

# The Missouri Herald

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## "IF."

Persons who are anxious to bring about a just and equitable assessment of property in Missouri and a reduction in State taxes must turn out in full force and elect the Democratic nominees for both branches of the State Legislature. Should the General Assembly be controlled by Governor Hyde and his little coterie of Republican politicians there can be no relief expected, because we must judge the future by the past.

Failure to elect Democrats to the House and Senate will be a tacit endorsement of the things for which Governor Hyde has stood. Can we as Missourians permit this man to remain at the head of the State government for the next two years unchecked?

Think these things over:

If you favor high taxes, vote for the Republican nominee for the House and Senate.

If you believe the appointment of W. H. Steinbeck, who entered a plea of guilty to disloyalty during the world war, should be Secretary of the State Tax Commission, vote for the Hyde candidates.

If you believe that eleven rich corporations of St. Louis should be relieved of paying a portion of their corporations franchise taxes and penalties, because of delinquencies, continue Governor Hyde in power.

If you believe that the confirmation of an appointee should be urged after it has been shown that an effort was made to collect \$35 a day for the use of an automobile, you should give Hyde control of the Legislature in both its branches.

If you believe that a Governor should use State money to purchase trimmings to "doll up" his privately owned automobile, endorse Hyde by electing Legislators who will do his bidding.

If you feel that convicts serving a life sentence for murder in a holdup should be allowed the freedom of the State to drive Governor Hyde's automobile, it will be necessary to vote for Hyde-Republican candidates for the Legislature.

If you think discipline at the State Prison should be so loose that a convict can woo and wed a respected young woman while posing as a Federal agent dressed in citizen's clothes vote for a Republican Legislature which Governor Hyde will control.

If you think convict ball teams should be permitted to cavort over the State, drink corn whiskey, wreck automobiles and have a general good time, give Hyde control of the Legislature again.

If you think a Penal Board official should be permitted to steal more than \$2,100 without being prosecuted, give Hyde's candidates for the Legislature your vote at the coming general election.

If you think a real estate man who has not been successful should run the Prison industries, doing a business of more than \$2,000,000 a year, give the Republican candidates for the House and Senate your support.

A list of these "ifs" as long as the moral law could be included.

We hope every Missouri voter will study them carefully before going to the polls on November 7 to select representatives in the General Assembly. Every opponent of Hyde misrule in Missouri who stays at home on election day will assist in bringing about the control of the Legislature by Governor Hyde and his kind of Republican politics.

Won't you start now to bring the real issues of the campaign before the people and show them the danger of permitting the Hyde administration to control the Legislature? This is a most vital question and every Missourian, regardless of party affiliation, should make a solemn vow to vote early on election day so that a political misfit may be properly curbed during the remaining two years of Hyde's mis-rule.

## TAXES RAISED TWENTY PER CENT.

According to official reports, even those quoted in the Republican text-book, the total taxes paid in 1920 for all purposes, State, county and district taxes, amounted to \$55,417,795.37 on real and personal property. In 1921, upon the new Hyde assessment, taxes for all purposes amounted to \$66,274,180.18, or an increase of \$11,856,394.81, or approximately 20 per cent. Here's the story, and tax-payers should bear it in mind. It's the sum total of taxes paid by the people—not by public corporations, but by individual tax-payers upon lands and personal property, that counts.

The official apologists for the Hyde policy of high assessments and high taxes refuse to compute anything except the seven cent revenue tax. This is a small part of the taxes wrung from the people and the Hyde advocates know it. Oh, but they say that the legislature undertook to limit the county boards by providing that they should not levy increases in excess of ten per cent, and that if taxes are more than ten per cent higher in any school district or county, it is because of the local officials. Incidentally, this is a reflection upon local assessing and tax-collecting agencies which is no compliment to

the Governor's political party. An overwhelming majority of the county courts elected in 1920, when Mr. Hyde was chosen, were Republicans, and the attempt to shift the responsibility is an argument against electing Republicans to office.

Nineteen twenty-one was almost a panic year. The values had dropped out of the markets, trade was at a standstill and the people were suffering. If the time had ever been to increase taxes it was not in 1921. The proper policy would have been to have reduced taxes and to have reduced public expenditures in order to save money for the people. But Mr. Hyde was out to turn the State upside down—make it over according to his own peculiar model—and his program of taxation could not wait.

