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RAY D. FISHER, Editor and Publisher

ARE WE BECOMING STRAW-VOTE MINDED?

Straw votes are ordinarily thought of as pleasant diversions, valueless in forecasting actual election results. Confined as they commonly have been to groups whose members tend to think alike or at least to think differently from the masses of the people, they have been merely interesting and nothing more. Very far removed from real sentiment they indeed may be, as was the case Tuesday of last week when the student body of an Oregon college voted sample ballots as follows: Hoover, 270; Roosevelt, 55; Thomas, 53—nearly as wide of the mark as was the faculty vote: Hoover, 11; Thomas, 2; Roosevelt, 0. The political wind blows not at all in many sheltered spots where straw votes are taken.

Lately, however, the straw vote conducted on a nationwide scale at an enormous expenditure for postage and clerical work, has taken on a new significance. The fact that the two outstanding recent instances have been promoted by a weekly periodical whose object, no doubt, was to enhance its own circulation, does not minimize the importance of the results—not so much in forecasting, which after all merely caters to the guessing instinct, but in actually shaping the outcome.

The prohibition poll turned out to be just such an achievement. To start with, well informed observers regarded the eighteenth amendment as in the constitution for a long time to come, because as few as thirteen of the forty-eight states could block any attempt to eliminate it. The only legal relief that discerning wets looked for was in modification of the Volstead act to permit of the manu-

facture and sale of light wines and beer, and hope in that direction was none too strong because of the likelihood that the supreme court would declare such legislation unconstitutional.

Came the prohibition poll, however, and its overwhelming preference for repeal of the amendment—yet not so overwhelming as might be inferred from surface indications. In any non-official poll aimed to test sentiment the most likely participants are those who are dissatisfied with things as they are, and are eager to register a protest. On the other hand the contented citizen is apt to toss aside the card sent him, sometimes through lack of interest and sometimes through the belief that the scheme is a frame-up. In this case the man who wanted wines and beer but not whiskey, the man who wanted all three, and the man who wanted none of them for himself but felt that prohibition was a farce, generally went to the pains to send in cards, while many of those with opposite views did not bother. Alibis about not voting, however, failed to convince the public that the thing was badly lopsided, and the dries lost much in prestige. The immediate effect upon those who have no deep convictions either way was a scramble to get on the bandwagon, a trait characteristic of many politicians and plenty of folks who are not politicians. The movement for repeal gained momentum because it appeared to have a tremendous popular backing. The dry vote except in a few localities was no longer a bugaboo to frighten office holders whose own proclivities were wet. In consequence one is more likely to encounter now a personally dry congressman who votes wet than a personally wet one who votes dry. The eighteenth amendment, which had formerly seemed to be as immovable as Gibraltar, gave the impression of being a huge sand dune, somewhat troublesome to remove but within human possibility.

The other recent instance of a nation-wide poll that helped to shape results is fresh in mind. To say that the sweeping Democratic victory was due in such large degree to the nation-wide straw vote completed shortly before election as was the crystallizing of anti-prohibition sentiment after the liquor poll would be an exaggeration, for multitudes of voters had no doubt already made up their minds, and were not to be swerved one way or the other. Still, it had no small part in helping to swell the total of the Roosevelt vote.

Just what effect repetition of gigantic straw votes will have upon future issues is of course a matter of conjecture, but is at least worth pondering over. Agitation for a change is just now in the air, straw vote or no straw vote. Later, when times get settled and a conservative complacency would normally become the rule, will clever manipulators keep things stirred up by flooding the mails with ballots? Are we in danger of becoming straw-vote minded?

Among Our Neighbors . .

Edison I. Ballagh was reelected mayor of St. Helens, receiving 691 votes. His opponent, J. W. Allen, received 645. Leslie Waters and J. G. Thompson were elected members of the council. W. D. Bowser defeated H. D. Scott for city treasurer and Walden Dillard was reelected to the water commission, receiving 1,028 votes to 302 for S. C. Morton.

J. G. Nauman has been chosen president of the St. Helens Kiwanis club for 1933.

Wilbur J. Smith will be the new mayor of Rainier. Elected to the council were Dr. F. R. Davis, Fred McKinley and Roy Bauserman. The only contest was in the election of recorder, won by Mrs. Nancy Stucker, incumbent.

Art Steele was reelected mayor of Clatskanie without contest. C. J. Miller defeated Geo. B. Conyers in a close contest for city recorder, a position that Mr. Conyers has held for 18 years, and Chas. L. Conyers won the trusteeship in a three-cornered race with Wm. T. Langlois and Dr. M. W. Markham.

Clarence Evenson has been elected president of the Clatskanie Kiwanis club, succeeding L. L. MacCoy.

