

# Chas. K. Henry Replies to Governor West

Portland, Or., Sept. 10, 1912.

To the Editor:

Inasmuch as Governor West has seen fit to vent his spite upon the undersigned through the press of the city in relation to the Oregon Electric depot property, and when proved a liar in the first instance, in which he declared I was one of the owners thereof, he apologizes therefor, but adds insult to injury by hastily concluding and by innuendo stating that I had taken advantage of the Oregon Electric Railway Company, when the facts are to the contrary. That particular block on which the Oregon Electric depot is located had been purchased by the Oregon Electric Railway Company through another firm of agents prior to my having anything to do with the company. Then they offered to sell the portion on the westerly side of their track, declaring that they would reserve that on the easterly side for their warehouse; and they, the Oregon Electric Railway Company, proposed that if a building were erected for them, they would locate a depot on that portion which they had sold, and which I had not bought for them at all.

Another gentleman and I bought the property from the Oregon Electric Railway Company and erected a building thereon, leasing it to the Weinhard Estate. Surely there is nothing criminal about that. The City Council issued licenses for the saloons to the lessee, and the lessors were in no way responsible therefor. The Governor is deteriorating into a chronic character assassin.

The recital of the following facts may prove of interest, as well as show the animus for his venomous attacks published in the press:

Some three weeks ago, while on the train going to Seaside, sitting with Hon. W. D. Fenton, of this city, and prior to this last crusade of the doughty Governor, Governor West came into the car and commenced conversing about the beautiful place that he was erecting at Elk Creek, which was of interest to me, as I had owned properties at Elk Creek, and his statement that the grounds were being developed by convicts or ex-convicts attracted attention, and led up to his proposing a "talk on his policy."

I took the opportunity then of saying to Governor West:

"Governor, I am perhaps one of the most straight-lined Democrats the state affords, and I wish to say now to you, sir, that I do not approve of your policy at all; that I feel, in your mistaken zeal, you are working more harm with the youth of the state than any other three agencies for good can overcome. I believe that the true system is not coddling, petting, paroling or pardoning vicious and low criminals; that a policy looking towards the redemption in the house of correction of wayward or evil-minded youths should be followed and parole to youths during a probationary period is wise and just; but that trifling with old and hardened criminals is wrong and dangerous to society; that as Governor it was his duty to insist on the strict observance of and enforcement of the law; that all should be taught that 'the way of the transgressor is hard'; that all must live straight or suffer the consequence; that there was no sense in relieving the murderer Johnson, or of paroling the infamous Mrs. Kersh, his partner in crime; that he was not enforcing the law when he relieved those self-confessed murderers, the Humphrey brothers, nor in relieving the hardened criminal and murderer, Roberts, who killed young Mr. Stuart. All should have been promptly hanged as ordered by the courts, as a warning and deterrent to others."

At this Governor West declared I was hard-hearted. I then told him that I was an older man than he, and had exceptional experience with criminals when a young man acting as U. S. Marshal in Washington Territory, having gone through the Chinese riots in Seattle, facing mobs of miners and strikers with clubs and stones, while I was delivering Governor Watson C. Squire's riot act proclamation, backed by a few deputy sheriffs under John H. McGraw, afterwards Governor; mentioned a number of instances where I had been warned by Judge Roger S. Greene, of the Seattle District, Judge John P. Hoyt, of the Olympia District, and Judge George Turner, of the Spokane District, to be cautious and careful in those troublesome times with smugglers on the Sound, seamen's strikes, and gunmen from the Kalispel country, many of whom I arrested and took to the U. S. Penitentiary at McNeil's Island.

I therefore felt justified in saying to Governor West that if he persisted in his policy of truckling and pandering to the low, vicious and criminal element, we would be confronted by the necessity of a vigilance committee, as was the case in the early eighties in Seattle, where robbery, holdups and murders had be-

come frequent. The opinion had become general that the courts and law officers had become too lenient with evildoers, and crime had become bold in the face of lax justice, with the result that when young George B. Reynolds was murdered in the early evening by Howard and Sullivan, two holdup thugs, a vigilance committee quickly arrested them and, after a short trial, finding them guilty, rushed them down to Mayor Tesler's old home, in front of which stood some tall trees, ran a scantling through same, and hanged both thereunder, and then went back to the County Jail and took out Ben Payne, who had murdered Police Officer D. Sires, and the mob hanged Payne along with the other two on the same scantling and that scantling was maintained there for years striking terror to the heart of all evildoers.

