

# Portland Labor Press

Published every Friday by the Portland Labor Press Publishing Association. (Incorporated August 15, 1906.)

OFFICE:  
Room 8, 321 1/2 Washington Street.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.  
In Advance.  
One Year .....\$1.00  
Six Months ..... .50

ADVERTISING RATES.  
Rates will be made known upon application.

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## WARNING TO ADVERTISERS.

A motion was adopted by the Portland Federated Trades Council warning business men not to support or advertise in "union labor directory" schemes or similar propositions circulated in the name of organized labor, unless indorsed by the Trades Council. Beware of imposters.

Entered at the Postoffice as second-class matter, September 20, 1906.

## DEFIANCE OF THE PEOPLE.

There is a fine bunch of spinach carriers masquerading in Portland as guardians of the public conscience who are trying to break into the Legislature under the favor of the Oregonian by proclaiming their hostility to Statement No. 1. As already pointed out in the Labor Press there is on foot a conspiracy to thwart the desire of the people to have the United States Senator chosen by the people themselves. The United States Senate has repeatedly refused to give the people the right to decide this question by amending the Constitution. Encouraged by the success of the Senate in thwarting the will of the people the trust magnates, including bank president, have grown bold and are thrusting into the open men upon whom they can rely to oppose every anti-trust measure, and particularly Statement No. 1.

The adroit hand of A. L. Mills of the First National Bank of Portland can be seen behind the manikin who is the trust candidate for the United States Senate. Mr. Mills it will be remembered was elected speaker of the House in the Oregon Legislature of 1905. The Lowenberg-Going Company, operating the stove works at Salem penitentiary, employ convict labor under contract. The doings of the stove works came up for examination and a committee of investigation had to be appointed. There is no indication that the appointment of that committee by Mr. Mills or the manner in which the inquiry was pushed caused any ill feeling between the banker-politician and the Lowenberg-Going Company. Indeed, there was a rumor that the stove concern, a patron of the Security Savings & Trust Bank (an "over flow" of the First National), practically appointed its own investigators.

And now Banker Mills puts forth his automaton who shout against Statement No. 1 and certain papers following the lead of the Oregonian proclaim a mighty army against Statement No. 1. The army is, however, like Falstaff's men in Buckram, only a thing of bluster and of no substance. Their pretensions would be funny were it not pathetic to see men so lost to every principle of fair play that they can be lined up at the crack of the Trust whip to oppose a measure such as Statement No. 1, that the whole people desire.

History carries no plainer message to mankind than the fact that "the voice of the people is the voice of God." Never was an autocracy or power in the story of all the nations strong enough to defy the people.

Opposition to Statement No. 1 is open defiance of the people and a fort-night hence, the banker politicians and the trusts and their manikins will hear the voice of the people in no uncertain sound.

Vote against the traitors and for Statement No. 1.

The knockers and paid boosters will be much in evidence between now and April 20; be indulgent to 'em; they're getting paid for it.

Old fogey George and Citizen Alliance Barnes belong to the Rand species. This is a good time to get rid of them.

## THE VOICE OF THE GRAFTER SHOUTING GRAFT.

There has never been a political campaign in Oregon or any other state or any city in any state wherein charges of graft and corruption have not been preferred by the parties engaged one against the other. And this campaign is no exception to the rule. In many instances there has been reason for the accusations and in others there were none, but they were made just the same. It was, therefore, to be expected by the Labor Press and the members of organized labor when they entered this political battle that they would be charged with nearly everything in the annals of crime because it is essential that they take a positive stand for some one and some principle. The Labor Press has plunged into the fight for principles and the men it was satisfied would carry out those principles and their ante-election pledges. The first and most important thing to organized labor was the defeat of John L. Rand of Baker City, who aspires to the nomination for Congress in the Second District. Rand's dishonorable and vicious warfare against all labor measures in the twenty-second and twenty-third sessions of the Oregon Legislature as state senator, and his menial devotion to the trusts and corporate interests in those two sessions disqualified him as a servant of the common people and the whole people. In order to defeat Rand it was necessary to weigh the strength of each of the candidates seeking the same position and select the one strongest to defeat the enemy. The result was the endorsement of Judge Ellis. This action on the part of the Labor Press and its friends disappointed some of the other candidates who were after what Mr. Ellis secured and they begin to cry that the Labor Press was "bought." And one of these is a candidate who made the proposition to the management of the Labor Press that he would pay for all the advertising that Mr. Ellis might do if the Labor Press would refuse to take Mr. Ellis' advertising matter. Of course this was refused.