Reino Heikkila, better known as Ray Salo, 22, was killed in Benson camp last week when a log struck him on the head, crushing his skull.

Milton O. Bryant, Clatskanie pioneer, died November 8.

Crackmen broke into the office of the Westport Lumber Co., the night of Nov. 7, escaping with \$150 in cash and \$600 in checks.

Riggles Brothers Logging company are starting operations on Squaw creek, about five miles east of Jewell. 15 to 25 men will soon be put to work to cut and haul logs into the Nehalem.

INCENDIARY FIRES SHOW AN INCREASE

Preliminary figures just compiled in the office of the State Forester show that the various protective organizations coming under the jurisdiction of the Salem office fought a total of 1,350 fires during the past season. It is quite likely that there will be some revision in these figures when the final reports are all in.

The incendiary again came to the lead with a total of 565 fires or 42 per cent of the total. This is an increase in the percentage of last year which was 34. Smokers next with 238 fires and brush burning third with 185. Other causes and the number of fires were as follows: Campers 172, slashings 30, logging 26, railroads 4, lightning 57, and miscellaneous 73.

The figures show that Douglas

county had the largest number of fires, with a total of 219. This figure is for the county total and not for the association unit. Coos county reported a total of 163 fires, Jackson 98, Klamath and Clackamas 86 each, and Lane with 83.

While hunter fires are all classified as camper fires, nevertheless a record was kept of the fires that were credited to hunters and the reports that a total of 109 were started from this cause. No estimates have as yet been made of the area burned over and it will be several weeks before this information is turned in.

Camp . . . McGregor

Frank O'Donnell of Tweedeville, former employe of the Oregon-American Lumber company, was a Camp McGregor visitor last Sunday. He moved some of his belongings in as he intends to move his family back here for the winter, where he will work with the surveying crew.

Mr. Booth and several families of Jewell moved into camp this week, where they expect to continue their work on the Wolf creek road. All the empty family houses are filled.

Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Thompson and Bill were Vernonia shoppers Saturday.

Mrs. W. DeClusion of Cathlamet visited friends in Camp McGregor last weekend, returning Saturday afternoon.

A ladies sewing club has been organized in camp, meeting once a week. This week they are to meet at Mrs. Ridenour's.

Mrs. E. R. Estey and Doris Rae and Mrs. Wm. McCormick and Reva shopped in Vernonia Saturday.

Mrs. J. W. Boyer and Mrs. Eaton of Portland visited the Westlins over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Doyle and Mrs. C. E. Westlin motored to

Portland last week, returning Tuesday evening.

L. A. Young and the men working at the I.-P. camp went to their various homes last Monday night to vote Tuesday.

On Mr. O'Donnell's visit here last Sunday, he informed friends that his little daughter Margaret had had the misfortune of getting her leg broken while playing at school, and this week, we hear that the entire family is quarantined because Margaret has developed scarlet fever, but is getting along as well as could be expected.

Work has been completed on the large O.-A. speeder and it is in use again.

Word has been received here by friends that the Scott family, formerly of Camp McGregor, who have been living in Tweedeville this summer, expect to live in Vernonia this winter, where Tom and Avois will attend high school. Mr. Scott work for Mr. Booth with the survey crew.

STORLA THANKS VOTERS

My sincere thanks to all who gave me such splendid support for the office of District Attorney. It will be gratifying indeed to have the cooperation of everyone in my duties. I renew my pre-election agreement with the voters. Prosecution costs money and presentation of only well founded complaints will result in reduction of expenses. You can very materially assist.

JOHN L. STORLA.

Ringlette Permanent
Beautiful, Lasting
Steamed in with 10 times less heat and 15 times less weight.
\$3.50 and \$4.50
Milady's BEAUTY SHOPPE
Vernonia Hotel Building
Phone 1261

Winema High School Notes

Howard Jones, Albert Rosenberg, and Emmanuel Johnston were in Vernonia Wednesday.

Edith Carl was in Clatskanie Wednesday evening.

The Vesper school bus was 40 minutes late Monday morning on account of a tree in the road near the Nordstrom home.

A number of the high school students attended the Legion dance in the school gym Friday night.

Nola Redmond was a visitor at the home of Mrs. Frank Brown at Mist Friday night.

Wesley Mills, Albert Rosenberg, and Emmanuel Johnston attended a show and dance at Vernonia Saturday night.

Kenneth Bollinger visited Albert Rosenberg Saturday.

Helen Beach, Eleanor Bryant, Ruth Skaling, Lucille Camberg had dinner at the home of Iola Houghton Saturday evening. The evening was enjoyed in playing cards.

Nola and Buck Redmond attended a party at the home of August Johnson Saturday night.

