

PROPOSED TAX NEEDED SAY PROponents

While followers of one camp or the other in the municipal campaign have been more or less loud in calling public attention to the merits of their various candidates, little attention has been paid to the various measures on the ballot. Believing that measures in the city campaign are equally important with men, The Herald intends to make some investigation of them, and if space and time permit, give the public the results of its inquiry.

There are candidates for all of the offices in the field. Nothing can prevent the election of one or the other of them.

The measures, however, may or may not carry and the defeat of some of them at this time would be a serious misfortune, both from the standpoint of community welfare and progress, and from the viewpoint of fairness to the new city administration that will be elected.

For the fourteen measures on the ballot are there by selection of the outgoing administration. The present officers have found their way hampered by restrictions that these measures are designed to overcome, or have been unable to take certain progressive steps because of the absence of adequate legislation. Therefore the measures are presented to the sum of \$22,100.

In any event the bond interest must be met by a tax of 7 mills on the dollar, so that in the first instance the voter sanctions a tax of 13 plus 7 mills, or 20 mills, to raise \$52,465 plus \$27,900, or \$80,365. In the second case the tax would be 23 plus 7 mills, or \$92,100 plus \$27,900, a total of \$120,000.

The reason for separating the questions on the ballot is that in the first budget only necessary governmental expenses were taken into consideration. In the second budget the cost of the people for approval or disapproval by men who have had at least two years of experience in city government, and it is to be assumed they deem them necessary or they would not have placed them on the ballot. It is generally conceded by all with whom the writer has discussed the measures that the two most important are the last measure on the ballot, regarding the need of an increased tax levy, and the charter amendment, appearing on the ballot as No. 312, Yes, and 313, No, relating to the increase of the city's bonding powers.

The argument against the increased tax levy is, briefly, that higher taxes are a hardship upon the property owner and discourage immigration to the city.

Analysis of the measure shows that it proposes, in one subdivision, to set aside for this year the constitutional six per cent limit and levy a tax of 13 mills, raising \$52,465, exclusive of the \$27,900 that must be raised to meet the interest on bonded indebtedness and in another subdivision proposes to raise, by making the rate 23 mills, exclusive of the bonded indebtedness interest.

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BUSINESS GOOD ASSERTS GARY

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.—Business prospects are unusually bright in the United States and abroad, Elbert Gary, head of the United States Steel corporation told the convention of the American Iron and Steel Institute here today.

The business skies are practically without clouds, said Mr. Gary.

POSTOFFICE ROBBERS MAKE \$20,000 NAUL

ROSEBURG, Oct. 22.—The safe in the postoffice and store of John Hedden, in the lower Umpqua country, was dynamited early yesterday and between \$20,000 and \$30,000 were stolen. The robbers escaped, leaving no clues as to their identity.

CHARGE DIABOLICAL ASSASSINATION PLOT

ATHENS, Greece, Oct. 22.—Reports of the condition of King Alexander of Greece are not satisfactory. His temperature shows disquieting fluctuations, the latest physicians' reports said.

ROME, Oct. 22.—The injuries inflicted upon King Alexander by a monkey recently, and from which he remains critically ill, were the result of a plot to assassinate the ruler, said Dr. Widai, of Paris who has been attending the King. He made the statement last night while passing through Rome, saying that the monkey had been inoculated with rabies germs.

CHARGES PLAN TO FRUSTRATE COURT'S ORDER

An affidavit charging that an agreement exists between the Klamath county court and state highway commission, by which the state is to pay more than its lawful share of construction of the Klamath Falls-Merrill stretch of the Dalles-California highway, thus circumventing an existing injunction of the circuit court against spending any of the county road bond fund, has been filed by Mrs. Sophia E. Henley, who secured the original injunction. She asks that the highway commission and other state officers be enjoined from carrying through this alleged scheme.

Hearing of the matter has been set for tomorrow. Following the order of injunction of October 5, last, restraining the county court from spending the road bond fund on the Merrill section of the highway, affiant alleges that the highway commission secretary of state, board of control and state treasurer entered into an arrangement with the Klamath county court whereby the state was to pay fifty per cent of the construction cost; whereas, the law provides that the state shall bear only 25 per cent of the construction cost.

