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The Athena Press

Entered at the Post Office at Athena, Oregon, as Second-Class Mail Matter

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VOLUME XLIII.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1922.

NUMBER 14

PIERCE HOLDS VETO POWERS IS FOR USE NOT FOR ORNAMENT

Democratic Candidate For Governor Would Put a Crimp In Taxes But Not Schools

Walter M. Pierce, in filing his official declaration as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, issued the following statement, or platform, outlining the principles upon which he seeks the nomination.

I hold that a governor is given the veto power for the use and not for ornamental purposes. The conditions under which the governor is clothed with the veto place on him one third of the responsibility for legislation, good or bad. As governor, I would consider myself bound by official oath to meet that responsibility by vetoing all appropriations and bills that seemed out of harmony with sound economy and good state policy.

The growing cost of government is partly due to the increasing insistence that we be more and more governed. We have created salaried officials for this and salaried officials for that, until the official class has become a minority so powerful that it largely dictates policies and controls government. Some official is almost constantly at the citizen's elbow. The cost of government can be made less by weeding out the superfluous functionaries and turning out time servers and inefficient. As governor, I would do all in my power to rid the public payrolls of parasites and political henchmen.

Serious as is the tax situation in Oregon, there is a way to remedy it. It is true that high taxes are causing many people to lose their homes, are robbing farm and many other realty owners of the fruits of their labor and are a heavy handicap to business and industry. That the power to tax is the power to destroy is a truth that should be realized by those placed in control of state, county and municipal government in this state, otherwise the state tax roll which has increased 521 per cent in 10 years threatens to extinguish property rights.

Even at the present depressed values there is at least \$2,000,000,000 worth of property in Oregon. Our total assessment roll is only \$1,020,000,000, leaving at least \$1,000,000,000 worth of property in Oregon paying little or no share in the burden of state government. This untaxed wealth is mostly invested in foreign securities, non-taxable bonds and other income-yielding enterprises.

No state has ever found any form of assessment that can reach this class of property, except through the form of an income tax. No state reaches it today by direct taxation. We cannot experiment in the face of the present serious situation. We must act—if homes are to be saved. Therefore, I favor an income tax that will definitely make net incomes, both personal and corporate, bear one half of the burdens of state government. Such an income tax should bear more heavily on unearned incomes than upon earned incomes.

The revenues from such a tax would lift a good part of the tax burden off farms and other real property, and cause it to be carried by intangible wealth that now pays little or no taxes. In no case should this new revenue be used in making new expenditures.

I introduced in the Oregon state senate in 1919 an income tax bill, and secured its passage through that body, but it was defeated in the house. The same thing happened to an income tax bill introduced by me at a former session.

Our total state tax budget this year is \$9,376,289.11. I can cut this \$1,400,000 without in any way impairing the efficiency of government. This makes a clean cut of 15 per cent. Then with four million raised from net incomes, the state tax levy will be reduced from 9.4 mills to 4 mills, a saving in the country, outside of cities and special road and school districts, of an average of almost one third of the present taxes, and in cities and special road and school districts, a saving of 5.4 mills. If elected governor of the state of Oregon I pledge the people that I will do everything in my power to bring a

Five Boxing Contests and Wrestling Bout At First Legion Smoker Tomorrow Night

Athena-Weston American Legion Post will give its initial boxing card at a smoker to be held in Legion Hall, Athena, tomorrow (Saturday) evening, when six boxing bouts will be held.

The main bout will be between Frankie Neal of Pendleton, and Mickey Murphy of Walla Walla. Both boxers are said to be in the pink of condition, and the go is anticipated as an interesting one. Four preliminary contests are on the card as follows:

Herman Geissel, local favorite, is matched with Elmer Brooks, a fast-going youngster, of Pendleton.

Mose Banister of Athena, will meet Gale Simpson of Weston.

Gail Anderson of Athena is matched with "Snip" Snider of Weston.

Mike Brotherton of Walla Walla, will have a go with C. Lieualen, of Heppner.

These boxing exhibitions are held under the auspices of the Legion Post, and are said to be regulated by a boxing commission. Buddy Stevens, well known boxer and athlete of Pendleton, will referee the contests. Admission prices are \$1 and \$1.50.

