "Stella," "Hereafter" and others holding the attention of such serious minded men as Dr. O. D. Butler, "Hank" Mattison, S. Taylor Jones, "Dinty" Moore, Dr. F. G. Hewett and dozens of others, why enumerate, when there were "pipin" hot waffles, hot dogs, delicious hot doughnuts, homemade pies ready for attention. But there is a capacity limit to all things, but it was a noticeable fact that the food producing plants were the first to cease functioning.

Dancing formed the concluding part of the evening's entertainment. It was no small effort to stage an affair of this kind. In the Civic club, however, there is apparently unity of action, and success must naturally follow.

Mrs. Charles Cowan of Corvallis was the guest last Sunday of his daughter, Miss Elma Cowan.

JUDGE ROBINSON IS APPRECIATIVE OF SUPPORT

I am deeply appreciative of the confidence bestowed in me by a large majority of the voters of Polk county in Wednesday's election. In all of my public acts I have tried to carry out the wishes of the people and the strong confirmation given in the election is indeed gratifying.

ASA B. ROBINSON.

DOUBLE HEADER SATURDAY NIGHT

Salem Guard Team to Meet Locals Here—High School Game

Two basketball games will be played in the armory here on Saturday night. Company M of the Oregon National Guard, Salem, will meet the Legion-Guard five and the Stayton high school team will contest with the local high school boys.

The contest will open at 8 o'clock and it is anticipated that there will be an unusually large attendance. Both games ought to be fast, clever ones, and of course, the local boys are figuring upon keeping the bacon at home if it can be done fairly.

Last Friday evening the Independence high school went against the strongest aggregation of the season in the Molalla high school. The visitors were genuine heavy-weights, well trained and fast, the lightest one being 165 and heaviest considerable over 200. The local boys put up a good fight, but the visitors carried away the honors, the score being 14 and 29.

The high school basketball team went to Beaverton Wednesday night and was trimmed to the tune of 28 to 9 by the high school five of that city. The Beaverton court is an extremely small one and the local boys were unable to get on to the angles. Independence was represented by Prof. O. D. Byers, Robert Craven, Melvin Ray, Dee Neal, Manley Burright, Dean Craven, Joe Smiley and Frank Schrunck.

PYTHIANS WILL OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY WITH PROGRAM

The anniversary of Pythianism will be fittingly observed by Homer Lodge, No. 45, Knights of Pythias, next Monday evening. An excellent program has been arranged under the direction of Chancellor Commander W. H. Cackle and Dr. A. C. Hanson, keeper of records and seals.

The program follows: Saxophone trio—W. E. Craven, J. S. Robbie, Grant M. Laughlin.

Solo—Dr. L. E. Barrick.

Solo—Mrs. C. W. Irvine.

Recitation—Alberta Williams.

Solo—Mrs. M. J. Butler.

Solo—Paul Scott.

Address—Frank S. Grant, supreme representative of Oregon, Knights of Pythias.

C. W. Irvine will be presented with a Pythian jewel as a reward and mark of esteem for more than 25 years of continuous, faithful membership.

Dr. W. F. Locke of Denver, a former resident of Independence, will receive like recognition. A jewel for him has been forwarded to a Denver Pythian lodge and will be presented to him with due ceremony.

H. C. HANNON GOES TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

H. C. Hannon, a resident of the Hopville district south of town, for many years, has sold his place there, and accompanied by his wife and son, left yesterday for East Bakersfield, Cal., with the expectation of making that his home.

Mr. Hannon's property was purchased by J. C. Fidler of Dallas, who will occupy it.

At Craven & Walker's book store there is being displayed for the remainder of this week an exhibit of book plates. These pen sketches are made by an artist who has studied a number of years at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass., and the Art Institute of Chicago. This exhibit will be of interest to those who appreciate high class original work.