



The Western World

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SCHOOL OFFICIALS—ECONOMY

The school election called for Monday, June 19th, is of prime importance as it means the election of two directors and a clerk, thereby almost entirely changing the personnel of the board. It is in fact the most important school meeting in several years and should be attended by every voter in the district who has the interests of the schools at heart.

In choosing candidates for the office "economy" will no doubt be the popular watchword, and, as is usually the case, some will be ready to elect anyone, regardless of qualifications, just so they preach economy. Right there is where the danger lies.

Election of men or women to the school board merely for the purpose of cutting down expenses is bad business, unless those men or women are sufficiently qualified in business and educational matters to recognize just where retrenchments can be made without impairing the efficiency of the school system. Our schools should be the last to suffer from hard times, and great care should be exercised in applying the pruning shears.

There is no reason why one well qualified from every point of view should not be able to practice economy and practice it to better advantage than one who knows nothing but economy.

Let us be saving, but let us not allow the retrenchment wave to obscure the importance of exercising good business judgment in selecting those who will have charge of our children's education.

AMERICAN SPIRIT

In his memorial day address President Wilson repeated his statement that "we are ready to fight for our rights when these rights are coincident with the rights of man and humanity."

What is the matter of being ready to fight for our rights when they are American rights ruthlessly assaulted? The United States as one of the greatest of nations cannot be unmindful of its duty towards humanity, but neither can it be unmindful of its duty toward itself. That it has been negligent in this regard is evidenced by numerous recent events in which President Wilson has conspicuously figured and which have unquestionably tended to the lowering of American standards both at home and abroad, says the Statesman.

We know something of the kind of respect that is entertained for us in foreign lands. It is not that character of respect that was donated following the promulgation and execution of policies formerly laid down.

It is for the most part a respect that comes solely from contemplation of our dollar strength. We know something of the feeling against this country by Mexico. It is shown by open contempt in certain quarters and by poorly veiled hatred in others. American graves that dot the desert mutely emphasize this feeling. And at home how many American citizens feel as they once did? It is saddening and it may be calamitous—this dangerous indifference under circumstances that in former times would lead to almost universal enthusiasm for any cause espoused by the American government. President Wilson, in his address spoke again of preparedness and the necessity for universal military training. But what success may be attained in that direction in the knowledge of administrative vacillation and blundering that has notoriously hampered the American spirit?

Here is one answer to Wilsonism as affecting national pride and national defense. In eight weeks from the time President Wilson approved a law authorizing addition of twenty thousand men to the regular army, but forty-one hundred enlistments had been made at seven hundred and twelve recruiting stations. Each station obtained but three-sevenths of a recruit a week!

A COMPARISON

Showing What Retrenchments Would Be Necessary to Conduct the City's Business on a Ten Mill Tax.

Probably never before in the history of Bandon has there been a more determined movement toward retrenchment in the conduct of the City's business. It is not the policy of any one faction or group of citizens but of all taxpayers no matter what their vocation or position might be. It is an accepted fact by all concerned that the revenue of the city at the present time will not pay the current expenses, therefore the all important question is, how can the situation be adjusted?

According to the present city charter the tax limit that can be placed against the assessed valuation for current expenses is 10 mills. Ten mills will raise approximately \$8,500, while the estimated expenses of the city, according to the budget this fiscal year is \$14,266. The greater portion of the difference is being made up by the occupation tax now in force.

But how about the next fiscal year? Judging from current reports on the street the general taxpayers who are not hit by the occupation tax are opposing the proposed amendment to the charter making the tax limit 15 mills. On the other hand many of the business men (those who are forced to pay the occupation tax) declare that after the present emergency they will positively refuse

both ends meet. But wait a minute, that is not all, we are forgetting that the difference between the interest paid by the property owners on the improvement bonds under the Bancroft bonding act, and the interest paid by the city on the same improvement bonds (which is explained elsewhere in this issue) amounts to \$1080 (per year), and the interest on the \$40,000 refunding bonds recently sold amounts to \$2400 (per year). These items must be taken into consideration next fiscal year in order to keep the city's business "even with the boards." That gives us the following:

Current expenses for year . . . \$14,266
Difference in Improvement
bond interest 1,080
Interest on refunding bonds . . . 2,400

Total expenses \$17,746
Revenue from 10 mill tax . . . 8,500

Amount necessary to retrench
in order to make the city
pay its way on a 10 mill
tax \$9,246