W. C. EMMEL TO MANAGE A STORE AT NEWTON, IOWA

W. C. Emmel, manager of the J. C. Penney store in Athena, will turn over the management of the local store to Charles Dudley, and with his wife and son will go in June to Newton, Iowa, where he will open a Penney store in that city.

Mr. Emmel came to Athena from Salem, six years ago, and when Gary Taylor was transferred to Kirksville, Missouri, to manage a store for the company at that place, Mr. Emmel succeeded to the management of the store here. He made a success of the merchandising business in Athena, where he and his estimable wife have a large number of friends who will join in wishing them prosperity and happiness in their new home.

Mr. Dudley, who succeeds to the management of the Athena store, came here from Pendleton, when Mr. Emmel took Mr. Taylor's place. He is a thorough business man, and the store will fall into capable hands on the departure of Mr. Emmel.

JOY RIDER ARRESTED

A car driven by Joe Schneider of Pendleton and containing another man and two women, turned turtle the other day at a point on the state highway near the George Winn farm. The occupants were pinned beneath the car, but escaped without much injury. They were brought to Weston by Mr. Winn. Subsequently Schneider was arrested by the sheriff, after an investigation. He was charged with driving a car while intoxicated and fined \$100, which sum he had refused to pay at last accounts, preferring to be the county's guest at the Hotel de Houser. Two other charges—speeding and heaving liquor in his possession—are said to be pending against him.

FIRST JURY WOMEN

Mrs. Jennie Evans of Freewater and Mrs. Reta Bailey of Milton, were the first women to serve on a mixed jury in Umatilla county. These ladies were drawn on the jury that listened to the evidence in the case of Zurcher vs. Sherik an action for the recovery of money for professional services rendered. One other woman was drawn for jury duty at the April term of the circuit court, Mrs. Omer Stephens of Athena. Mrs. Stephens did not serve.

about the enactment and enforcement of measures that will bring this relief.

We must not wreck our public school system. Our free public schools are the guarantee of the present and the hope of the future. They should be maintained on a plane of high efficiency, but administered on a basis of rigid economy.

We should retain the principle of the millage tax for higher education. Neither the university, agricultural college nor normal school can be maintained without the present millage, unless there is an increase in the assessment roll. Seventy-five per cent of the 7000 students in these institutions are wholly, or partially, working their way through school. We must not close opportunity to these worthy young Americans.

HACKATHORNE, COMPSON CLAYTON ON PROGRAM

One of the best photoplays that been produced this season will be screened at the Standard Theatre tomorrow (Saturday) night, when Compton and George Hackathorne will be starred in "Little Minister." This splendid amount picture will be exhibited at regular price of admission, and the attendance warrant, two at 9:30.

Hackathorne plays the part of Little Minister, and critics say that the young man is to that role, what Barthlemess is to "Way Down East" and "Broken Blossoms." He grew to manhood in Pendleton, where his mother still resides, hence his appearance here will be received with local interest. Betty Compton has been here in a number of high class clean photoplays.

For Sunday night the Standard offers what it considers one of the most accomplished and versatile of screen stars, Ethel Clayton, who will be seen in "Wealth," another of the late William Desmond Taylor's productions. This is also a Paramount picture, one of the series now running at the Standard, the real cream of the motion picture industry. Clean comedies, news and review features are on the program.

HELIX UNCORKS AND WINS GAME ON ATHENA ERRORS

Athena lost her opening conference game to Helix school Tuesday afternoon, after winning the game by the shut-out route, 6 to 0. Queer dope, that, but it's a fact nevertheless, and here's how it happened:

By agreement the game was to go seven innings. Si Hodgen, with stable support of his team mates, easily won the seven-inning contest, with white-wash trimmings. Then the coaches decided to extend the session two more innings, making it a regular nine-inning affair. Well and good.

The eighth inning proved to be a regular find for the Helix team, for on a choice collection of errors, stolen bases and only two safe swats, eight runs were registered. Right there the game was salted down, for Athena could only snare one run in her part of the ninth, while Helix collected one more, making the final score 9 to 7.

SHOOTING TOURNAMENT

The Walla Walla shooting tournament will be held next Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Three Athena men, M. W. Hansell, M. L. Watts and Omer Stephens, will be in attendance. The Pendleton Shoot will be held May 13 and 14.