The arrangement provides, it is alleged, that the state shall be reimbursed at some later date for the extra amount expended. Affiant alleged that legal authorities cited in the original injunction suit sustain the claim that the state's share of cost is 25 per cent and that it is unauthorized and unlawful for it to pay a larger share.

Such an arrangement is a plan to circumvent the court's injunction order and affiant asks that all the parties thereto be immediately restrained from carrying the alleged scheme further.

The defendants involved are the Klamath county court members, Oskar Huber, contractor, the subcontractor, county treasurer, the members of the state highway commission, board of control, governor, secretary of state, treasurer, and any others who in their official capacity might be connected with the handling of the construction or payment therefor.

This is the latest development in the strenuous fight being made by Mrs. Henley, Robert Cheyne and other valley ranchers to prevent the building of the state highway through their property.

ANNEX LAVA BEDS TO MODOC FOREST

In reply to inquiry on the subject by the Klamath Wool Growers' association, W. G. Durbin, forest supervisor, says that the Lava Bed country will be included in the Modoc National forest.

No formal notice of the fact had been sent before, he said, because the proclamation of the president, has not yet been received at Portland.

The papers were drafted and sent to the president several weeks ago and there is every reason to believe the matter will be settled in a short time, but no definite statement can be made until they are returned with the president's signature, says Mr. Durbin, although it is practically assured the area will be included.

STATE OFFICERS BRAND AS ABSURD MAYOR'S CHARGE OF POLITICAL MEDDLING

"This is the first time since the fire marshal law was enacted that an official or citizen has charged politics as the basis of or for the investigation of a fire where human lives were lost and I hope it will be the last," says H. H. Pomeroy in a statement to A. C. Barber, state fire marshal, in which he declares that his report of the Houston hotel fire was careful and just.

Mr. Barber has declined to reopen the investigation as requested by Mayor Struble.

Made Careful Inquiry
"I was never more careful in the investigation of a case" says Mr. Pomeroy, "and I am willing to stand back of our official report to the minutes in detail," adding further, "I do not know the politics of a single individual in Klamath Falls and in my opinion the same can be said of Deputy Allen."

Mayor Struble's Charges
The rejoinder of Mr. Pomeroy, who has charge of the local inquiry, assisted by G. W. Allen, is based on the following statement of Mayor Struble, following the publication of the deputies' report, to Governor Olcott:
"The hearing was in the offices of Messrs. Duncan and Wiley, prosecuting attorney and deputy prosecuting attorney, respectively of Klamath county, both of said attorneys having free access to all the proceedings and knowing at all times what was going on."

Schemed for Wiley
"And right here is the point, governor, that I wish you would carefully note: The hearing was conducted by Pomeroy and Allen in the office of Wiley and Duncan, Mr. Duncan ably assisting the fire marshals, Pomeroy and Allen submitted their report to Mr. Barber and the latter in turn signed it. It utterly condemned the present city administration and attempted to ruin the future of the mayor and council. No copy of this was sent me, but copies were sent to other parties, notably to the Evening Herald which is deadly opposed to the present administration. The Herald published it in full in the issue of October 8. About the same time Mr. Wiley announced himself as a candidate for mayor. (The last sentence is emphasized in capitals.)

Objects to Publicity
"I do not know what consideration moved your officers to thus mix (also in capitals) and in an unfriendly and unfair way in local politics. I respectfully suggest that you have a full and impartial investigation made of the fire marshals' doings in and about this investigation, such investigation to develop the sources of inspiration resorted to by Mr. Pomeroy and Mr. Allen, and the motives that they had for making such an unfair report as that they so generously published."

In another paragraph Mayor Struble says:—"Mr. Pomeroy and Mr. Allen, also Mr. Barber, may have an interest in electing Mr. Wilson S. Wiley as mayor of this city, but I respectfully submit to you, governor, that their unfair and biased meddling in local politics should be checked up by your office."

"I request that you give this matter your attention and that you advise me if you approve this scheme resorted to by your officials to elect a candidate who suits them."

Blames Public Utilities
In a postscript Mayor Struble adds:—"The parties directly responsible for this holocaust, that is, the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company and the California-Oregon Power company, were barely mentioned in Mr. Barber's report. Why? It is a known fact that it took 15 minutes to get central and there was no water to fight the fire. Why were not these facts enlarged upon?"

