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TAX REDUCTION FIGHT IN OREGON

The State Tax Reduction campaign was organized in six counties and then met in a district convention at McMinnville, in March. The court house was solidly packed with farmers demanding reduced taxation, but the organization was taken charge of by advocates of the Wisconsin graduated income tax bill for which they asked an endorsement, but it was refused and referred to a committee headed by Mr. Spence, of the State Grange. A state convention was called in Portland, shortly after the McMinnville convention, and delegates were sent there to form a state tax reduction organization, but the organization was dominated by radical leaders who appointed a committee to initiate a graduated income tax bill and also bills attacking higher education. This finally reduced the organization to a committee appointed by the chairman of the convention, interested apparently in initiative measures more than in a general fight for retrenchment and economy in state and local government. One result of the county and state tax reduction conventions was making tax reduction a political issue and practically all candidates of all parties at the May 19th primary election were running on tax reduction platforms. Four candidates for Governor advocated various forms of state income tax. Three were Republicans and one Democrat. The latter was nominated. Three Republican candidates for Governor adopted the Illinois plan of department heads to consolidate the eighty-odd boards, commissions and subsidary state functions, two on this platform receiving almost a tie vote, and either one nominated and elected will endeavor to give state affairs a more economical and efficient administration.

Nearly all legislative candidates are pledged to tax reduction. With a Governor making this the foremost plank in his platform and using the veto power to compel a consolidation program, that has been promised the people for the last three sessions of the legislature, a saving of a million dollars might be effected at the next session of the legislature. The downward trend must be adopted by the state and counties and cities will follow suit. Already we see the effect of tax reduction agitation by a cut of $1,500,000 in Multnomah county and city of Portland, by lower levies in twenty-one counties and school districts refusing to vote band issues.

Indications are that in spite of all legislative candidates being pledged to tax reduction, the whole program for the relief of the taxpayer and and consequent development of the state may be defeated by an organization of the legislature on other issues. A number of issues of extraneous nature are liable to be injected into the organization of the legislature. The Portland machine element, the religious and race questions, an element of progressives and radicals may result in combinations that will throw relief for the taxpayers overboard. Tax reductionists may be mislead or deceived by the pretense that some other issue is more important for the future growth and prosperity of this state. Their fight is for a material cut in the overhead, consolidation in functions on the Illinois and Washington plan of from seven to ten departments, no new officers, boards or commissions, no new millages or form of taxation direct or indirect.

Leadership for tax reduction must be in the people who pay the bills at the Tax Collector's office. If citizens of Oregon, who pay taxes could next year come away from the courthouse with receipts showing a material and sizeable reduction of from ten to twenty-five per cent would not citizens take new hope and feel as if property and business in Oregon were increasing in value? Would not home-seekers, land-buyers, investors in business or industry find Oregon a more desirable place to cast their lot in future? Can we fight on a better line for state development than on the theory that as the state grows in wealth and population, taxation should become lighter and not heavier? All the politicians, the Farm Bureau, the Non-Partisan Leaugue and the Grange have adopted the idea that there must be a reduction in taxes. Aspiring candidates have adopted the idea to ride into office. They will all do more or less to bring it about, and many of them are sincere. But we insist we cannot depend on these organizations, nor on the machine to fight our battles for tax reduction. The fight can only be won by earnest men and women who will set their faces against new schemes and ask that the overhead of government be readjusted to peace conditions and reductions instead of increases in the emoluments of those who pursue political employment.—The Manufacturer.

CECIL

Mrs. Henry F. Blahm, of Walla Walla, who has been visiting friends here for a week or so, left for her home in the Washington city Saturday morning.

Don Case left Friday morning for Hood River where he expected to join the American Legion party on their annual ascent of Mount Hood. He returned Monday evening and says the trip was well worth while. He went up from the Hood River side with the Legion party and made the down trip with the Mazamas. He was 8 hours and 50 minutes making the trip over the mountain.

