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THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS
Editor and Owner.

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RIGHT-ABOUT-FACE.

Entirely out of the ordinary and decidedly amusing has been the attitude of a certain element of the democratic party in Oregon relative to the office of United States senator. It is admitted that if Bourne is nominated by republicans, which is now hardly within the range of possibilities, the democratic nominee, whoever he might be, will have a fine chance to win in the election. This has such a deep rooting that democrats who lead things were loth to take advantage of the situation. The presumed agreement between Chamberlain, Bourne and West was removed from its resting place, carefully dusted off and tried out. Substantially it is this: Chamberlain has helped Bourne, Bourne has helped West, and now it was up to Chamberlain and West to make good to Bourne. And this is the way they tried to do it. Instead of encouraging a candidate in their own party they discouraged all comers. When John M. Gearin was talked of he was given to understand there were wheels within wheels. In fact, so much of this was mentioned that Mr. Gearin, being a man of extraordinary intelligence saw

at a glance his own party leaders were in a coalition that meant no good to him, so he refused to run. Then Harry Lane was talked of and they side-tracked him. Walter M. Pierce of Hot Lake was the favorite son with many and he was given the same cold bath, but with his usual Eastern Oregon bluntness he told them "to go to h—", he was going to run for democratic nomination for United States senator and they could not prevent it.

They bore down on him but the more they bore down the more Pierce asserted himself. They gave up to the full knowledge that Pierce could neither be handled or scared out of the fight, and turned their attention to what seems to be snaky politics. Their scheme was to have a sufficient number of democrats write in the name of Bourne on the democratic ticket to give him the nomination. Word was given out and the process of instruction was begun. Pierce came in from Hot Lake and landed a few swift jabs in the solar plexus of the leaders. Then he went to Salem and did the same thing there. What was the result? Portland hotel lobbies began to resound with clarion tones of such old democratic warhorses as Tom Crawford and Sam White. They refused to stand hitched. They demanded a fair fight, urged Multnomah democrats to put up a man if they wanted to, but served notice unless the rules of the game were clean there would be a stump speaking tour from Wallowa county to Coos Bay.

This punctured the bubble. Those who fathered the shady scheme of writing in Bourne's name began to seek shelter and as a result came the dark lantern and grappling hook search for Harry Lane. This was the last resort and of course Lane, working with the bunch he has always worked with, consented to run. However, he may just run. Things do not look overly bright for him and if Mill Miller and Senator Coshaw would get out of the way you would see the hottest rough and tumble ever pulled off between Pierce with the country preachers behind him and Lane with the city at his back.

"Do you know," said an old timer who always observes public matters, "that I have never enjoyed anything more than this chain of democratic rows that now exist from the national committee down to county affairs. Someone has surely loosened some fighting germ among the old Jeffersonian Simplicity lads for they are at it like a gang of school boys trying to settle an old feud."

W. T. Wright, of Union, was down in San Francisco, assisting in selecting that site for the Oregon buildings in the exposition grounds. And don't overlook the fact that Mr. Wright had considerable to do with the selecting. This is not only due to his large acquaintance among the delegation that headed for Frisco, but to the further fact that Eastern Oregon is beginning to be recognized and Union county is the known center of Eastern Oregon.

"Why not send a farmer?" This is the slogan of A. V. Swift, of Baker county, who seeks the election as a delegate to the national republican convention. The question is a good one—why not send a farmer? The legal profession should have no mon-

opoly on this office holding business, although it seems to. Very frequently there are farmers who can look at both sides of a question and really get satisfactory results better than most any other class of people. This is true with A. V. Swift. He is a fine citizen, a farmer actively at the business, and a man who stands high among his people. He is no crank, and he realizes there are two sides to every question. If Eastern Oregon demands representation at the national convention as she should do, Arthur Swift is the man for he will do the work and do it well.

ED. E. KIDDLE FOR STATE SENATOR.

In consenting to run for senator from Union and Wallowa counties, Ed. E. Kiddle late last evening clarified the atmosphere among many republicans, for Ed Kiddle is a permanent factor in the two counties and has been identified with the upbuilding of this section of Oregon for many years. His platform is certainly one that should appeal to every taxpayer and every voter who would like to see the Salem way of doing things in Oregon revised and straightened out. When a man like Ed Kiddle says he stands for things the people of Union and Wallowa counties know that he means it and that he will make good in every promise. He is not a man to throw out soft words to catch the voter, for Ed Kiddle is no politician and belongs to that sturdy class of business men who neither know or care to know anything about the tricks of the wily politician.

Equalization of property values for taxation purposes is another important plank in the Kiddle platform, for these two counties have many examples of this needed change. Standing for abolishment of numerous useless commissions in the state which

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PERSONALS.

W. R. Kivette went to Elgin on business this morning.

G. G. Conley of Cove was here on business yesterday.

A. Ferguson of Elgin was a business visitor here yesterday.

F. I. Vergere of Enterprise was registered at the Foley last night.

A. Stonedahl of Union was registered at the Sommer hotel yesterday. Christ Stackland was over from Cove today transacting business matters.

E. H. Flagg was down from Elgin last night transacting business affairs.

H. C. Vinacke left this morning for Union where he will spend a few days on business.

W. B. McCarthy of Baker was a local business visitor yesterday and a guest of the Sommer hotel.

E. S. Norris went to Elgin this morning after spending yesterday afternoon and last night in the city.

Assistant Superintendent Coykendall came over from Pendleton this

morning on official railroad business. Harry Young of Rock Creek spent last night here and left this morning for Wallowa where he will attend the Methodist conference.

C. A. Quin of John Day spent last morning leaving this morning for Wallowa where he will attend the district conference of the Methodist Episcopal church.

W. T. Beatty came over from North Powder on the early morning train and left this morning for Wallowa to attend the district conference of the Methodist church.

Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Winters of Union, where Mr. Winters is pastor of the Methodist church went through here this morning to Wallowa to attend the conference.

Rev. G. O. Harey, C. E. Helman of Vale, E. Deacon of Prairie, C. L. Walker of Haines, and Thomas Johns of Ontario were among those to leave here this morning for Wallowa where they will attend the district conference of the Methodist church.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Tullis, formerly of La Grande, passed through here this morning en route to Wallowa where they will spend the spring and summer in the interest of Mr. Tullis' health. He has just recovered from a severe case of typhoid fever.

are very expensive to the taxpaying public, will not only strike a responsive cord here at home but throughout the state Ed Kiddle will be recognized as the working friend of those who carry the public load. The effort to cut off a lot of hangers on at the state house and a reduction of the state pay roll is another plank that will not be popular with Salem people, where 90 per cent of the wages paid by Oregon go each month, but it should please the residents in Eastern Oregon, and it will. The purchasing of state supplies, which has long been a disgrace to this state, will come in for a share of Kiddle's attention and he will demand a business system put in operation to keep the Salem retailer and jobber from selling the state goods at retail prices. There is no question as to Kiddle's unpopularity in Salem after the first session of the legislature, but the entire state outside of the capital will abundantly appreciate his efforts.

Runyan in the City.

Charles Runyan, the Davenport of Wallowa county, is in the city today. As a cartoonist he has few peers.