Governor's Reply
Following is the reply of Governor Olcott to Mayor Struble's letter:
Hon. I. R. Struble, Mayor, Klamath Falls, Oregon.
Dear Sir:
In acknowledgment of your letter of October 22, I beg leave to advise that under the law Mr. Barber, state fire insurance commissioner, is responsible for carrying out the duties of the

"CHARGES BASELESS," SAY MEN INVOLVED BY MAYOR
In interviews today with local parties to the alleged political plot charged by Mayor Struble in his letter to the governor, a Herald representative secured the following statements:
Wilson S. Wiley, assistant district attorney:—"The charge that there was any 'plot' to discredit the city administration is absurd, as far as I am concerned. The inquiry was conducted in Mr. Duncan's office, which is separate from me, and I took no part in it. I was not in the room at any time that it was being held, nor in any way connected with it by advice or suggestion to any of the parties conducting it."

District Attorney Duncan:—"My capacity in the inquiry was entirely by virtue of my position as state attorney. The fire marshal's deputies conducted the examination of witnesses, formulated the questions, and their report was prepared without any suggestion from me."
E. J. Murray, editor and publisher of The Herald:—"The charge that The Herald was a party to any political conspiracy to discredit the administration and advance Mr. Wiley's candidacy for mayor by such methods is ridiculous. As a matter of information to which the public was entitled The Herald did its duty and published the inquiry report. Any intimation that I, or any member of The Herald's staff, knew in advance of the content of the report, or any part of it, is absurdly false."

State Fire Marshal's office.
While Mr. Barber happened to be absent from the state at the time you made request of this office for assistance in Klamath Falls and deputies from the Fire Marshal's office were instructed to proceed to Klamath Falls and make a thorough investigation, nevertheless Mr. Barber, as State Fire Marshal, has entire control of this situation. I have complete confidence in the integrity of Mr. Barber and his devotion to the work of the Fire Marshal's department and I feel certain that he would countenance no proceeding such as you charge in your communication. I may personally say that I have no knowledge or interest whatever in Mr. Wilson S. Wiley's candidacies—be they what they may. Whatever was done by this office was done at the request of yourself and your Health Officer and we have no interest whatsoever in local politics in Klamath Falls or any other community.

Inasmuch as this is a matter coming solely under the jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal and you have made charges reflecting on such department, as a matter of justice to it I am taking the liberty of referring your communication to Mr. Barber for such attention as he may deem same to warrant.

Very truly yours,
BEN W. OLCOTT
Governor

Upon receipt from the governor of Mayor Struble's letter, Mr. Barber directed to the mayor the following answer to the accusations made therein:

Hon. I. R. Struble, Mayor, Klamath Falls, Oregon.
Dear Sir:
Your communication of the 9th instant addressed to the governor has been referred by him to this department for attention. Since you have made a direct attack upon the Fire Marshal department it seems only proper that we should reply to your communication although it is at all times distasteful to me to take up anything outside of such matters as come to us in the course of our official duties. I, therefore, assure you that there is nothing personal in my reply. Since your attack is directed to the Fire Marshal department my reply is addressed to you in your official capacity.
Indifference Charged
This department made a fire survey of your city in the month of Fire Prevention week

FOOTBALL TEAM OFF FOR MEDFORD GAME

Robert Goetz, principal and coach for the Klamath County high school, left this morning with 16 boys for Medford where the local team and Medford will again meet in combat on the football field tomorrow. Although the dispute over the last game has not been settled, Klamath will carry out the schedule as arranged the first of the year, but before Mr. Goetz returns he will go on to Salem and testify at the hearing before the High School Athletic association of Oregon, in regard to the matter.

In spite of the fact that two of Klamath's best men were not able to accompany their team this morning, there was a great deal of confidence that the local boys would have no trouble walking away with a victory. Captain Ted Montgomery is laid up with his foot in a plaster cast as a result of injuries received in the game with Ashland last week. Ernest Miller is acting as captain during his absence. Frank Peyton, fullback is out of the game because of a badly cut hand, received when he jammed a cork into a bottle in the chemistry laboratory. The bottle broke and Peyton's hand was cut to the bone.

