

PORTLAND LABOR PRESS

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Monday, April 13, 1914

THE CALLED AND THE CALLED.

That was a call from the old assembly crowd which brought into the race for Legislative places the "twelve disciples" of The Oregonian. That was a call intended to serve certain interests and purposes, principally to keep in power the dear old woman of a newspaper which gives up bit by bit of the old-time prestige with great agony and desperate struggle. And, men had the nerve to call it a "taxpayers' movement."

The Oregonian was wise in its day and generation when it took advantage of the high taxes—brought on largely by and through efforts of The Oregonian crowd—to hand up to the people such a delectable dish of political hash as that prepared by a meeting of a few men who feel that the salvation of the state of Oregon depends upon the good wishes and control of The Oregonian. The poor old paper fosters a political gang which forces taxes to the breaking point and then offers another gang in an effort to throw and in the eyes of the people that the pork barrel may not be closed to the schemers who care as much about the interests of the taxpayers as they care about the tomb of Confucius.

Who are the called? A number of men more famous for the money they have gathered than for the brains they possess; more notorious for the political tricks they have turned than famous for the wholesomeness of their public service; more thoroughly known by the "machine" than loved by the common people. Who are the called? Men who should have known better than to have allowed their names to have gone out as a slate to be forced down the throats of the citizenship of Multnomah County.

Who are the callers? The Oregonian, a newspaper which has grown rich on unearned increment and high profits. The Oregonian, a newspaper famed for ruling with an iron hand, "notorious for the things it has put over in politics, but with no place in the hearts of the people for the unselfish service it has given the state and the voter. Then there are men in the list of callers. Men who patronize The Oregonian; men who live through the activities of other people; men who operate immense businesses at rates of profit which seem exorbitant; men who represent everything in the community but the common people, the home builder, the man of family.

The callers consider themselves taxpayers! What an insult! Who is not a taxpayer, anyway? The big merchant does not pay taxes on his business, for he charges taxes, interest, insurance, rent and a lot of other items into the cost price of his goods and collects the amounts from the man who buys a suit of clothes, a package of coffee or a cigar. Little difference does it make to the merchant what price he charges for his goods so long as the common man has the money to buy with. The present time it seems that prices have been hoisted until the worker cannot make enough to buy the goods of the merchant, and now the merchant sets up the cry that he is a taxpayer and is interested in cutting down public expenses. Since when?

Who are the callers? Why among the list of names attached to the "call" there would of necessity be several representative citizens, men of worth and of service to the community. The Oregonian has always worked through two classes of people, the really respectable and the wily politician. And in the end the respectable man has been given consideration, the politician has been given the pork barrel.

The called have already seen the "handwriting on the wall." The callers are already wondering how the thing was put over in such a raw condition, that is, the men who gave respectability to The Oregonian's job are wondering.

It is the country itself that is the innocent bystander in the canal tolls fight.

WHAT A LIE!

In trying to justify its nerve in presenting the "twelve disciples" as candidates for the Legislature from Multnomah County, The Oregonian printed this piece of apparent falsehood:

"None of the 12 men on the list has been chosen from any personal or political motive. In fact none of those included is known to have any political ambitions other than to serve the public interest in the best way."

Just as though Oscar Horne was not placed on the slate in an effort to fool the thousands of organized labor who have had confidence in him, and who have gladly honored him! Just as though Lee Hendricks was not slated in an effort to draw strength from the Railroad Brotherhoods, in which organizations he is well known and exerts a remarkable power! Just as though Fielder Jones was not given a place in the combination in an effort to draw close together the men who are interested in sports and in allied lines!

What a lie to tell the thinking people of Multnomah County.

Women in Oregon may have the vote, but they do not count in Multnomah County. Witness the "twelve disciples." Not a woman's name among the lot. Women should support such an aggregation, for it is backed by "taxpayers," and women are not taxpayers!

Hearst's paper prints ten reasons why we should subsidize American coastwise steamers by giving them free toll through the Panama Canal. A burglar could give as many reasons for a law authorizing licenses to burgle.

A politician is a man who knows when to attack the pork barrel as well as the time to forget the pork barrel. Fielder Jones, W. F. Woodward and Lee Hendricks, by this rule, are politicians.

The Oregonian still believes that woman has her place. And it is not among men pledged to do certain things in the Legislature.

"Murderer cheats law by suicide," says a morning paper. Too bad. It's so uplifting to hang men.

OTIS THE FIRST.

