

# Heppner Gazette Times

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Official Paper for Morrow County

## The Final Word

IN the weeks leading up to the election next Tuesday, this newspaper has joined Wendell Willkie in his crusade to save America from the alarming approach toward national socialism reached by the new deal administration. That, and that alone, we consider the fundamental issue of the campaign that will come to a close next Tuesday when voters step into the voting place to mark their ballots.

There is no contest of men. We concede that Mr. Roosevelt is a big man. But we do not concede that he is indispensable, for so to concede were to say that America will be helpless when the day comes that he may no longer serve. And there is no denying that to continue Mr. Roosevelt in office for a third term is to establish a new, untried precedent of which Washington and Jefferson, the country's founders, warned as being dangerous because it is a big step toward perpetuation of one family in power—to them considered monarchy, to present day freemen, dictatorship.

We never have believed, and do not now believe that Mr. Roosevelt is wittingly attempting to establish a dictatorship in America. His motives are laudible, but his accomplishments have fallen short of expectations. His promises of future policy have lacked conviction.

Neither do we believe Wendell Willkie to be a superman... though his tireless energy in waging a campaign to arouse America, summoning her back to the principles of freemen so long taught as the heritage of Americans, evidences a much more than normal capacity for hard work... but with the help those who truly love their country will give, we believe him capable of the brand of leadership necessary to make America strong.

The case has been argued for weeks, and will continue to be argued late into the eve of election. What we write here is of little moment, but should it be occasionally read, may we emphasize that at this election the voter is not casting his vote merely for a man, but for a cause—a cause that may, and almost surely will, determine the entire future course of government in America. It will be for the individual voter to decide on election day.

Tuesday the voters of America will have the final say. It will be hard to see clearly after hearing the last word from Mr. Roosevelt in his fire-side chat from the White House on election eve, an unmatched privilege and advantage he holds by being presently the chief executive.

It will take strong hearts to survive Mr. Roosevelt's soothing words, as it has taken strong hearts to accomplish every major advance in the nation's history; but now, as on occasion before, the American people will not be found wanting.

So commanding has been the presidential race that minor candidates and issues have fallen far into the background. These need to be considered. On the local ballot few contests for offices appear, and most voters will by now have their minds made up on these. The ten measures, if not now understood, will require considerable study. The arguments are set forth pro and con in the official voter's pamphlet on the several measures, excepting the Morrow county initiative measure. Every registered voter should have

## STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- GOP Mid-West
- Preparedness
- Debt Record

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem. — Governor Charles A. Sprague, who recently completed a two-week stump tour through the mid-west in behalf of Wendell Willkie and Charles L. McNary, believes the republican ticket has that area "in the bag."

He made the trip with his son, Wallace, visiting 14 states travelling by train, auto, bus and airplane. In eight of the states he made speeches before clubs, political groups and at impromptu gatherings, and over the radio, once on a state-wide hookup in Oklahoma.

"In the mid-west Willkie prospects are certainly excellent. In the north-central mid-west it is almost a certainty that the republicans will prevail, with good prospects of carrying Missouri and Oklahoma as well," Sprague said.

"In all these states," he continued, "there is a marked defection among the democrats' swing away from Mr. Roosevelt on the third term issue."

"I found Charley Mac (Oregon's Sen. Charles L. McNary) in high favor all through the agricultural area. The farmers have watched his career and his policies for a good many years and they like the way he does things."

"Political leaders in most of the states I visited believe the republican campaign they have been conducting will bear fruit. They have been in politics a long time, and they certainly wouldn't be fooling themselves."

It was the first stump tour of its kind the governor had ever taken, he having been a political amateur until he was rocketed into the governor's chair in 1938 on an immense boom. The frequent talking he did on the trip left his voice obviously tired but he said, "It was a strenuous campaign but I enjoyed it."

Oregon is prepared to do its part in the nation's industrial preparedness program, Governor Charles A. Sprague said here.

A survey of the state's skilled workers has been planned by the Board for the Mobilization of Labor, appointed by Sprague, and 15,000 firms in the state will list the skills of their 350,000 workers. There are 368 different defense occupations needing skilled workers.

"This inventory of labor sources," the governor said, "which has been worked out by the board in cooperation with many other bodies, is absolutely essential if we are not to disturb the economic life of the state and nation. We expect to secure classification of workers that will justify plant expansion for national defense and also will tend to eliminate migration to other sections."

