

## THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY  
T. L. DUGGER, EDITOR AND PROP.

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### MOSS IMPORTANT OFFICE

The most important office to be filled, next month, by Linn county electors, is that of state legislator. It is the most important because the Oregon legislature holds the destiny of Oregon, in a large sense, within the hollow of its hand. By the laws it enacts and the appropriations of public money it makes, it makes or mars our prosperity in a large degree. Yet we are almost criminally careless in the selection of the men whom we send down to Salem to transact this most important function of the state government. It has been our habit in the past to send almost anyone who offers himself, regardless of whether he has any special ability as a law-maker, to represent us.

This is true of both great political parties. If, in the past, the people have drawn an occasional prize legislator—a man who has the ability to care for and protect the peoples interests, it has been almost an accident. If we have secured an occasional member who has had the nerve to fight graft in whatever form it has been presented to the legislative body, whether in the interest of our state colleges, for irrigation in localities where irrigation is not feasible, or for any purpose whatever not necessary for the peace, health or general welfare of the state and he has been successful in his endeavor, the people and taxpayers have been benefitted. It is unfortunate that we have had too few of such members and the result is, Oregon has the highest per capita tax of any state in the union. Is it not, therefore, most important that all counties of the state should lay aside all personal favoritism or personal animosity if it exists, all political feeling and select the very best men of the material offered for our law makers?

Since the election of U. S. senators has been taken away from the legislatures and relegated to the people direct, the political question should not figure in any manner whatever in our choice of legislators. If the republican seems to possess the desired requirement and his democratic opponent does not, by all means let us elect the republican. If the democratic candidate seems the better fitted intelligently, is more experienced in public matters and seems the more interested in the public welfare, by all means elect the democrat. It is results we want and the man who can deliver the goods, who will become a watchdog of the state treasury without being parsimonious and narrow-minded when a matter of real public benefit and one necessary for the betterment of the state in general is under consideration, is offered let us elect him. No matter if he is your political or personal enemy. If you are satisfied that he is the better and wiser man, if he is honest in a general sense, it is your duty as a

good citizen to vote for him.

Linn county has six legislative candidates, from whom we will elect three members on the 7th of next month. All of them, so far as The Tribune is informed, are honorable and upright citizens. Three of them have each served one or more terms as legislators, while the other three are yet to make their first try at state lawmaking.

Of the first three mentioned, Representative W. P. Elmore, of Brownsville, has served several terms and stood high in the estimation of his fellow members at the last session. He was a member of the House ways and means committee and, as such, succeeded in defeating a \$450,000 irrigation graft. This one accomplishment alone is sufficient to make his reelection sure. Representative Frank Porter, of Halsey and Charles Childs of Brownsville, while first-class citizens in every way, manifested no special ability as legislators. They were simply voting members and of no influence, to speak of, among their associates.

Mr. Achison, of Shedd and Mr. Schultz, of Albany, have had no legislative experience in either state or municipal bodies. They are wholly untried and may or may not prove valuable legislators.

Mr. E. C. Peery, of Scio. The Tribune believes, if elected, will prove a valuable member for the state and our county. He is a capable and successful business man. He is now the president and manager of the Scio Condensed Milk company and the fact that the business of the company is growing rapidly and that its product is sold all over the coast and that some of the product has been shipped to Europe, proves him to be a successful and wide awake manager. He has been a school director and member of the city council for a great many years. In fact it would be difficult to point to a single year during the past twenty in which Mr. Peery has not been a public official of some character. He was the instigator and mainly instrumental in Linn county's adoption of our present high school law. He is a good thinker and has the habit of digging down to the bottom of things he undertakes.

Besides the above, Mr. Peery's location is ideal. He is the only candidate from the forks of the Santiam a section of the county containing more than one-half of the territory and over one-third of its assessed valuation. Moreover, this same section has had but two members of the legislature in the past twenty or more years and, as a matter of justice, this section should be remembered at this time.

Knowing Messrs Elmore and Peery for many years, their characters as successful business men and their deep interest in matters pertaining to the welfare of their respective towns, their county and state, we unhesitatingly say, of the six candidates, they are decidedly the best bet.