The next wail of "graft" came when the Labor Press advocated the candidacy of Jonathan Bourne, Jr., for the nomination for United States Senator. It is generally understood that Mr. Bourne is rich and liberal with his means and this was sufficient for the enemies of Mr. Bourne and reform legislation to whet their voices against his supporters. Notwithstanding the fact that the trusts and Standard Oil Company and the plutocratic families of the state were behind the candidacy of H. M. Calkins et al., Mr. Bourne was, of course, the only candidate trying to influence the election with money. Like the cry of "thief" from the thief himself comes the shouts of "graft." And all this is done for the purpose of confusing the real issue.

The real issue in this campaign therefore is not Mr. Bourne or any other man for office, but principles. The direct primary elections law was elected by the people of the state by a tremendous majority, in spite of the fight made against it by the political machines and bosses and the trusts and corporations. Before it has even been given a fair trial it is attacked by the agencies that tried for its undoing before it was submitted to a vote. It is a law of the people and for the people and points the way for the deliverance of the United States Senate from the clutches of the trusts. It is a wedge if driven persistently by the mighty arm of the people will force the "sacredness" of the Federal Constitution and let the people in where the framers of that illustrious document intended they should be, and where the trusts are now. It will either compel an amendment for the election of United States Senators by direct vote, or it will induce other states to follow the example set by Oregon, by which the results would be the same. For nearly twenty years the American Federation of Labor has maintained headquarters at the seat of government at Washington and its officials have labored hard and in vain for legislation that would relieve in a measure the heartaches and hardships of the wage-earners of the country. In the House they were fairly successful, but the breakers that swamped the efforts of the labor leaders have invariably been met in the Senate. This is equally true of every bill antagonistic to the interests of the money-grabbers. Aldrich, a son-in-law of Rockefeller; Elkins and Foraker, the sons-in-law of the railroads, and the perjured hybrids of their ilk, have unfurled the black flag of political anarchy from the Senate chamber, and bid defiance to the world. Their power is absolute and their fortification behind the Constitution invulnerable.

Now comes the direct primary law—the savior of the people. And who is it in Oregon that makes the primary law possible. Is it Calkins, the Standard Oil candidate? Is it Lowell, the self-announced opponent to the law? Smith, ditto; or Watson? Or is it Jonathan Bourne, Jr., who jumped into the breach and made the primary law the issue in this campaign? It is alleged that Mr. Bourne is using the primary law as a means to serve his selfish purpose; and it is said also that Mr. Scott of the Oregonian is wreaking his vengeance against the gas trusts and the Ladds and Mills and Teals to satisfy a personal grudge. Be these charges as they may the people are the beneficiaries of their labors, no matter what the motive is that directs the good work along.

All manner of misconceptions concerning the operation of the primary law were rife three months ago, when Mr. Bourne undertook to make plain its provisions to the voters. With singular unanimity the press of the state was silent or opposed, only a paper here and there having the courage to even express a willingness to "give the law a trial." But by the aid of Uncle Sam's mails almost every voter in the state was reached by personal letter from Mr. Bourne in an effort to make clear the provisions of the primary law and to crystallize public opinion in favor of its being put in operation to save the election of United States senatorship from being sold to the special privilege class at Salem. This effort has resulted in the alignment of the plutocratic interests of the state upon one side to oppose and defeat the law and the plain citizens on the other to sustain it. The game of the opponents has been and still is to create chaos in the public mind. To this end a swarm of legislative candidates opposed to the law under various forms of petition have been coaxed into the field, and four senatorial candidates of like complexion thrust forward. On the other side of the question is Mr. Bourne backed by the written pledges of nearly 10,000 voters, and Statement No. 1 legislative candidates in practically every district of the state, with their supporters. In two weeks we shall know whether the people of Oregon are truly capable of self government under the best devised system known to the world. It is a crucial moment in the career of the state. The Multnomah Statement No. 3 ticket in its platform presents the people's side of the whole issue.

