

THE CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

Re-established, September 13, 1923.
Devoted to the best interests of Central Point and vicinity.
Entered as second class matter at the post office, Central Point, Oregon, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Six Months \$1.00
One Year \$1.50

Paysable in advance
Advertising rates on application
Office—Second Street, off Main

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Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

FROM BASEMENT TO FLAGPOLE

The elections throughout the nation are over. Candidates for office on every ticket have promised to work for tax reduction.

It is becoming pretty generally recognized today that taxes are such a burden on industry that they restrict their normal development—that means they restrict prospective jobs.

The most pressing relief needs of the depression period have passed. But in their wake will be a hang-over of persons on the public payroll that will drain the treasuries of government and industry unless a drastic program is inaugurated to cut off useless expense and live up to campaign promises to hold down and reduce taxes.

The mopping-up process will have to begin in the basement of the smallest city hall and go right through to the gold ball top atop the flagpole on the capitol at Washington.

Nothing would do more to encourage industry to develop and employ more and more labor than a feeling that an honest and determined effort was being made throughout the nation to balance budgets and reduce taxation.

The answer rests with the people. There is the power to demand efficiency and economy in government, or there is the power to break their own public treasuries and the taxpayers (workers and industries).

The first course leads to steady jobs and good wages. The second course leads to unemployment, mortgage foreclosures on homes and businesses, and the eventual breakdown of sound government.

We can't pass the buck—the answer rests with us—the taxpayers, the workers and our public servants.

RADICAL MEASURES DEFEATED
An encouraging phase of the late election was the conservatism spirit shown by the voters of various states in voting down radical and unsound measures.

The states of Oregon and Washington present a case in point. In both these states, the Federal government has undertaken great government-financed, hydroelectric developments—one at Grand Coulee, Washington, and the other at Bonneville, Oregon. There has long been agitation to put the states into the power business on their own hook, and the private utilities serving the area have been subjected to malicious, unfair and unreasoned denunciation by political groups.

On November 3, the voters of Washington and Oregon were called upon to pass on measures which, in one way or another, would have created districts and opened the way for bonding the people to construct publicly-owned electric plants. These measures were defeated by extremely heavy majorities.

In other states, similar bills were likewise met with decisive "Nos" by the electorate. There was a widespread general tendency to turn thumbs-down on socialistic measures which would have put states into

business at the expense of the already tax-groggy taxpayers and private business.

The socialistic dream of government ownership of business is not held by the American people when they face it as a definite issue. Whatever their political allegiance, they are essentially opposed to limiting their opportunities as individual that speaks volumes for the wisdom of the electorate.

Art Exhibit Is Best Ever Held

The fourth art exhibit sponsored by the S. O. A. A. closed last evening and was voted to be the best exhibit the society has shown here. The entries of the students of the S.O.A.A. school and the works of local artists were highly appreciated by visitors. Much interest was shown in the imported etchings, particularly by those who are familiar with the American artists represented in the group of American etchings.

Nearly all visitors spent much time in the corner occupied by the works sent from Portland by the Society of Oregon Artists, many peo-

ple returning several times to see them again. The S. O. A. A. wishes to thank the people of Medford and vicinity for their interest in this exhibit and for their many kind words of praise for the work of organization. Several people have expressed the desire to become members at this time to further the cause of art and have a part in bringing exhibits of prominent artists to Medford. It is hoped that many more will place

their membership immediately and be charter members of the new southern Oregon chapter of the Na-

tional Federation of American Arts being formed by the S.O.A.A.—Mail Tribune.

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