MAN AFTER SINNOTT ANNOUNCES A STAND

While Eugene Meyer, managing director of the war finance corporation, was telling the prominent bankers, business men and citizens generally of the accomplishments of that organization at the Chamber of Commerce banquet in Portland, his auditors, though perhaps noting the absence of United States Senator Stanfield from the festive board, little dreamed that "plain words" had passed between the guest of honor and the junior senator just before the dinner hour—plain words which had to do with the absence of the senator on that occasion.

Senator Stanfield admits that Director Meyer's attorney bore the message to him that Meyer had said "he would not sit at a banquet with Senator Stanfield where he would be drawn into debate with him," or words to that effect.

Senator Stanfield also agrees that "some plain words" were spoken by him to Director Meyer during a conference which followed the receipt of that message, but the senator insists that there was naught of rancor or personal feeling in the pour parlers between himself and the head of the finance corporation.

It is just the way the senators have in Washington, he says, where the members of the upper branch of the legislature do not use words of "hidden diplomacy" in treating with the heads of government departments, should occasion seem to require.

MAY DAY EXERCISES

May Day Exercises will be held this year at the school building, on Friday April 28th. All exercises will be held in the school building. The Parent-Teachers Association will have charge of the noon-day meal which will be served cafeteria style. The entire community is invited to attend these exercises, and the women are expected to bring baskets containing sandwiches, salads, pickles and cake. Coffee and cocoa will be served at the expense of the Association. Dinner will be served free of charge. In the evening an entertainment will be given, at which a small admission fee will be charged.

ASSESSORS ARE WORKING
Deputy assessors are working in all sections of the county at present, taking assessments of property. W. T. McLeod is assessor for Athena and Helix, and T. P. Harbour is assessor at Weston.

TWO MILES OF PAVING

Extensive street improvements are planned at Walla Walla. Approximately two miles of city streets will be paved.

MURDEROUS TRAMP HERDER

John Smith, foreman at Elmer D. Bryson's sheep camp near LeGrow siding on the Northern Pacific, between Eureka and Attalia, was shot and dangerously wounded Sunday by a tramp herder, who escaped. The attack is said to have been entirely unprovoked.

Omar Stephens Will Be the Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop Being Organized Here

With eleven Athena boys signing applications for membership in the Boy Scout Troop, at a meeting of the committee on organization held in the Commercial Club rooms Tuesday evening, the organization of the Athena troop is assured.

Omer Stephens will serve as scout master, and the committee has ordered a supply of scout hand books and other necessary supplies. As soon as these books are received, the boy scouts will take up their scout studies and duties.

It is proposed to take summer hikes, and it is Scout Master Stephens' intention to give his troop an outing in camp recreation for at least a week or ten days sometime during the school vacation period. He also hopes to have the troop members qualified to wear scout uniforms by the time this camping trip takes place. However this depends on the scouts mastering their hand book studies. Those who signed for membership in the troop are:

Dale Stephens, Arthur Taylor, Alton Lieualen, William Coppock, Melvin Coppock, Fred Radtke, Kenneth Johnson, Ronald Lieualen, Neil McIntyre, Norman McIntyre and Edwin McEwen. Other boys, who were not present at the meeting will also join the troop, so it is understood. Any boy who did not attend the meeting, and who wishes to join within the next few days may do so, by calling at the Press office and signing the membership roll.

It is confidently expected by Scout Master Stephens and the committee that the Athena troop will start with a membership of sixteen, giving the organization a working efficiency of two patrols of eight scouts each.

STATE-WIDE DRIVE MADE FOR HIGH GRADE POTATOES

State-wide campaign for better potatoes in 1923 will soon be under way under the supervision of extension specialists of the agricultural college at Pullman, assisted by county agents. A preliminary survey will take place this summer to collect information as to varieties grown, kind of soil, method of seed treatment, chemicals used, and whether market of seed potatoes, for the purpose of standardizing and reducing the number of varieties. The variety of potato best adapted to different soils will be decided, as various localities are best adapted for raising market potatoes while other sections produce excellent seed potatoes.

In addition 10 potato cost accounts will be maintained by 10 farmers in each county to determine production costs and 15 counties are present in making arrangements to have 150 such accounting methods in the hands of local growers.

