

Walter M. Pierce On Taxation

(From an Address Made at Albany, Oregon, October 4, 1922)

I came into this State 40 years ago, a wandering boy, working as a farm hand. For 20 years I have been in public life. I have never deliberately misled or deceived anybody. In public life I have tried to play absolutely square.

When I was nominated last May, I said to my friends: I will carry the message of lower taxes to the people of this State. I have no money, but I expect to make a hundred speeches. Five times I have touched the ocean, and gone from California to the river in Idaho three times. I have gone wherever the invitation was extended; wherever I could meet a little group and talk to them about what I think is a startling state of affairs. I am trying to do it fairly, honestly and in the open.

Friends, if we save Oregon from the auction block, if we save our property from confiscation by taxation, we have got to do some very hard thinking. To my mind, the tax question is the foremost problem in Oregon today. It rises above all else. The question is: Are you going to own your own homes and your own farms in future years, or are they going to be taken from you by the rising tide of taxes?

The rental value of all property in Oregon is too high according to the value of the property, caused by the high taxes. It doesn't cut much ice in the money market when the property passes away from the man who thought he owned it. He is left with the husk; the kernel is gone.

When I went to the Senate the first time it took about 15% of the rental value of property to pay taxes. That year Umatilla county raised 3,000,000 bushels of wheat. Our State taxes were \$100,000 in that county; 3% of the wheat crop paid its taxes. This year that county produced 4,000,000 bushels of wheat, while her taxes are \$1,549,000, of which \$432,984 is State tax, while the whole is 40% of the value of the wheat crop taken for taxes. The population of the State then was about 213,000. Now it is not quite 500,000.

When I entered the State Senate 20 years ago, \$1,000,000 was the total State expense. When I returned to the Senate six years ago it was \$2,500,000 per year. Today \$15,000,000 or more is collected from us in taxation. Can this tide continue to rise if we keep our property? How high is it going to go?

There is collected \$6,000,000 in fees now, six times as much as we spent 20 years ago; more than twice what we spent six years ago.

In knots and in groups I have been carrying this message to the people: "THIS MUST STOP!" I shall continue to carry it until election day.

I asked Mr. Day, as Secretary of the Tax Investigation Committee, to collect some figures for me. According to these figures, there are only five or six States in the Union that have more bonded indebtedness than we have. In wealth and population we rank down about thirty-sixth. The figures show we are spending more money for State government than the State of Kansas. Kansas spends \$8,500,000; we spend \$15,000,000, while Minnesota spends only \$1,600,000. You ask, "Why is Minnesota away down there?" It is because Minnesota has raised from indirect sources the larger part of her revenue for State purposes, while we have raised it from the farmer, the cattle man and the sheep man. They thought these men could not kick, but they ARE kicking today. If I do not

miss my guess, they will show still more kicking in November.

Minnesota collects 5% upon all public service corporations in that State. California pays her State taxes in the same way. That should be done in Oregon. You may say this tax comes back upon the people. Just the same, it is spread out on more people. It is not on a few scattered farmers.

Today we are confiscating property and ruining the people of this State who are feeding us. They cannot operate their farms at a profit, and they cannot pay the heavy taxes levied upon them.

Minnesota collects 25 cents from every ton of ore dug up and taken from the State. This is done by a severance tax. When you take a product from that State, you must pay for the privilege. I was at a place in Oregon where they showed me a mine from which a company had taken out a million dollars in gold. It was owned by citizens of England. They had not paid a dollar in taxes to the State of Oregon for removing this great wealth.

A severance tax has been levied by several States in this Union. It is something for us to talk about and consider. In a few years Oregon's beautiful forests will be blackened stumps. Here we allow the Government to set aside great forest reservations, from which no taxes are received. From forests in the reserves Easterners cut the timber and ship the lumber to Oklahoma. Thus from Oregon's great forests in the reserve there come no taxes to support the State.