### AN AWFUL LOT OF LIARS

Read republican news reports from campaign managers, straw votes, etc., and one will conclude that all republicans, all progressives, a large percentage of the women and, probably, ten percent of the democrats, will vote for Hughes at the coming election.

On the other hand, read democratic reports and you will conclude that all democrats, from 30 to 40 per cent of the progressives, 75 per cent of the women and 10 per cent of the republicans will support Wilson.

Who is right? The Tribune don't know. But it is very sure of one thing. There will be the biggest crop of liars after November 7, that this country has produced for many

months. Of course these wild and strained statements are made for a purpose. They are made to sway the unthinking voter. Far too many voters are thus swayed. They want to shout with the biggest crowd, caring little or nothing for the principles at stake. Politicians know about this weakness and resort to every means of misstatement to sway the wavering voter. Reports of democratic and republican newspapers will vary greatly on a question of absolute fact, easily ascertained. For instance: The Albany Democrat stated that about 300 attended the Fairbanks meeting in Albany last week. The Herald stated "a very large crowd" leading one to suppose the number was 1000 or more. Probably somewhere between the two estimates would be correct.

Whether there is to be any considerable slump of voters, either way, may be determined by the conditions in your community: for all communities are very much alike. They are governed largely by the same generally conceded facts.

Now in our own community, from what we can ascertain, less than one-half of one per cent of democrats will vote for Hughes, while from five to ten per cent, of heretofore republicans, have declared their intention to vote for Wilson. The uncertain feature is the woman vote. There is no basis upon which to base an estimate. Nor is it true that all German-Americans will vote for Hughes. So far as we can learn a 50-50 estimate in this locality will be approximately correct. Another fact to consider. We are told by men who say they know, that quite a number of heretofore socialists will support Wilson, while none will support Hughes.

So if other communities are somewhat similar to this locality, the trend is Wilsonward. Some Wilson enthusiasts say he will carry Oregon. This is hardly possible. The odds are too great. However, we may be due for surprises. Though if even 30 per cent of progressives all over the nation, will support Wilson if this is true, the result in November is not problematical.

### IS THE COUNTY COURT IN ERROR

The Tribune believes the county court is in error in refusing to place the proposed hard surface road plan on the ballot to be voted upon next month. The Tribune believes that a majority of the people should rule in this matter. Whether the plan and the proposed tax levy conflicts with the Bingham tax law or not, the people should not be denied the privilege of expressing their opinion about the matter. The additional cost would be trifling and, The Tribune believes, the project would be defeated.

As the matter stands now, it is but postponed and the court has simply made enemies by its negative decision.

As we view the matter, no harm could have resulted from submitting the same to a vote of the people and the court would have been relieved from the responsibility. If it is true, as reported, that Commissioner Butler first gave publicity to the matter to the newspapers, which showed him to be in favor of the submission and then, afterwards, voted in harmony with the other members of the court, it places him to say the least, in an equivocal position.

### GIFFORD PINCHOT FOR HUGHES

Gifford Pinchot is actively supporting Hughes while his brother, Amos Pinchot is supporting Wilson.

These gentlemen have the right to support whom they please. But, it is reported, in case Hughes is elected, Gifford Pinchot will be secretary of the Interior. In which case every acre of timber land now subject to purchase, will be thrown into the government reserve, for such was his endeavor when national forester. Of course, government land is not taxable by the state and this would effect Oregon quite extensively.

### Lucky Youth.

"Young Scaddis is an absolute nincompoop. He doesn't know enough to come in when it rains."  
"He doesn't need to. With all his money he can afford a new umbrella every day in the week and also a man to carry it for him."—St. Louis Post Dispatch

### Mer Jewels.

Mrs. Scubbins—I wonder where little Willie and Davis are. Did you see anything of my Jewels as you came along.  
Mr. Naxdom? Naxdom?—Yes; I did, ma'am. Your Jewels are in soak. I saw them swimming in the river.—Boston Transcript.

## J. F. WESELY

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