## INSINCERE DECLARATIONS.

The Statement No. 1 Legislative candidates in Multnomah County have shown themselves as a class of men superior to those composing the Standard Oil competitive ticket. The latter includes some twenty-five persons who are competing among themselves and against fifteen Statement No. 1 men, for fifteen nominations to the Legislature. They stand for the plutocratic gang and are generated by ex-Senator Simon-domino. How well they are qualified to make laws for the state may be judged by their ignorance of current matters, for which no would-be candidate for the Legislature can have legitimate excuse. Thinking to make campaign thunder for themselves they turned a trick with the Oregonian by howling for cheap gas and several other reforms, in terms of generalities, which meant nothing good for the people and nothing bad for the plutocrats, and threw one of Simon's stinkpot bombs at Statement No. 1 candidates by calling them a "Bourne slate." But they fired too soon. When the Statement One ticket was completed it put out its platform, from which the Mills ticket, its supporters and its legal advisers are shown to be insincere in their declarations by their ignorance of the status of election affairs. The Statement No. 1 candidates' platform exposed them and incidentally set a beacon light in the Oregonian tower. The insistent populist demand of the Oregonian and the people of towns and cities in Oregon, as elsewhere, to regulate and control urban public utility corporations, is up to the people of Oregon to settle for themselves in the June election, in the form of several constitutional amendments, two of which, if passed, will confer upon the City of Portland and all other municipalities of the state the exclusive power to handle the whole question of franchises and the regulation and control or purchase of public utilities, a status of political development for which "crank," W. S. U'Ren, Jonathan Bourne, Jr., and the gentlemen composing the "Bourne slate," are largely responsible. Now the issue is made. The "Bourne slate" in its platform shows that it not only knows what is going on politically, but that it stands for the amendments referred to and pledges if the people fail to pass them, to support substitute measures in the Legislature by which Portland may, for the time being, be in a position to deal with her franchise brigands. Evidently the Oregonian had forgotten, and the Standard Oil ticket never knew and never will be able to understand, what the real issues in this campaign are. They are the primary elections law and Statement No. 1, which reserve to the people, with a big "P," the power to name, as well as elect, their public servants; and the constitutional amendments reserving to the people of the municipalities of the state the exclusive power to deal with all municipal affairs, including franchises and the regulation and control of corporations doing business within their jurisdiction. The opposition to Statement No. 1 is already developed. The "Bourne slate," so called, has discovered the other live issues of the campaign in the championship of the amendments, the opposition to which will be developed in the Standard Oil camp. The voters of Multnomah County and Portland who really desire the gas and other plutocratic grafts properly dealt with can have but one choice of candidates for the Legislature and that is the Statement No. 1 ticket.

Besides the labor unions John L. Rand, candidate in the primary election for the nomination for Congress in the Second District, has enlisted the opposition of the Grange in the fight he made against the bill reducing the husband's right of curtesy one-half, making it just equal to the dower right. Under the present law the husband has a life estate in all his wife's property while she has a life estate in only one-half of his property. The Grange contends that the rights of the husband and wife in this respect should be equal. The measure came before the last legislature as House Bill No. 275. It passed the House, but was held up in the judiciary committee of the senate, where Mr. John Rand of Baker City opposed it and was the principal cause of its defeat.

Organized labor never before had so many friends as it has at the present time. Even County Commissioner Barnes insists that he is a friend of labor unions, who started his antagonism against them as early as 1888, as can be attested by Martin Ready, Edw. Kilfeather, Harry Gurr, John O'Brien, Albert Tozier and others. The pretensions of political candidates at this time should not have much weight. It will be different after election. There are candidates in the field, however, that have and will act square with labor if they are put into office. These men should receive the support of organized labor.

A fly election sheet which is supposed to be published in the East Side, and another obscure leaflet which circulates principally among the low saloons in the North End, are devoting a large part of their unsold space to abuse of the Labor Press. The grafters who throw crumbs at this class of alleged papers were always a cheap lot; why not chip in and buy up a good paper like the Sunday Mercury.

The local agents of the tobacco trust were not slow in making up their minds on the man they wanted to go to the United States Senate. It is only natural that they should turn to a Standard Oil attorney. How do the people of Oregon like it?

The big fight of organized labor is to defeat John L. Rand. Don't allow his allies to divert your vote from honest Judge Ellis. Every vote given to the two straw candidates put up by Rand's backers is a sinful waste of ammunition.