We have \$10,000,000 in bonded indebtedness for the soldier boys. I don't regret the money we gave them. It was Senator Smith of Coos and I who introduced the bill. Two and a half million dollars have been raised to encourage the boys to go back to school. I am glad we have given this money to them. We can never do too much for the men who went down on the fields of France to do and die.

We have on the ballot a measure to increase a flat income tax. I am opposed to that, but I am in favor of a graduated income tax, because I believe the man who has the large income should pay more than the man who has the small income.

A gross earnings tax would be another source of revenue.

The cattle grower certainly needs relief. Cattle are selling cheaper than they have sold in 30 years in proportion to cost of production. A million head of cattle in this State are going to the butcher's block. They simply cannot be produced for the money that is paid for them today. The burden upon the farm and ranch has become unbearable.

There is no question in this campaign but that of taxes. There is no other thing to talk about. If I don't do anything else, I am going to do this to the end of time. You can in six years drive this State into bankruptcy. I have done and am doing the very best I know how to carry this message of lower taxes to the people of Oregon. Extravagance must stop! Expenses must be reduced! Taxes must come down!

It all depends upon you who read these words. You can say by your ballot in November whether you want to go on paying this terrific cost, or whether you don't.

My pledge is this: If elected Governor, I will do every proper thing within my power to reduce taxation in Oregon. On this basis I ask your support and vote.

You Should Help Pierce

by contributing One Dollar to his campaign expenses. In doing this you will help yourself reduce your own taxes for that is the great issue Pierce is making for you. Send One Dollar, in cash, money order or check, today to

T. H. CRAWFORD, Manager

Pierce-for-Governor Campaign
Gordon Building, Portland, Oregon

(Paid Advertisement)

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SALEMEN—Have a few open territories in your vicinity—Our household necessities have been known for over 50 years and are nationally advertised. This is the liberal proposition you have been looking for—Exclusive territory rights. Write for full particulars. City Sales Department, J. R. Watkins Co., 63-69 Duane St., San Francisco, Calif. 2-11*

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LOST—2 automobile tires between Klamath Falls and Madras. Finder please return to Herald office. 6-10*

FOR SALE—Ford touring, good condition, cheap. Phone 333M. 6-9*

FOR SALE—Gasoline drag saw, falling saw, wedge and splitting hammer, cheap. Ed Stough, north of Conger Ave. 6-5*

FOR SALE—50 good ewes, price reasonable. Large and fat. Also 2 good cows, soon will be fresh. Box 34, Merrill, Ore. 6-9

FOR HIRE—Three logging trucks. Chutey Florey, Medford, Ore. 6-16*

FOR SALE—Sixty acres fine river bottom, fruit, alfalfa, vegetable land, under irrigation, one mile to Anderson. Mrs. Margaret Graham, Anderson, California, Shasta Co. 6-19

FOR SALE—Partly furnished modern house in desirable location and in first class condition, four rooms, bath, closets, wood basement and small garage. Price \$2000. Will accept \$600 down and balance in monthly installments extending over period of years. Inquire Room 3, Swanson building. 6-16

PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF OREGON, FOR KLAMATH COUNTY.
G. W. White, plaintiff,
vs.
Eva Baker and Fred Buesing as Administrator of the Estate of George J. Nichols, defendants.
To Eva Baker, defendant, in the name of the State of Oregon.

You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit on or before November 9, 1922, that being the expiration of six weeks' publication of this summons prescribed by the order for publication thereof, made by the Court, and if you fail so to answer, the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint, to-wit: for decree foreclosing all your right and interest in and to the following described realty, to-wit: Lots 599 and 591 in Block 108 of Mills Addition to the City of Klamath Falls, Oregon, and Lots 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10 in Block 91, of Klamath Addition to the City of Klamath Falls, all in Klamath County, Oregon.

This publication is made by order of the Honorable A. L. Leavitt, Judge of the above named Court, duly made on September 15th, 1922. The date of first publication of this summons is September 15th, 1922.