Twenty per cent tax increase, taking the entire State, is argument enough for defeating every candidate on the Republican ticket, State, district and county.—Missouri State Journal.

## MULTI-MILLIONAIRES ESCAPING TAXATION.

Gigantic corporations and immensely rich individuals are favored by the present Republican tax laws and by the Republican officials who administer them, according to Representative Frear, a Republican member of the Ways and Means Committee of the House. The secrecy which surrounds the returns of big corporations and millionaires prevents the disclosure of just how much the Treasury is losing through the evasion of taxes by the billionaires, Representative Frear says.

Democrats charged at the time the Republican Congress was revising the tax laws that the changes were designed to favor the rich and powerful and opposed the reduction of the high surtaxes and the repeal of the excess profits tax. Now a Republican member of the present Congress repeats these charges and calls for an amendment of the law.

Representative Frear directs attention to the methods by which the Standard Oil Company and other big corporations circumvent the law by declaring stock dividends to dispose of their swollen surpluses and save their stockholders from taxation.

"The administration of the law lies with Secretary Mellon whose absolute honesty is not questioned in following the strict letter of the law," Representative Frear said. "But Mr. Mellon is computed to be worth \$300,000,000 which, if reasonably accurate, should yield an income of about \$15,000,000 or more annually, while his daily income of \$50,000 is several times his annual salary as Secretary of the Treasury.

"Whether Mr. Mellon avails himself of the same avenues of income tax escape as Mr. Rockefeller is only known to the Secretary of the Treasury, who has the records, and what is true of Mr. Rockefeller and Secretary Mellon is equally true of many of the taxpayers whose incomes are supposed to run from \$50,000 to \$200,000 each, if correct reports are to be had.

"It is possible that a disclosure of secret tax reports held by the Treasury Department will show that \$200,000,000 and possibly several times \$200,000,000 is being lost annually through tax free securities, stock dividends and other escape sluiceways known to large taxpayers that should be collected."

## THE SENATORIAL RACE.

A Democrat elected to the United States Senate from Missouri would vote to unseat Newberry, to repeal the Fordney-McCumber tariff bill, to reduce federal taxation on the poor and restore taxes on the rich; to reduce the expenditures of the federal government; to adjust the compensation of the veterans of the world war in proportion to their urgent demands, and would aid in checking the federal tendency to centralization of power. A Democratic Senator from Missouri would vote to reorganize the Senate so as to wrest control from the Republicans, and to that extent pave the way for a party victory in 1924.

Mr. Brewster, the Republican, if elected to the Senate from Missouri, would follow the lead of the bosses and hold Newberry in the Senate. He would oppose changes in the tariff bill. He would accept the dictation of Harding, Mellon and Daugherty in maintaining the existing revenue laws and transferring to the shoulders of the people the burdens the rich and powerful should bear. He would fall in line with Harding and deny the soldiers the bonus to which their service entitles them. He would accept the recommendations of the federal departments in matters of public expenditure and stand "by and for" the administration, because if he didn't he wouldn't get any jobs for the boys. He would support the anti-lynching bill and aid in destroying local self-government in every county and municipality in the land. He would vote to continue Lodge and Smoot and the rest of the Republican machine. He would, in short, be a Republican.

Many Democrats in 1918 and 1920 voted for Spencer, but they haven't lived long enough to complete their apologies.

The Missouri Herald commends these suggestions to all who have displayed some curiosity concerning our attitude.

## THE FARMER AND PROTECTION.

The American farmer sells in the cheapest market in the world, being the export market. He buys in the dearest market in the world.

When he takes his meager 80 cents per bushel return on his export wheat to his store he often finds it depreciated in purchasing power to 60 cents by our tariff. His wheat, cotton and corn prices fix his other prices.

Representing, as he does, 50 per cent of our purchasing power, he loses \$2,000,000,000 annually on his purchases, being half of the surcharge in domestic prices due to superprotection. He is in no condition to lose \$2,000,000,000. Strange indeed, if his leaders, instead of saving this, permit it to continue in consideration of excessive tariff rates on farm products that have been tried out in the emergency tariff for many months and proven to be of no value, because not even Providence can make our tariff increase export prices.

There are two big differences between farmers and manufacturers regarding protection:

1. Manufacturers can add all their protection to their prices because the Government prohibits competition from abroad to the limit of the protecting rate. The farmer, how-

ever, must sell most products at foreign prices.