Leon S. Davis, Hillsboro, is in active charge of the survey, and will work under L. C. Stoll, secretary of the board.

Peculiar weather during the first weeks of October is playing havoc with the 1940 turkey crop, the department of agriculture reports.

In the Albany sector, where turkey raising is a major interest, warm weather prevented the birds from properly developing pin feathers.

The result was that now, when Thanksgiving birds are being fattened, the turkeys do not have the proper coats and will have to be rated at a lower grade than they would be ordinarily. The same condition prevails in several other parts of the state.

Twelve Oregon counties — one

received his copy of the official pamphlet and should study it further if now in doubt. As for the Morrow county measure, it is but the continuance of a precedent established for several years of voting a small levy to provide funds with which to combat predatory animals and rodents. The cost is small, and those informed say that the benefits have been large in proportion.

third of the state's total—are now entirely free of either bond or warrant debt, according to a survey just completed by Walter E. Pearson, state treasurer.

The list of debt-free counties includes Clatsop, Columbia, Douglas, Lake, Marion, Polk, Sherman, Tillamook, Umatilla, Union and Washington. Several other counties are expected to unload their debt burdens during the next year according to Pearson who predicts that, barring unforeseen circumstances, the public debt burden in Oregon, state and municipal as well as county, will continue to decrease year by year.

The remaining 24 counties are still shouldering a debt load aggregating \$15,551,451, but, huge as this figure may seem, it is \$4,478,716 less than the county debt load of two years ago and represents a decrease of \$2,199,182 from the net debt of the several counties only a year ago.

Outstanding road bonds and road warrants of the several counties as of July 1 totalled \$16,029,503. Offsetting this debt total are sinking funds aggregating \$1,194,115, leaving a net county road debt of \$14,835,389. Outstanding general fund warrants of the several counties totalled \$716,063 on July 1, representing a reduction of \$1,165,529 in the past two years.

Only four counties—Coos, Grant, Morrow and Multnomah—had a debt ratio in excess of three percent and only one of these—Grant—exceeded four percent.

The importance of the national election November 5 has so far overshadowed state issues that many persons have nearly forgotten that Oregon has several interesting state races upcoming.

Most important state race will be between Leslie M. Scott of Portland and Al Brown, also Portland, for state treasurer, and between incumbent I. H. Van Winkle, rep., and Bruce Spaulding, Dallas, for attorney general.

Scott, the republican candidate to succeed Walter Pearson as state treasurer, is given the edge over Brown, the democratic choice, because of his state-wide acquaintance. Van Winkle has been staving off threats to his position for years but is making an active campaign in an effort to turn back Spaulding, the Polk county district attorney who gained prominence in his prosecution of "goon" cases last year.

Of national importance will be the races for congress. Two of the incumbents, James Mott of Salem and Homer Angell of Portland, are republicans and anti-new deal. Mott is opposed by Charles Robertson, retired army man who lives at West Salem, across the river from Mott's home. Angell, it is believed, will have a real contest against Nan Wood Honeyman, new dealer, personal friend of the Roosevelts, and

an old campaigner. Mrs. Honeyman represented the third district before Angell defeated her in 1938.

In the third district Walter M. Pierce, the old democratic war horse, is defending his fortress against Rex Ellis, former state senator now hoping to branch out into wider fields.

Remainder of the local interest in the campaign seems centered on local issues and measures put on to the ballot by initiative or referendum. Among these are measures designed to give control of liquor sales to private individuals (and the doing away of the present Knox liquor control law), a plan to legalize gambling in the state, and a measure which would abolish the milk control law.

There will be 11 districts voting on whether or not to form People's Utility Districts, and the election of local officials, county officials and local issues.

### RE-ELECT

# Giles L. FRENCH

State Representative for 22nd District

- Has experience of two full terms and one special session.
- Has sponsored wind erosion district bill, Ditch Creek diversion, and was chairman of Land Use Committee.
- Now on interim committee for reapportionment of state for new representative districts.
- Taxation committee vice-chairman and acquainted with tax problems, both real and indirect.
- Knows entire district, its agriculture and industry.
- Morrow County property owner.
- Sensible, sane, carefully considered legislation.
- Introduced legislation making it possible for agricultural laborers to collect wages ahead of liens.

Vote 23 X GILES L. FRENCH

Paid Ad. by French for Rep. Club, J. B. Adams, Sec., Moro, Ore.

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