RUTENIC & YADEN,
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
Postoffice address, 409 Main Street,
Klamath Falls, Oregon,
S 18, 25 O 2,9,16,23

LUMBER HANDLERS WANTED
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This is the age of youth. Gray-haired, unattractive folks aren't wanted, ground, or not busy with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound tonight and you'll be delighted with your dark, handsome hair and your youthful appearance within a few days.—Adv. 63.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—Make me a cash offer for lots No. 1, 2, 5, 7, in block No. 12 in First Addition to Klamath Falls. Or will exchange for Berkeley or Oakland property. Will add two Midland lots on deal for good measure. H. Buckner, 7859 Pothill Boulevard, Oakland, Calif. 2-11*

Yellow groundcherries, 25c a gallon, postpaid. Nelson Nye, Prospect, Ore. 2-16*

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Trustworthy boy, over 12, to carry Herald Route in Mills addition. 4-11

160 ACRE RANCH FOR SALE—One mile east of Bonanza; 80 acres under ditch; 10 acres hill pasture, 70 acres plow land. Good 5 room house with front-proof cellar, ice house, smoke house, woodshed, garage, granary, chicken houses. Large barn. All fenced. 2 wells, excellent water. A. R. Wilkinson, Box 52, Bonanza, Ore. 2-23*

WANTED—Men and women for box factory work. Apply office of Big Lakes Box Co. 2-11

FOR SALE—Ford Coupe. Owner leaving town. Inquire Herald office. 5-11

FOR RENT—Front sleeping room, 419 19th. Phone 542W. 2-11

QUIET ROOMS—Bath and phone. 840 Walnut, corner 9th. 12-11

FOR SALE—Burrhus Electric bookkeeping and adding machine. Cost \$300. Our price \$200. Charley's Place, cor. 6th & Klamath. 2-11

SHERIFF'S SALE
Equity No. 1232.
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR KLAMATH COUNTY
Edson S. Turner and Lucina Turner, Plaintiffs,
vs.
Charles L. Lenz and Agnes Lenz; Klamath Livestock and Mortgage Loan company, a corporation, and First State and Savings Bank of Klamath Falls, Oregon, Defendants.
Notice is hereby given that, by virtue of an execution and order of sale issued out of the above entitled court and cause on September 15th, 1922, upon a decree made and entered by said Court on September 7, 1922 in favor of the above named plaintiffs directing the sale of the premises hereinafter described to satisfy the sum of \$12,600, together with interest thereon at the rate of 7 per cent per annum from October 1, 1919; the further sum of \$759.90 as attorney's fees, and costs and disbursements taxed at \$41.20, together with accruing costs of sale, I have duly levied on the said premises and will, on October 20, 1922 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the front door of the Klamath County Court House in Klamath Falls, Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand all the right, title and interest of the above named defendants and each of them or any of them in and to the following described real property, to-wit:

Situate in Klamath County, Oregon: Lot 1 and Northeast quarter of Northwest quarter of section 20; the Southeast quarter of section 19, and the North half of Southwest quarter of Section 20, Township 33 South, Range 7 1/2, East of Willamette Meridian, or so much thereof as may be necessary to satisfy said execution.

The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the satisfaction of the aforesaid sums included in said decree, execution and order of sale and the surplus, if any there be, will be paid into said Court to be applied as by law and said decree directed.

Dated at Klamath Falls, Oregon this September 18th, 1922.

L. L. LOW, Sheriff
By BURT E. HAWKINS,
S 18, 25 O 2,9,16 Deputy.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Klamath County, the Final Account of his administration of the Estate of Edgar H. Bristol, deceased, and said Edgar H. Bristol, deceased, and said Edgar H. Bristol, deceased, Monday, October 30th, 1922, at three o'clock P. M. at the time, and the court room or said Court in the City of Klamath Falls, Oregon, as the place for the hearing of said Final Account and the settlement thereof.

Dated: September 25, 1922.
R. C. GROESBECK, Administrator with the will annexed of the Estate of Edgar H. Bristol, Deceased.
S 25 O 2,9,16,23

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