Sombody has put out a biography of Harrison Gray Otis the First. The original Otis seems to have been a very respected and somewhat eminent gentleman who filled in his generation more than a hundred years ago, a place in some respects interestingly analogous to that now filled in California by his less eminent but equally reactionary successor of the same name. The original Harrison Gray Otis was a Federalist of the straightest sect. He entered Congress in 1797, and his first conspicuous act in Congress was in joining in the attempt to make Aaron Burr president. His biographer utilizes his letters and papers during the next few years when he was in Congress as a basis of a chapter on the "Federalist Machine," of which the reviewer says that it "gives us an insight to party government at a time when there was no such thing as popular control." On the tariff question the original Harrison Gray Otis was at first decidedly opposed to the tariff, on the ground that it would ruin navigation, in which he was interested. But later on, when he became interested in the cotton mill industry, and got dividends of 10 per cent from that, he became a strong protectionist. He retired from politics in 1801 and became a successful lawyer. But he was described as "a typical Federalist, representing his party at its best and at its worst." When the best had evaporated and the worst was all that was left, and when the old division between Republicans and Federalists was giving way to the later division between Democrats and Whigs, he was one of the last and stubbornest to stick to the ancient name and ancient organization, long after it had ceased to represent anything, either the good or the bad, for which it had originally stood. The analogies between this ancient career and a modern one of the same name are too obvious to need drawing.—California Outlook.

UNIONS NOT REALLY BAD.

The charge is made against labor unions, by certain people, that they seek to limit output, but they do not try to obtain the best work, and that they keep alive the present prison system. It is insisted that, through them, thousands are supported in idleness in our prisons, instead of laboring, and that this is done to limit competition.

If these people would treat the labor unions as fearlessly and frankly as they do capital, it would doubtless be found that the latter has far more to do with that situation than the former.

Perhaps, like other classes, the unions are not free from error, but they have done much for civilization; they have made possible an effective communion between the laborer and his employer; they have secured the passage of many righteous laws, and they have educated the people generally. These critics should hesitate before the labor union system is condemned.—The Bee Hive, Detroit, Mich.

STUDYING THE CRIMINAL.

Our conception of the criminal is changing. When a man, and especially a young man, a first offender, is brought before the bar, where his future, his entire life, hangs in the balance, we hesitate. Instead of accepting the evidence of guilt without question and meting out punishment accordingly, we have learned to look for causes. We are beginning to proceed upon the theory that no man would willingly thrust a knife into his own back—and that is what committing a crime and being sent to jail or the gallows for it means. We inquire, therefore, why did he do it? Was he misled by improper surroundings? Was it want and poverty that forced him to criminal ways? Or was it, perhaps, natural disadvantages? Is his brain defective? Is he suffering from injury or disease which makes him irresponsible, and consequently subject for the hospital, the sanitarium, or insane asylum instead of the reformatory, the prison, or the gallows?

In this new attitude toward the criminal we are not alone. Most of the advanced nations of the world have adopted it. The old theory that the criminal is a special type, is or a race apart, has given way before scientific research. Environment—bad environment—poverty, and disease are coming to be accepted pretty widely as the chief sources of crime. This often too great emphasis on environment has been assailed from many quarters. Among those disapproving of such overstraining of the environment theory and neglecting heredity and other influences entirely is the noted Italian student of the subject, Baron Raffaele Carofalo, whose monumental work on "Criminology" has just been published in English.

Nevertheless, this view is gaining ground and, even according to Baron Carofalo, has already done much good, for it has acted as a check on the tendency to impose haphazard sentences on criminals—the sort of sentences which are characterized as a "leap in the dark" and harm both the criminal and society.

In furtherance of this more rational attitude toward crime and criminals a bill has been introduced in Congress calling upon the Department of Justice to establish a bureau "for the study of the abnormal classes," and for the "collection of sociological and pathological data, especially such as may be found in institutions for the criminal, pauper, and defective classes."

Such a bureau will do good service. It will be a mistake, however, to leave the study of criminals to the federal government. The most that such a federal bureau should be expected to do is to act as a co-ordinating agency. The material to be co-ordinated, however, must come from the various cities and states in the country. The criminal should be studied not after sentence has been passed upon him and he has been confined in an institution, but at the time he is tried. The result of such study should determine his sentence.

Chicago is doing this now. It has established a psychopathic laboratory, which will serve as an auxiliary to the Municipal court. The criminal, especially the youthful criminal, will be taken to this laboratory and his physical and mental condition will be thoroughly looked into before he is placed on trial. If the boy is found to be a defective, a "moron," this finding will put an entirely different construction upon his acts. Chicago's psychopathic laboratory is the first in the United States, but it should not be the last. Every community should study its own criminals.—Chicago Tribune.

"Handle With Care."

Mrs. Munson is a fragile woman with dark eyes and black hair, streaked with gray.—New York Herald.