Maxine Bollinger was a visitor at Clatskanie Sunday evening.

Helen Beach spent Thursday night at the Bollinger home.

A few of the high school pupils attended the young peoples' meeting in the school house Sunday night.

WE WONDER:

If Helen likes black hair? If Albert was "scared" Sunday, (where's your mirror for your Ford)? Why the pupils in the Vesper bus looked so sad Monday morning (Too bad they got the tree out so soon). Why Lucille was in such bad humor Monday? (Tak. Tak.) Why Nola is so sad Monday morning? (Poor kid.) Which of the high school boys like Dodge coupes?

JOKES

"I remember when I was a lad," said the old salt to Betty, "I had to fight for my life with 16 cannibals, and only one got away."
"But," objected Betty, "last year you told me it was only eight cannibals."
"Yes," he said easily, "but you was to young then to know the whole 'orrible truth."

We have a just nicknamed our dog, Pluto, Mars because from all indications he appears to be inhabited.

Edith was hopeful, but doubtful, as she handed in her exercise to her teacher. Seven times

she had been told to repeat it. Teacher was sympathetic, but the figures were still wrong. "I'm very sorry, Edith," he said, "but it is still twopence out."

Dear Old Lady: "Captain, would you please help me find my stateroom?"

D. O. L.: "Yes, but I'll know it if I see it again; there was a lighthouse just outside the window."

Neighbor: "So your son got his B. A. and his M. A."
Proud Dad: "Yet, but his P. A. still supports him."

A woman was having the upper rooms of her house painted, and she fancied that the painter was slacking on the job.

"Painter, are you working?" she shouted at the foot of the stairs.

"Yes, ma'am," came the reply. "I can't hear you."

"Well, do you think I'm putting it on with a hammer?"

A little boy was balancing himself on his head, when an old lady who knew him came by.

"Aren't you too young to do that, my lad? You're only six," she said.

"It's all right, Mrs. Brown," replied the boy, without losing his balance. "I'm nine when I'm upside down."

ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO FURNISH FARMERS WINDBREAK TREES

Arrangements have been made through the forestry department, of the Oregon State college to furnish trees from the nursery there to farmers for establishing woodlots, windbreaks and shelter belts, for only the small cost of handling the trees. It is understood that these trees are not to be used for ornamental purposes.

Some of the trees available are black locust, green ash, box elder, garagana, Ponderosa pine,

Ten Years Ago . . .

Vernonia Eagle, Nov. 17, 1922.

The race between J. N. Miller and Wm. Pringle was a close contest. Clatskanie gave Miller almost a unanimous vote while the Nehalem valley was as strong for Pringle.

Mayor White was in Forest Grove Monday taking in a road meeting the Grove boosters put on. Timber and Forest Grove are working for the Inland Loop highway, and Mr. White is working for the highway from Portland to the sea by way of the Nehalem valley. He says he don't care much how it goes so it goes by Vernonia.

A. E. Fenner of the Vernonia Pool Hall and Confectionery has Scotch pine, Austrian pine, Norway spruce, maritime pine, Douglas fir, Port Orford cedar, European larch, black walnut and Russian mulberry.

The Oregon State Board of Forestry Bulletin No. 3, entitled "Tree Planting on Oregon Farms," is available at the county agent's office, at St. Helens, as well as application blanks.

installed one of the latest and best wireless receiving instruments in the state. He has a large horn attachment enabling an audience to hear as plainly as from a large phonograph. This week he has received music and words from Texas, Los Angeles and Canada and last night listened to a concert in Yakima.

The program at the dedication of the new high school building last week included a solo by Harry Keasey, a duet by Lois and Louise Malmsten and presentation of a flag from the Women's Relief corps, County Commissioner Judson Weed making the presentation speech.

Brown and Brown, in the new Brown building, have their furniture and undertaking goods installed and are ready for business.

Weaver Clark informs us that he will put in a laundry that will meet the demands of Vernonia, and is going to Portland this week to buy a new mangle and other paraphernalia necessary.

One thing which Vernonia needs is a good sidewalk from town to the new high school building. Every one in town who went to the dedication a week ago Thursday complained because of mud they encountered in getting there.

Portland-Vernonia Stage Line Winter Schedule

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 20

Leave Vernonia for Portland via Forest Grove and Pacific Greyhound line, 8:30 a. m.

Leave Vernonia for Portland via St. Helens and S. P. and S. Transportation Co., 5:10 p. m.

Depots: Armitage Drug Co., Terminal Cafe, Washburn's Pastime.

THE FEATHERHEADS



The Forest Grove National Bank

"The Roll of Honor Bank"

J. A. Thornburgh President
R. G. Thornburgh Cashier

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