BANKS' CRITIC GETS FLYING FROM BANKERS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Discussion by the American Bankers association today of the criticisms certain New York banks by Controller of Currency Williams culminated in the adoption of a report by the resolutions committee condemning "dangerous attacks by unnamed individuals on the credit structure of the country."
In a speech following the adoption of the report that controller of currency reiterated his charges that New York banks are demanding "extraneous" rates of interest and that instead of criticism of his charges "the plainly indisputable proper course is a change of policy and reformation of the abuses which have come about imperceptibly. My stand is that the bankers will find and apply a cure for the evil that has been shown."

The resolutions committee report expressed complete approval of the federal reserve system and condemned any effort to use the government funds or forces to arbitrarily hold up or to force down prices.

SEATS FOR CONCERT ARE GOING FAST

Appreciation of the enterprise of George A. Wirtz of the Klamath Falls Music house in bringing to this city the celebrated Belgian singer, Mile. Verlet, is shown by the eagerness with which local people are setting, invitations to the concert, which will be held Monday night at the Elks' temple.

There are about 500 seats in the hall and Mr. Wirtz reported today that most of them have been spoken for. At the rate the invitations have been grasped the hall will be filled to the last seat by Monday night. To insure against disappointments, those desiring seats should communicate with Mr. Wirtz before all are distributed.

THINGS BOOMING ALONG THE STRAHORN LINE

Captain O. C. Applegate, who returned yesterday from a inspection trip over the Strahorn railroad line, reported today that everything was looking fine in the country through which the road passes and that the grading for the road to Sprague river is several miles beyond Dairy.

The captain was particularly pleased with the Bonanza crops, which he says are marvelous compared with those of other years and that the fineness of them is all due to the irrigation from the springs out there. The Bonanza people were to start grading for the railroad from Dairy to Bonanza. An agreement was made between people of the Bonanza district and Mr. Strahorn that there would be a road between the two places if Bonanza would make the grades and furnish the ties.

BUSINESS MUST WEED OUT ALL OF PROFITEERS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—American business must purge itself of its own "misdemeanors" before it can hope to exert the fullest influence in the affairs of the nation, Joseph H. DeFrees, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, declared in an address last night before the American Bankers' association.

"One of the most fruitful sources of the unrest in this country at the present time," said Mr. DeFrees, "is the belief on the part of a great number that business in many instances is securing an inordinate profit. It is the theme of the agitator, and is used as justification for various unfair exactions which are put upon business. We are quite ready to complain in the public interest, about excess profit taxes an inadequate production for a fair wage. Let us do all we can to correct our own misdemeanors and then our voice of protest will have a larger influence in correcting those of others."

Mr. DeFrees said he saw hope in the growing ability of American business men to organize in the mood of helpfulness as well as in sympathy with the public interest. He believed that this development might in the future provide a solvent for the troubles confronting the nation.

WOOD CASE WILL GO TO GOVERNOR

SACRAMENTO, Oct. 22.—That J. H. Wood, vice president and organizer of the International Timber Workers, and who was run out of Susanville a few days ago, and others, "will perhaps" call upon the governor here in connection with the affair, is stated in a telegram received at the governor's office yesterday.

At the governor's office it was stated action in the matter has been deferred until the Wood party appears.

The telegram is signed by C. Covert of Seattle, president of the International Union of Timber Workers, and states also that the union has written to the attorney general of California. The telegram follows:

"Our Vice President, H. S. Wood, and others will perhaps visit you on important matter of mob attack upon Mr. Wood at Susanville, Cal.

"We ask that you give the matter your earnest consideration in the interest of justice.

"We have written your attorney general and letter to you will follow."

It is claimed at Susanville that two investigations developed the fact that Wood carried an I. W. W. card.

OFFER BLOCK OF ROAD BONDS

SALEM, Oct. 2.—The state highway department today announced that \$1,500,000 worth of state highway bonds will be offered for sale at the next meeting of the highway commission in Portland, November 6. This will be the first block of the \$10,000,000 highway bond issue, authorized at the special session of the legislature last January, to be marketed.

GONE TO THE CITIES

TACOMA, Wash., Oct. 22.—A movement from rural districts to cities is shown in population statistics from Washington. Though the state made a gain of 314,326 since 1910, there was a falling off in rural communities.

Thirteen farming counties in the state lost population in the ten year period, and no purely agricultural county made any considerable gain. The state increase is due to the growth of cities of 25,000 population and upward, the figures disclose.