

Heppner Gazette Times

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O. G. CRAWFORD, Publisher and Editor

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Drafting Not Necessary

Since the Democratic party has only one eligible candidate for the presidency, or at least that appears to be the case in view of the lack of mention of available material aside from Mr. Roosevelt, it is up to the Republican party to choose wisely in naming a man to wrest the executive chair from the new deal in the forthcoming election. It is in the primary election where voters must use their judgment. After that it is largely a matter of party preference.

In the present campaign there is a tendency to drift towards a "draft" candidate. The Cincinnati Enquirer sees danger of degenerating into a one-man party if this policy is accepted and presents its views in a fair and open discussion of the political situation within the Republican party. The editorial is reprinted with the hope that Republicans will give the contest serious thought. Headed "Another One-Man Party?" the Enquirer says:

"Speaking before the Indianapolis Press club, Ohio's Governor John W. Bricker declared: 'I am convinced that the Republican convention will be a deliberative one and that it will select as Republican nominee the man that it determines represents the thinking of the Republicans of the entire country and the man who can defeat in November the New Deal philosophy of government. The welfare of our nation and the continuance of free government are at stake. I shall continue with renewed vigor my campaign to obtain the Republican nomination for the Presidency and the opportunity to lead our party to victory in November.'

"We welcome that statement—as will, we believe, all who are familiar with Governor Bricker's various solid qualifications for the Presidency. And in addition to them, we believe most of the thinking Republicans of the nation, whether or not they know John W. Bricker, will welcome the continuation of a real contest for the Republican presidential nomination rather than see the honor and the responsibility go by virtual default to Governor Thomas E. Dewey.

"We do not want to see the Republican party gravitate into another 'one-man party.' This has been the bane and the greatest weakness of the Democratic party during the last decade.

"Thomas E. Dewey is not an indispensable man; no man is indispensable. And it will do the Republican party no good whatever to assume, this far ahead of the national convention, that 'there's nobody but Dewey.'

"We do not mean to say that Governor Dewey is not qualified for the nomination and the Presidency. But certainly he is not the only Republican who is—and any tendency toward a 'band-wagon' rush toward Dewey would be tantamount to saying that he is an indispensable man and would be at least the beginning of the conversion of the Republican party into a Dewey party along the same line that the Democratic party degenerated into a Roosevelt party.

"Governor Bricker is quite as well fitted as Governor Dewey for the Presidency; in some respects he would be a better choice. And there are others in the party who likewise deserve the fullest consideration—not merely for their sake, but for the sake of the party.

"We hope the Republican party will not permit itself to be stampeded again, as it was stampeded four years ago with such unsalutary results, but will make the best use of all the available talent."

Takes the Offensive

Senator Rufus Holman has returned to Oregon for a brief campaign prior to the primary election and has made it clear that he no longer is a defensive candidate. He is answering some of the statements made about him by his opponent for the nomination and has placed him on the defensive. Those in the know around the national capital are wondering how Mr. Morse rates himself as a republican when prior to his sudden notion to return to private life he had been rated as a new dealer.

The talk around Washington is that the new deal inspired the professor to rush back to Oregon to lay a fight on Holman. His campaign has been typical of the new deal method—announce yourself and indulge in generalities aimed to divert attention from the real motive and leave the impression that he is a genuine republican. The professor has a good flow of English and uses it to good advantage in talking around the subject. He has that advantage of Senator Holman, who, untrained in law, has to speak straight from the shoulder so that people cannot be mistaken in what he has to say. The senator's language occasionally offends at first but as the gist of his remarks soaks in there is no confusion in the minds of his hearers. He comes to the point because he is a man of direct action.

Contrary to the claims of Mr. Morse that Senator Holman has no standing in the senate, his fellow republican members think well of him. It is doubtful, too, if more than a handful of republicans in the state have been embarrassed by the senator's actions. His voting at times has been unpopular because he was not in accord with the administration's new deal policies, and he has been called an isolationist because he has stood for America first, yet when it is all summed up he has been acting in the best interests of his country and trying to retain at least something resembling our form of government as established under the constitution.

The senator has taken the offensive and the people of Oregon will learn of some of the things that have been and are going on in high places and some of these things will not be pleasant news to many of the voters.

The wild natives of Africa pay no taxes, hold no

elections, have no newspapers, autos, telephones or radios. So it's still a mystery what makes them wild, says Hazel Hoe.



OVERLAPPING

There is a governmental unit in Oregon for every 413 persons and for every 36 square miles of territory. In the settled parts of the state there are from two to six overlapping units. Of the 2640 units of government in the state 2476 are active in the extent of electing officers and taxes are levied and collected by 2314. They include, according to the findings of the University of Oregon bureau of municipal research just issued, the state, the counties, city and towns, school districts, road districts, port districts, irrigation drainage, water and rural fire protection districts and port districts along with many others.

FORESTRY BILL SAVED

To save the cooperative forest fire fund legislation, introduced by the late Senator Charles L. McNary, from delay that would mean defeat, Oregon's Senator Guy Cordon called up the bill which had passed the senate but was in the house with threatening amendments being added. As the bill now stands the original fund of \$9,000,000 a year has been arranged a sliding scale program of \$6,300,000 the first year and an increase of \$1,000,000 a year for four years, when it will exceed the figures in the original bill.

BALLOT TITLE CHANGED

The ballot title of the Oregon State Teachers association's proposed constitution amendment has been changed by representatives of the association conferring with opponents of the measure from "Amendment providing for additional fund in support of public schools." to "Constitutional amendment increasing state tax fund for public school support."

LIBRARIANS' CONVENTION

Ninety or more librarians of Oregon will meet at the state library or the state capitol Saturday, May 6 for an annual session of the Oregon state library association called by the president, Miss Mirpha Blair, assistant state librarian. County librarians will attend a "work shop" arranged for their benefit by Miss Eleanor Stephens, state librarian, on Friday preceding the convention.

OREGON WAR MOTHER SOUGHT

Governor Earl Snell wants to find the Oregon war mother who has given the greatest number of sons and daughters to the war service. When the mother to whom this honor belongs is found her name will be submitted by the governor as Oregon's candidate for designation as "American War Mother of 1944" to be chosen by the national organization of American War Mothers for special recognition on Mother's day, Sunday, May 14.

The chore of gathering the data on the subject has been assigned to the governor's private secretary, Douglas Mullarky. Information on the subject should be sent to Mullarky that it will be in his hands by May 6.

NAVY V-12 SHIFT

Dr. Herbert G. Smith, president of Willamette University has been called to New York by Admiral Jacobs, chief of navy personnel, to attend a conference on the navy V-12 program. The chief purpose of the meeting, which opens May 12, is to rearrange the curriculum for all V-12 schools.

With one exception Senator Guy Cordon has been assigned a place on all the committees held by his predecessor Senator McNary. In addition to the committees on irrigation, libraries, reclamation and Indian affairs Senator Cordon has been recommended for the following special committees: conservation of wild life, silver, postwar and readjustment, where McNary also served.

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