Taking the various items of the budget for the fiscal year from October 1, 1915 to September 30, 1916, and comparing them with a theoretical budget, such as would be necessary under a 10 mill tax, we have the following:

ITEM	Old Budget-New	Budget-Retrenchments
Recorder's office	\$ 1141	\$ 941
Engineering Department	2500	724
Treasury Department	375	175
Police Department	2000	720
Health Department	250	250
Legal Department	1125	125
Fire Department	725	725
Street Department	1000	1000
Library Department	850	600
Lighting Service, Supplies, etc.	2000	1000
Printing and Advertising	500	500
Salaries, Mayor and Council	500	500
Insurance	100	100
Meals for Prisoners	50	35
Fuel	50	30
Telegrams, telephones, etc.	100	50
Fees to county offices	25	25
Miscellaneous, street & sewer work.	500	195
Cost of Election	100	100
Interest on general fund warrants	100	100
Interest on park warrants	200	200
City pound rent	75	75
TOTALS	\$14266	\$5020

to pay any further occupation tax. They argue that it is unfair to place the added tax burden on the business men, and that if it costs more than 10 mills to conduct the city's municipal affairs, all the taxpayers should pay their part. And their argument is sound.

Now then, if the voters at the coming election vote down the proposed charter amendment, and if the business men subsequently refuse to further pay the occupation tax, can the city administration conduct the city's business on the revenue derived from a ten mill tax?

The first impulse that strikes the average taxpayer is "they have got to do it." Some seem to think that all that is necessary to solve the whole problem is to change the administration, i. e., to elect new men to the offices of mayor and councilmen. Others, including those who have studied the situation from a basis of facts and figures, find that no matter who the man in office might be, the trouble lies largely with conditions, and that if it can be done by new men it ought to be done still more efficiently by the present incumbents who already are familiar with all the details.

In order to afford the taxpayers and voters of Bandon a better understanding of the situation as it presents itself at this time, Western World herewith makes a comparison which it hopes will be of some value.

Assuming that the present administration is keeping within the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1915, and ending September 30, 1916, (we understand that such is the case); and, assuming further that under present conditions the expenses for the next fiscal year would be the same as those for the present one, then it would cost the city approximately \$14,266. That is exclusive of the water system. It is supposed that the water system will just about pay its own way, and we take the liberty to include in "its own way" the interest on water bonds.

A ten mill tax on the assessed valuation of the City of Bandon will net approximately \$8,500. Thus between the budget estimate of current expenses under the present conditions (\$14,266) and the tax revenue from ten mills (\$8,500) we have a difference of \$5,766, the amount necessary to retrench in order to make

in making up what is termed in the foregoing the "new budget" Western World does not wish to convey the idea that it believes the city could conduct its business on so small a scale and do it efficiently; it merely presents the same for the sake of comparison. In other words to illustrate what a ten mill tax under the present situation would really mean.

Taking up some of the radical retrenchments in the foregoing line-up it will be noticed that the engineering department is cut from \$2500 to \$724. On this item it is presumed that almost the entire cost of the engineer's office could, during the extension of the water department, be paid out of the bond money as it is chiefly occupied with that work. After that work is completed it would virtually have to be abolished altogether.

The reduction in the police department would mean one man at \$60 per month and no allowance for any other incidental expenses whatever.

The legal department would no doubt present an impossibility, as the present cases in court would require the services of a competent attorney, to say nothing of the court fees, witness fees, etc., connected therewith.

There would be no health department, fire department, street department, printing or advertising, salaries for mayor and councilmen, insurance, and last but not least no city pound in which to put stray cows and unlicensed dogs.

The library would have to suffer a little and on dark stormy winter nights those unfortunate enough to be out after five o'clock would be forced to carry lanterns or search lights, for the lighting system would probably not be as complete as at present.

Western World does not believe that the present situation can be remedied merely by putting new men into office, neither does it believe that the city can conduct its business efficiently during the next fiscal year solely on a ten mill tax. As to the occupation tax it is in sympathy with the business men, contending that like in all other governmental affairs the cost of doing business should be divided equally among all the taxpayers.