2. As farmers consume half of all products, they pay half of all duties, and half of all wholesale and retail margins added to duties as part of prices. They pay \$75,000,000 to get \$60,000,000 protection on wool; but the very few owners of hosiery and knit goods factories paid less than \$300,000 towards their protection of \$192,000,000 in 1919.—Bolivar Herald.

## RETURN OF CARPETBAGGERY.

"Carpetbagger!" We find the word in the dictionary. We read its story in history. Our fathers and grandfathers tell us about it. Carpetbagger is a condition that followed suffrage as imposed upon the South after the Civil War. Those who thought those black days were gone never to return have another thought coming. If reports are true, those days are to play a return visit to Pemiscot county next Tuesday, for which we have the local leaders of the Republican party to thank. They are in the saddle and riding a high horse—riding rough shod over decency and common sense. They are desperate. Their lolling tongues have had a taste of official blood and they are growing as wild and furious as a pack of starving wolves. We are advised that the sheriff will have an army of armed deputies around each voting place, these to be reinforced by Federal spies, while negroes have been advised to arm themselves and march upon the ballot box in rank and mass. Under such auspices we are advised next Tuesday's election will be held. Regardless of politics, white people, can you stand for such a raw deal as this or will you wisely resent it with your vote in such an emphatic manner that these modern carpetbaggers will not attempt a repetition of the shame? We shall see what we shall see. This is our last word. We have tried to inform the people rightly and truly.

## MASTER THE NEW BALLOT.

While the form of Missouri's new election ballot is satisfactory, the method required for voting is not all that could be desired. The length and complexity of the "instruction to voters" is in itself a confession that the method is anything but obvious. The circle for voting the ticket "straight" unquestionably will save time both in voting and in counting. But the method of scratching will require a thorough understanding and that will cause delay. As between time and accurate voting the latter is vastly the more important.

The combination of "straight" ticket voting and "scratching" will be confusing to many voters. The explanation covering the judicial group is by no means clear, even to the average intelligence. A simpler method of voting a split ticket would have been to disregard the party circle entirely and let each cross and nothing else stand for a vote.

The question now before the public, however, is to secure as near an approximation of the electoral will through the present ballot as possible. Before they enter the voting booth voters who read should familiarize themselves thoroughly with the new ballot from the sample printed in The Missouri Herald last Friday and repeated today. Those working in behalf of certain candidates would do perhaps the greatest service for those candidates by instructing their audiences how to use the ballot.

## THE WORLD WAR.

The American people under a Democratic administration waged the greatest war in all history and brought victory to American arms. A Democratic program for world peace, formulated by President Wilson and approved by the conscience of the American people, was defeated by partisan obstructionists for political ends. In like manner a Republican Congress, elected in 1918, just prior to the Armistice, defeated the greatest and most comprehensive reconstruction program proposed by the Democratic administration in 1919 for the early settlement of all post-war problems.

This same Republican Congress obstructed, delayed or defeated all of the fundamentals of both the foreign and domestic policies—political, economic and social—of the Democratic administration during 1919-1920, resulting in the Republican panic of 1921-22, with a loss in prices and values approaching \$50,000,000,000.

## WHEN SENATORIAL TOGA IS A "DIRTY RAG."

When the voters of a State go to their wardrobe and take from it the senatorial toga and drape it around the shoulders of one of their favorite sons, he is indeed honored; but when some rich man who aspires to that honor builds out of gold dollars a stairway leading into that wardrobe and takes from it the senatorial toga, whether it is done by himself or by his millionaire friends, the toga is no longer a robe of honor. It is a dirty rag that disgraces him who wears it.—From Senator Pomeroy's speech in the Newberry case.

Having had a talk with several intelligent negroes this week, we are glad to learn their race is coming to realize they are not a political chattel of the Republican party, and have as much right to vote as they please as the white man. They are fast awakening to the fact that being free of chattel slavery means little if yet bound in the fetters of political slavery, as the Republican party has so long regarded them. The negroes are beginning, after fifty years, to assert their political independence, which is bringing them to their first step of complete freedom. Soon they will realize they have the right to vote for their own good, and the good of the country, as they see it, and when that day dawns the Republican party will be shorn of the weight of ignorance that has in most every election given it the control of government which, under its rule, has been run for the benefit of the classes against the masses.

Abe Martin says "Sam Lomax broke his back trying to shoulder a dollar's worth of Harding oats."

Republican Taxation Policy: Tax reduction for the buccaneers.