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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

S. A. PATTISON, Editor and Publisher

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OLCOTT vs. PIERCE

Even weeks from today the voters of Oregon will elect a governor of the state for the coming four years either Tom W. Olcott, present lieutenant, or Walter M. Pierce, attorney general for the position.

Governor Olcott has given and is giving the people of Oregon an honest and efficient administration. He has been independent of the politicians, who, in former days, were in a position to dictate the policy of government and other officials. An astute political observer recently revealed that the politicians and big newspapers are unanimous in their support of the governor, the reason being that they do not take kindly to a governor who is so absorbed with the affairs of his office without consulting them or listening to their advice and suggestions. This is one of the biggest factors in making Olcott's administration clean, economical and efficient. His record in the state highway commission a couple of years ago shows that he has shown in selecting his appointees in state affairs. In this particular Governor Olcott has followed the very excellent method of selecting the most capable man for a given position regardless of politics or politicking. When a vacancy occurred in the state highway commission a couple of years ago Governor Olcott made a very thorough canvass of the numerous men who either sought the position personally or were recommended by some friend with supposedly "political influence" and finally decided, upon his own responsibility, that W. R. Barratt, of Heppner, was the man for the place. The good judgment in the matter has been thoroughly proven, and investigation will disclose that the same is true of other appointees of the governor. A honest administration is what the governor promised the people of Oregon when he entered the governor's office and that is exactly what he has been giving them.

Opponents of Mr. Olcott are trying to make political capital out of the high tax matter and Mr. Pierce is reported as pledging himself in public addresses to a 50 percent cut in taxation if he is elected governor.

While every citizen of the state will admit without argument that present taxes are burdensome in the extreme and all are in a suit in declaring that they must be reduced, it is not only unfair but childish to charge the governor of the state with responsibility for high taxes. The governor neither makes nor passes laws appropriating public money and in the expenditure of public funds he has a free hand in but one field—the state judiciary. All educational institutions are under the management of the board of control composed of the governor, the secretary of state and the state treasurer.

As a matter of fact Mr. Pierce, who is making his campaign on tax reduction, is much more responsible for present high taxes than the governor could possibly be. Mr. Pierce has done a number of the legislation for several years during the period when taxes have increased to a high degree. In most, if not all cases, now that either he or his friends are supporting bills introduced by other members in the legislature, it is the fault of the entire Legislature which have made illegitimate the present tax peak.

Mr. Pierce and other legislators are not responsible for the high taxes because the people of the state are not to blame for the situation. We

are not to blame for the purpose under the sun that practices money while banks were flush and it is our responsibility to do at this stage of the game, to try to share responsibility and lay it at the governor's door.

Better as this writer has been able to learn no reach of scandal or graft has been charged to Mr. Olcott's administration. His actions as governor have been open and aboveboard. His service to the state has been clean, capable, economical and independent.

Caveats much be said of Mr. Pierce's dealings with the state?

According to published reports Mr. Pierce admits that back in 1903 he secured \$25,000 from the state school fund when the law provided that not more than \$5,000 could be loaned to any one individual. This he done by making

dummy sales of portions of his ranch to relatives and friends, having them secure a loan on each parcel and then deed the land back and turn the money thus secured, over to him. Is that the kind of practice that should commend a man to the voters of Oregon as a proper governor of the state?

In 1903 times were mighty hard in eastern Oregon and many farmers and stockmen were on the waiting list trying to secure \$500 or \$1,000 loans from the state school fund to tide them over the bad times. Mr. Pierce's thrifty bit of business in grabbing five times the amount the law provided any individual should have, no doubt kept a lot of those men on the waiting list for many weary months.

If elected Mr. Pierce will be a member of the board having charge of the state school fund. Will he, in that position, pass an application for a school loan in such an amount, and in disregard of the law, such as he himself engaged in 1903?

All things considered it would like the best act to vote for Mr. Olcott this year.

J. T. Lietzau, democratic candidate for representative from this district, is a real dirt farmer having been engrossed in that occupation at Adams, Umatilla county, for 30 years. He is a Missourian, and crossed the plains in 1863 via the ox team route. He has made a success of his farming business and along with producing wheat he has specialized in raising what is said to be as fine a crop of rye as there is in Oregon. There are nine living children and the six sons, with three first cousins, own, control and operate a half team that challenges any similar team as closely related to cross bats with them. Mr. Lietzau favors good roads but is opposed to further bond issues for that purpose adhering to the plan of paying as you go. He is not a member of the Ku Klux Klan and those who do not want to see that organization gain control of Oregon politics should support him.

Henry J. Taylor, democratic candidate for joint senator from Umatilla, Umatilla and Morrow counties, is a pioneer farmer and business man of Umatilla county and has a splendid record behind him. Mr. Taylor is an earnest advocate of tax reform not only in the way of reducing the tax burden but also for a more equitable distribution of taxes. He says that he will not only be elected but that he will give his best efforts to the service of his constituents while at Salem.

BED CROSS ELECTION
The annual election of officers of Morrow County Chapter American Red Cross will be held at the office of the county nurse in L. D. O. F. (25-26) Mrs. CHAS. THOMSON, Second building, at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 25, 1922. All members are

expected to be present at this meeting when officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

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Cecil	Lv.	10:20	4:20
Morgan	Lv.	10:35	4:35
Tone	Lv.	11:05	5:05
Lexington	Lv.	11:30	5:30
Heppner	Av.	11:55	5:55

TO ARLINGTON

Heppner	Lv.	8:00	4:00
Lexington	Lv.	8:25	4:25
Tone	Lv.	8:50	4:50
Morgan	Lv.	9:05	5:05
Cecil	Lv.	9:35	5:35
Arlington Av.	10:55	6:55

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