Lafferty's Platform

In the official State pamphlet soon to be distributed Congressman Lafferty will tell the voters of the Third Oregon Congressional District: On March 4, 1915, I will have served 4 years as a Member of Congress. I expect to be re-elected. But even defeat would in no wise diminish my gratitude for the honors you have bestowed upon me in the past. As a Republican congressman during the past 3 years I have demanded the most sweeping progressive laws of any member of the House. I have always insisted that the Republican party is the progressive party of this country, and that all it needs to do is to give the rank and file of its members the right to control the party's action. Then no third party will be necessary.

The bills I have proposed are meeting with greater favor daily in Congress. They demand only common honesty in public affairs. They are not revolutionary. They are not socialistic. They are not subject to successful attack. But if these bills be passed they will increase ten-fold the opportunities for happiness to the average citizen. I am in favor of Congress going ahead with the strides of a giant in order that the American people shall come into their own now, and not 50 or 100 years from now. I favor the Nationalization of American railroads, and all other public monopolies. I favor extending the parcel post immediately, so that it will absolutely supersede the express companies. I favor a pure food and drug law that will mean what its name implies. I favor an 8-hour day for men, women and children. I favor the mining of Government coal in Alaska. I favor the building of a fleet of American merchant ships to be operated by the Government for the handling of our passenger, mail and freight traffic upon the high seas. I favor agricultural asset currency. I favor an Interstate Trade Commission, with full powers to control industrial monopolies. I favor enforcing the railroad land grant to the letter. I favor liberality to settlers. I favor exempting American coastwise shipping from the payment of tolls at the Panama Canal. So long as I remain a Member of Congress I shall fight for these things, and shall keep specific bills pending therefor until secured. (Paid Advt.) A. W. LAFFERTY.

Even the people with high ideals have to begin at the bottom of the ladder.

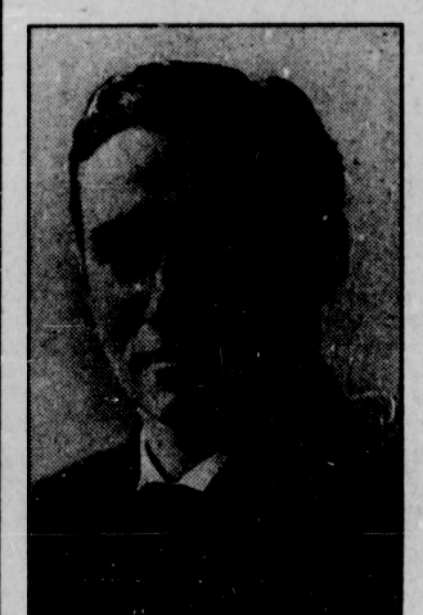
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Gus C. Moser

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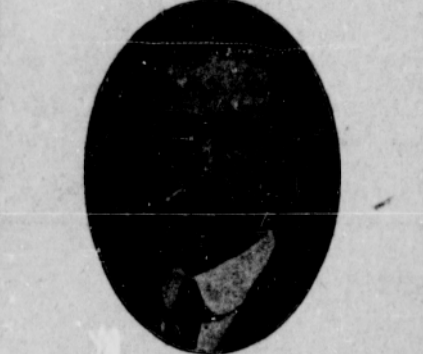


Candidate for Republican Nomination for CONGRESS

Primaries May 15th, 1914
Paid Adv.

D. V. HART

County Commissioner



My Claim for Office Is My Past Service to the People of Multnomah County.

MY PROMISES:
If I am nominated and elected I will stand for strict economy in all things.
For a business-like expenditure of money.
To down extravagance.
Combination of City and County Government, even if it should legislate me out of office.
Continue my good roads policy for producers.
Produce food on County Farm for all institutions, including jails. The County should feed the inmates of our jails, instead of an individual. (Paid Adv.)

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Paid Adv. GOVERNOR—REPUBLICAN

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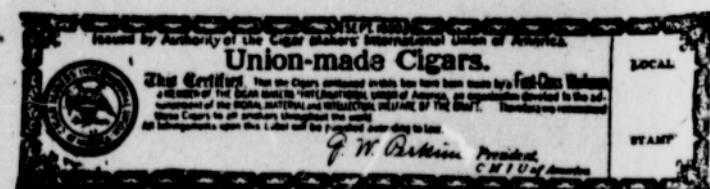
Candidate for Judge of the District Court, Department No. 2, Multnomah County



Promises the people dignified and just administration of the law; conscientious service, without fear or favor. A young man whose future depends on clear understanding of the problems of the people. His reputation as a lawyer is clear; his citizenship is well known to bench and bar. (Paid Adv.)

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