Miss Alma Devin and Mrs. D. Clabough left Saturday morning for Portland to visit friends. Miss Devin expected to remain about a week but Mrs. Clabough expects to make a considerably longer visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd and son Jackie returned from a short vacation at Ukiah.

R. E. Harbison the leading grain buyer of Morgan honored Cecil with a visit Sunday.

R. E. Duncan and daughter of Busy Bee ranch were visiting around Cecil Friday.

Mrs. Hazel Logan and children of Fourmile were calling on their Cecil friends on Sunday.

Miss Ada Nash and Miss Clayton of The Dalles spent Sunday among their Cecil friends.

Miss Georgia Summers of the L-Camp left for Arlington on Friday where she will visit grienda for some time.

Miss A. C. Hynd and also Earl Cronk were visiting at George Hendricksen's Strawberry ranch on Tuesday.

Miss Ruth May, of the Lone Star ranch, was a passenger on the local Sunday for Wasco where she will visit for some time.

Mrs. Joe Hake and children arrived in Cecil Saturday from Portland and will spend their vacation with Mr. and Mrs. Hallferty.

Mrs. Roy Scott of The Lookout, left Saturday to join her husband at Freeze-out, one of Hynd Bros. ranches above Heppner.

Mrs. Joe Fake and daughter left for their home in Portland after spending their vacation with Mrs. Mary Hafferty at Shady Dell ranch.

Miss Olive Logan who has been visiting with her brother Leon at Fourmile, left for her home in Portland Thursday.

Mrs. Mary Nash arrived in Cecil from Pendleton Friday and will visit among her friends for sometime before leaving for Beaverton.

Ed Melton who has been visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Streeter for several days left for his home at Pilot Rock on Wednesday.

Messrs Joe Howk of O. W. R & n depot at Ione and Earl D. Wright of the highway office at Ione were calling on their Cecil friends Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Fanshiers arrived from Portland Sunday and will visit at the home of Mr. and Mr Edwin Fanshiers in Fourmile for some time.

Fred Ely, Jim Warfield and several other leading citizens of Morgan were busy men in Cecil Saturday loading cattle. Fred Ely accompanied the stock to the Portland stock yards.

Tunis Snyder who has been working at The Last Camp for several months left on Tuesdy for Salem to visit with friends before leaving for California.

Jack Hynd accompanied by his son Herbert and daughter Miss Annie and also Miss Mildred Henricksen of Strawberry ranch were Arlington visitors Saturday.

Cecil was well represented in Ione Saturday evening. Every young lady and gentleman of the community who were present thoroughly enjoyed "The Sheik which was shown in Ione that evening.

Cecil Lieuallen, of Pendleton, and Mrs. Garnet Barratt and son, Master Billy, of Heppner, and also Miss Lois Lieuallen, o fHeppner were the week end guests of Mrs. Jack Hynd at Butterby Flat.

Mr .and Mrs. B. Roberts are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. May at Lone Star ranch, after spending their honeymoon in San Francisco. Mrs. Roberts was formerly Miss Sarah A. May and we all extend our best wishes to the happy couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Van Schlock and children and Miss Kilborn, of Arlington were visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Krebs at The Last Camp on Saturday Mrs. J. E. Crabtree and daughter, of Dotheboys Hill were calling on Mrs. H. J. Streeter at Cecil Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. K. A. Miller, of Gresham, old time friends of Mr. and Mrs. A. Henricksen of Willow Creek ranch, spent a couple of days visiting here before leaving to visit friends above Heppner where Mr. and Mrs. Henricksen joined them later in the week and introduced them to all the beauties of their Hamilton ranch before allowing them to depart for their home.

John Shaw of Arthur, Ontario, Canada, arrived at Butterby Fl Friday and will visit with his sister, Mrs. Jack Hynd for some time. While visiting in Chinook, Canada, John informs us he met his brother Alfred Shaw and his bride, a war widow, Mrs. Baker, late of England, just returning from their honeymono. We understand they were married June 28th. The Cecil community offer congraulations to the couple. Alf resided for many years in Morrow county and we had always hoped that when Cupid did stick Alf it would have been a Morrow county girl.