Don't forget that registration books will be closed next Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock; if you have not registered by that time you cannot vote at the primary election on April 20.

Corporation Rand does not expect a single union vote in the whole second district, but he has hopes that his straw candidates will draw a few from Judge Ellis. Rand is foxey.

Don't overlook the Court House. There is a trio of labor hating officials seeking re-election who ought to be retired. Let there be a house-cleaning.

Workingmen: You owe it as a duty to yourself and your fellow workmen to see that your name is on the voters' list before next Tuesday afternoon.

If Jonathan Bourne receives the senatorial nomination it will not be by the aid of the heelers and crooked political grafters. It is to Mr. Bourne's credit that this class of political prostitutes are lined up solidly against him.

## KICK AGAINST CARTER.

Salem, Ore., March 28.  
Editor Labor Press:  
Your attention is respectfully called to the fact that E. V. Carter of Ashland, Ore., who is a candidate for State Treasurer before the Republican primaries, was a member of the infanticide committee specially appointed to abort labor bills in the Senate during the last session of the Legislature.

Fraternally yours,  
UNION PRINTER.

The "infanticide" committee referred to in the communication was the famous committee created by the "machine" Senate to which all labor bills were to be referred to for emasculation or annihilation. Senator Holman of Multnomah was chairman of this committee of which Senator Carter was also a member. Every labor bill introduced in the Senate or reported from the House was referred to this committee, and not one of them were ever heard from after reaching this legislative "crematory."—Editor.

The Barbers' Union of Seattle having obtained a decision that the Sunday closing law is constitutional intend to prosecute all violators of it and ask all unionists to furnish any evidence that may come to their notice.

If Rand is defeated and the full Statement One delegation goes to Salem, the Citizens Alliance will go out of business in Portland.

Every Citizens Alliance man in Portland has registered to vote for Rand; do your duty, go to the County Clerk's office at once.

The only fault his enemies can find with Judge Ellis is that he is too honest to go to Congress.

## OUTSIDE UNIONS: NOTICE.

Baker City, Astoria, Salem, Pendleton, La Grande, Troutdale, etc.: Get the boys out this coming week to register. Put every man to work, our enemies are active. Don't wait.

The Citizens Alliance is in hard straits for a mouthpiece when it is compelled to subsidize a mushroom election sheet to get a hearing.

The number of cities that have adopted the printers' eight-hour day scale are 439.

J. P. FINLEY & SON, Progressive Funeral Directors and Embalmers, cor. Third and Madison Streets. Competent lady assistant. Phone No. 8.

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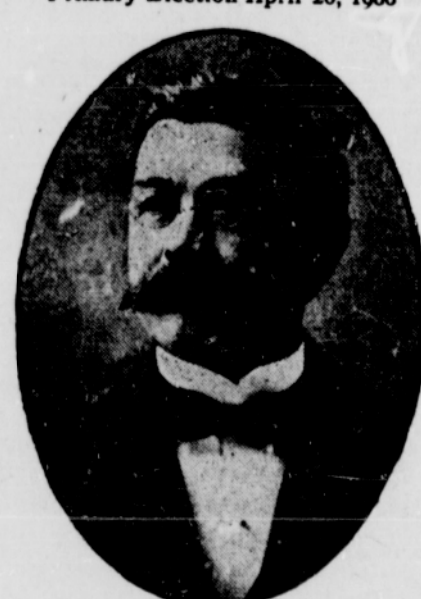
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**Candidate for Republican Nomination for  
STATE TREASURER**  
Primary Election April 20, 1906



**JOHN H. AITKIN**

— Having announced my candidacy for the Republican nomination as State Treasurer, I desire to state my position on matters pertaining to the office administration of the office, in accordance with our laws.  
All persons will be given a "square deal" and the office will be conducted in the interest of the whole people of our State.  
I am in favor of a law creating a board, consisting of the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer, said board to name and select depositories for State funds, the interest on said funds to become the property of the State, and be accounted for by the State Treasurer.  
I am in favor of a law regulating State and private banks, and the creation of a State Bank Examiner.  
I am in favor of the Direct Primary Law, and a strict compliance with it.  
Huntington, Oregon.  
JOHN H. AITKIN.