However, this paper does contend that some radical retrenchments must be made in order to keep the taxes within a reasonable limit even

Flag Day Proclamation

WHEREAS, June 14th, 1916, is the 139th anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes; and

WHEREAS, Organizations of a patriotic nature in Oregon are desirous that special emphasis be placed upon this day and its meaning; and

WHEREAS, This generation has seen no time when loyalty and patriotism are more required than now, or when the encroachment of these vital national virtues is more appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, I do hereby proclaim Wednesday, June 14th, as FLAG DAY throughout the State of Oregon, and I earnestly urge that the day be devoted to exercises indicative of and conducive to loyalty to the Flag; that in homes, schools, churches and business establishments the occasion be fittingly observed; that the Flag be displayed from public buildings, schools, homes, and places of business, and that the entire commonwealth, at this critical period of international unrest, unite in honoring the FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and in pledging renewed and vigorous loyalty to it and the principles of liberty it represents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be hereunto affixed this third day of June, 1916.

(SEAL)

JAMES WITTHYCOMBE,

Governor of Oregon.

to the complete abolition of some of the departments which in the past have been considered very important.

At any rate the program that awaits the new administration will call for a complete reorganization of affairs on a smaller and less costly scale. It will demand the non-consideration of any improvement work whatever, unless the property owners wishing to make the improvements agree to pay all the costs and pay them in cash. And, lastly, it will mean that as soon as possible every source of expense must be paired to the extreme limit consistent with good business principles.

STATE UNIVERSITY IN DANGER

The following from the Oregon Law School Reporter (Portland) is of interest to every taxpayer in the state, and if it has any foundation whatever should give rise to general protest:

"It should be known that certain politicians of Portland who wish an additional source to get on the payroll are planning to move the State University from Eugene to Portland. Such a scheme would not only be unjust to the city of Eugene, but would be extremely expensive to the taxpayers of this state. University grounds of 100 acres or more would have to be purchased at many thousands of dollars per acre, and many millions of dollars would have to be expended in the erection of suitable school buildings; while this is already amply provided for at the city of Eugene. And what is the reason given for this change and great outlay of money of the taxpayers of this state? Why, simply to furnish certain judges and their following a dditional salaries from the state. And to put out of business the Reed College, Columbia University, Hill Military Academy and many other schools and educational institutions of Portland, depending in whole or in part upon tuition received from pupils. Will the taxpayers permit such a political scheme to be perpetrated?"

W. R. C. ENJOYS PROGRAM

Ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps met in regular session and after the regular order of business a peace program was enjoyed by members and visitors, conducted by Mrs. Faulds and other members of the W. R. C.:

1. Song: "Hymn of Peace," by all.
2. Speech: "Peace and Patriotism," by Mrs. Faulds.
3. Reading by Mrs. Louise Allen.
4. Recitation by Mrs. Elva Miller.
5. Song, by Mrs. Meyers.
6. Song, by Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Florence Young.
7. Reading, by Mrs. Shannon.
8. A picture of home and mothers' thoughts: Mrs. Faulds and Mrs. Deborah Young.
9. Recitation, Mrs. Ed. Sumner.
10. Dialogue, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Allen and Adams.
11. Play: "Mending the Old Flag," Bowman, Sherrard, Brown and Welch.
12. Pantomime, by Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Faulds and Mrs. Felter.

One of the unique features of the program was a pantomime conducted by nine members, portraying the name of our home city "Bandon"; the prize going to Mrs. Urquhart and Mrs. Fish.

The W. R. C. and G. A. R. will observe flag day, June 14th. All members of each order are requested to be at G. A. R. hall at 6:30 p. m. A cordial invitation is extended to all orders in the city also the public, to participate in the parade to form in front of City hall at 7:30 p. m.

W. A. Hoover, who recently deserted Bandon for the farm, came up from his place at Four Mile Monday evening for a brief visit. He is making some substantial improvements on his place.

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W. A. Le GORE, W. M.
C. E. BOWMAN, Secretary.

L. O. O. M.

Loyal Order of Moose meets Every Thursday Evening in Moose Home. Transient Moose cordially invited. Something doing every Thursday.

W. A. Le GORE, Dictator.
H. E. HORNUNG, Sec'y.

W. O. W.

Seaside Camp No. 212, W. O. W. Meets first and third Tuesdays in each month at 8 P. M.; Knights of Pythias hall. Visitors are assured a hearty welcome.

J. N. HOSKING, C. C.
F. H. COLGROVE, Clerk.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Delphi Lodge No. 64, Knights of Pythias. Meets every Monday evening at Knights hall. Visiting Knights invited to attend.

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