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Saturday, Oct. 28, has been set aside as Wilson Day, to be observed by the people of this country as a day upon which they will pay their respects to the president of the United States, and show their appreciation of the great public service he has rendered his country. President Wilson is to send a message to his countrymen which is to be read in every city, town and hamlet. Buildings and homes will display the flag, and a general recognition will be given in honor of the man who has faithfully and patiently guided this nation through perilous times, and kept us out of war in spite of the protests of those foreign countries and selfish Americans who for individual profit desired to see the United States take up arms in the European conflict.

Gifford Pinchot, the man who aided in tying up the vast resources of the west so that the present generations could not benefit from their development, is out for Hughes, and it is confidentially reported that he will be the secretary of the interior under Hughes if the Wall street man can succeed in being elected. This would mean a renewal of the burdensome conditions which met the west in former republican administrations, when the east tried to grab the public lands and hold them for the benefit of the entire country, instead of permitting the people who settled and developed the west to enjoy a small part of the fruits of their efforts. The Z canyon project in Pend Oreille county will go glimmering under such hands, and Stevens county can take a back seat again with its wonderful resources and water power which ought to be developed, and which can be developed under the democratic plans which are supported by Senator Turner and Congressman Dill.

Governor Lister spoke before a crowded house Saturday night at the Colville theater, many people standing throughout the speech, and 20 or more sitting on the stage. He was introduced by John B. Slater, who served with him on the board of control under the administration of Governor John R. Rogers.

Governor Lister devoted a short time to national politics, but spent the greater part of the hour and a half in telling of state matters, and his work of trying to reduce expenditures, and build up the character of the state's many educational, charitable and penal institutions. The latter part of his remarks were relative to the two liquor bills which will be voted at the general election. He showed the benefits of the prohibitory law now in force, and contrasted present conditions with those which would ensue should the brewery and hotel bills be passed.

The campaign for governor is being partly waged over the liquor question, Governor Lister having always been on the dry side, and his opponent being listed with the wets.

There will be no teachers' institute in Stevens county this year, the county superintendent of schools having pledged that the teachers of the county shall spend their time and money next week in the great metropolis of Spokane in a joint institute with Spokane county.

This means that the fathers and mothers and those generally interested in school work can also follow the crowd away from home if they wish to hear any of the institute speakers or gain any idea of the work of the institute.

For years the effort of Spokane has been to get all the money possible from the outlying territory, and to get all the meetings

A bomb hit the republican strongholds Tuesday when L. Roy Slater, former chairman of the progressive party in this state, who upon his return from Chicago advised all progressives to vote for Chas. E. Hughes, resigned from both county and state republican executive committees and announced his allegiance to Wilson. This action upon the part of Mr. Slater was due to his disappointment in Hughes, who has fallen short of his expectation.

and conventions and land openings and everything else to go to Spokane, thus bringing more money to the railroads which center in Spokane, and more revenue to the big stores which pay high rents on Riverside, and more patronage to the restaurants and hotels of the city where flowers and music abound, but where grub is scarce.

This year Spokane interests were even able to swing our county teachers' institute their way, by promising that the direct cost to the institute fund would be a hundred dollars less. With 130 school districts in the county employing 200 teachers who are thus obliged to go to Spokane for the week, the Great Northern will be able to take in an average of \$3.50 per teacher or \$700, and the Spokane hotels, restaurants, stores, etc., will be able to get at least \$4,000 more from the 200 teachers.

Spokane must be given credit for her cleverness in being able to work suckers in the outlying country, but Stevens county business interests are not showing any particular amount of acumen in allowing the county school system to become the medium of an exchange whereby \$100 is gained and \$4,700 is lost.

This same matter came up during the term of Daisy Hard in about 1908. She demurred at the plan, but as Pend Oreille county was then a part of Stevens county and teachers from there all had to go through Spokane to come to Colville, she was prevailed upon to hold the institute in joint session with the state association at Spokane. But the loss of prestige to this county, the lack of any cohesive work among this county's teachers, and the accompanying expenditure of this county's money in some other county, taught her the lesson of keeping home industries at home, and she then vowed that never again would this county's institute go outside its borders. And through the remainder of her term, and through the terms of her two successors A. D. Foster and Miss Boardman, Stevens county institutes were held in Stevens county.

Pleas were made to the present county superintendent to maintain this county's standing in its institute work, to let the Spokane Chamber of Commerce build up Spokane with its own money, and to permit the people who pay for the institute to have the institute where they live. But no result was obtained, and next week our teachers will be required to go to Spokane. It is rather discouraging for those who have given the best years of their lives to build up this county, to see its recognized institutions fall into hands unappreciative of their worth to the county, and it seems that only the most watchful care on the part of our citizens can ever hope to maintain the things which have already been secured.

Several well known men were discussing the political situation the other day, when one called attention to the manner in which the campaign is being conducted on behalf of the leaders and the

committees of the democratic and republican parties within this county. He gave it as his opinion that after a residence in this county of over twenty years he had never observed a political contest such as at present being waged freer from the usual abuse and personalities than the present and drawing the deadly parallel between this condition and the acrimonious debate and acidity characterized in the so-called non-partisan judiciary contest now holding the center of the stage, to the latter's discredit. It goes without saying that the gentleman's remarks met with the hearty approval of all present. Unless the non-partisan feature of our ballot in future elections eliminates the undignified and unfortunate conditions that have arisen in the present race for the judiciary it can not be claimed to be a success, or taken as a forward step over the old style of placing such candidates on the ballot under their party designation.

Governor Lister's speech in Colville Saturday night revealed the caliber of the man. He belongs to the popgun statesmen class.

Even dyed-in-the-wool democrats admit that Governor Lister's speech in Colville last Saturday night was one of the dullest political speeches they ever had the misfortune to hear.

The above editorials appeared in the Statesman-Index last week. It is evident that the prohibition platform of governor Lister does not please the Index and its backers, therefore we are not surprised to see the Index running long articles in favor of the wet candidate McBride, and editorially calling attention to the dry candidate as of the popgun class.

The reduction of the county's bonded indebtedness \$20,000 during the last two years, and the reduction of the debt of road district 2 \$26,482, are features of the work of P. H. Graham as county commissioner, and are in themselves sufficient arguments for his reelection.

His predecessor, W. W. Palmer, who is the candidate opposed to him at this election, in his term of office 1911-12 spent \$40,665 road money, reducing the district indebtedness \$2,226, but making no reduction in the county's bonded indebtedness. Mr. Graham in his last two years only spent \$23,228, yet he was able to reduce his district indebtedness to the amount of \$3,659 Sept. 1, and if all taxes were paid his district would be out of debt. Besides all this, the county bonded indebtedness has been reduced \$20,000.

With less money to spend, he has at the same time reduced the indebtedness more than any previous county commissioner. He has kept the road up during this time, although not nearly as well as he would have liked, but he has put his district in a condition where roads may now be built, whereas when he took office it seemed impossible to build any roads as there was no money in sight for building.

Sometimes people blame a commissioner for not building roads in their locality. In Mr. Graham's term of office, he was able to accomplish considerable in road building by securing the cooperation of the public, and he has saved every taxpayer in his district considerable money yearly by cutting down the debt. The sum of \$2,400 a year will go a good ways in building roads, and that was what this district was paying in interest alone when Mr. Graham took office. That sum will no longer be paid, as the debt is practically wiped out, and the man who can accomplish such a thing and yet hold down the tax levy, is a man worth retaining in office.

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