HYSLUP WADES THE DRIFTS

The potatoes of five growers passed the bin inspection made by Professor George R. Hyslop of Oregon Agricultural College, during his recent visit to Weston Mountain. They are: W. L. Rayborn, W. F. Gould, Will Hall, E. E. Tucker and Charles L. May. Professor Hyslop is said to have walked several miles through deep snowdrifts in order to keep his speaking appointments on Weston and Reed and Hawley mountains, and Charley May and J. W. Bowers—who were with him on the pilgrimage—are sponsors for the statement that the professor is some hiker. He also did some traveling on horseback and with a bobsled.

RADIO WORKING FINE

C. M. Eager's radio outfit gives Athena people an opportunity to satisfy their curiosity in wireless telephony, and a number have taken advantage of the opportunity to listen to concerts broadcasted from San Francisco and other places. Monday night the apparatus was working fine and a concert sent out by the Fremont Hotel in San Francisco was listened to with deep interest by friends of Mr. Eager. He is building new equipment that will greatly increase the efficiency of his receiving station.

TRUCK MEN WIN

Over the protests of O. W. R. & N. and Walla Walla Railways, the department of public works of the state of Washington has granted a certificate to George Simpson and V. E. Barry to operate freight trucks between Walla Walla and Pendleton.

O. W. R. & N. BLAMED FOR CAUSING WRECK OF PASSENGER TRAIN

Interstate Commerce Commission Finds Failure to Provide for Safe Train Operation.

Severe condemnation for operating officials of the O. W. R. & N. company for failure to provide safe methods of train operation is pronounced in the report of Chief W. P. Borland of the bureau of safety of the interstate commerce commission on the disastrous wreck near Celilo, Oregon, on December 1 last.

Blame is also attached to several trainmen with particular censure for Chief Night Dispatcher Walsh, who is declared guilty of "gross violation of rules and instructions" in issuing orders running an extra train against the current of traffic with no excuse except to save 40 minutes' time.

"This accident was caused by failure of Conductor Allison and Engineer Allen of train No. 12," says the report, "properly to communicate with the train dispatcher before leaving the Oregon Trunk connection, and by Night Chief Dispatcher Walsh issuing a train order giving extra No. 3211 the right to run against the current of traffic from Biggs to the Oregon Trunk connection without properly protecting the movement.

"Sharing in responsibility for the accident is Pilot Conductor Clark, who by his actions led the crew of train No. 12 to believe that he had been authorized by the train dispatcher to clear their train.

"The operating officials of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company cannot be too severely criticized for their failure to provide a safe method of operating trains between Oregon Trunk connections and Briggs.

"This is not an isolated case involving the improper handling of a single train, but represents a practice which has grown up as a result of detouring trains with considerable frequency.

"These officials cannot escape their responsibility in connection with this incident on the ground that they were ignorant of these conditions and practices. It was their duty to know of them. The promulgation of rules and instructions is but the smallest portion of their duties.

"Only when they know that such rules and regulations are being fully complied with can they be said to have discharged their duty."

FAVORABLE FOR IRRIGATION

With more than normal winter moisture and a large reserve of snow in the mountains, an ample supply of water for irrigation purposes is assured for the Walla Walla valley and the government and other projects in the west end of Umatilla county. Flood waters have been feeding into the big reservoirs for some time, and when they are filled, there will still be a reserve in the mountain streams.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Plans are being formulated for the holding of Commencement exercises at Athena High School. The graduating class this year comprises nine, four boys and five girls. They are: Herman Geissel, Frank Miller, Dorvan Phillips, Kohler Betts, Lucinda Dell, Gwendolyn McIntyre, Savannah Smith, Maebelle Duncan and Lela Schubert.

BASEBALL GAME RESULTS

In a well played game of baseball at Pendleton, Sunday, the Pendleton Blue Mountain League team defeated the independent team from Pilot Rock by the score of 7 to 4.

Helix and Weston, playing independent ball at Weston Sunday, interested the fans with plenty of batting. Helix won by the score of 10 to 4. Lefty Kretzer of Athena, played first base for the Weston team.

TO HOLD RECITAL

A recital will be held at the high school auditorium on Saturday evening, April 22nd, under the auspices of the Malen Burnett School of Music, Athena branch. The public is cordially invited. Miss Lois Cassil, instructor, has taken great care in formulating the program for the evening, and her pupils anticipate a good sized audience to hear it.