All this did not please Governor West at all. Evidently the Governor's overweening ambition in politics is unsettling his mind. He evidently hopes to win Senatorial honors, as is openly charged by Mr. Gay Lombard, of this city, by his constant and persistent pandering to the low element of society throughout the state. As Governor of the state, he has neglected the duties thereof and assumed the duties of Constable and Town Marshal of many of the towns and hamlets of the state, and is now usurping the duties of District Attorney, Mayor and Chief of Police of the City of Portland, as well as those of County Sheriff of the County of Multnomah. Could presumption run more mad! It would seem that West hoped to climb to political prominence by defaming, slandering and villifying his betters.

It is but a few days ago the valiant Governor came to Portland with the blare of trumpets and with much publicity to the effect that he would clean up the city and county, that he was after all the crooked officials then, that he was after the social evil and finally the drink habit, declaring that perhaps he "might be carried out on a shutter," and that the West savings might be spent for the effort. It has all simmered down now to the one petty fight on the saloons in the Oregon Electric Depot. Hence his chagrin. How the mighty have fallen!

Chas. K. Henry

## T. R. PETITIONS FILED

SECOND CONVENTION WILL BE HELD, IS ANNOUNCED.

Candidate for Presidential Electors and Possibly Other Officers to Be Named.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 10.—(Special).—With the filing of petitions today by Oliver M. Hickey, of Portland, and George F. Rodgers, of Salem, which purport to contain more than 7000 names, the Progressive party becomes a party recognized under the laws of this state. As a result, another convention will be held and candidates for Presidential electors and possibly for Congressional and other officers will be named. This is considered a necessity by the Roosevelt Progressives, according to Mr. Hickey, who says they now recognize that those nominated at an assembly in Portland several weeks ago will have no status as nominees of the new party under the law.

He considers it more than likely that the Progressive convention, which must be held sometime before September 29 to give it time under the statute for filing, probably will not nominate Dan Kellaber as the Presidential elector. Kellaber is a candidate for State Senator on the Republican ticket and also for Presidential elector on that ticket from Multnomah County.

The petitions name the following as members of the Progressive party state central committee: A. V. Swift, T. A. London, George Peary, Max Telford, O. W. Eastham, F. J. Toose, James Galtens, H. P. Ross, W. P. McClay, W. W. Blakesley, J. W. Allen, C. E. Lake, T. J. McElroy, J. W. Campbell, P. Huntington, S. E. Hall, F. W. West, H. L. Irwin, Walter B. Jones, H. F. Slatter, Martin Svarvend, S. W. Phillips, G. E. Sanders, O. Midekaut, P. B. Wallace, L. H. McMahon, Levi W. Myers, George Skiff, George H. Coplinger, D. C. Brownell, R. H. Kohrig, Hugh McCall, C. T. Dowell, H. J. Goff, J. C. Hodson and Charles Rittenhoff.

While this manner of selecting a committee was conceded by Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Hickey to have no authority at law, they gave it as a basis for the plan to make nominations and put out a ticket at a convention to be held soon.

## MOTHER AND BABE ESCAPE

Chivalrous Wenatchee Man Fails Attempt at Kidnaping.

WENATCHEE, Wash., Sept. 10.—(Special).—Eluding her husband and a posse of officers attempting to prevent her leaving Wenatchee with her year-old babe, Mrs. John Hilsabeck, wife of a prominent fruitgrower, secretly boarded an east-bound Great Northern train yesterday and today is speeding to her parents' home in Dakota.

Objections to one of her husband's first wives living in her home brought on a family quarrel, resulting in an attempt of the father to kidnap the babe on the main street here when the wife left her aged spouse. When Hilsabeck attempted to wrest the child from his mother's arms, a bystander, Frank Freeman, knocked Hilsabeck down, giving the woman time to escape to the train. Hilsabeck declares he will follow her and threaten to shoot. He has been married four times.

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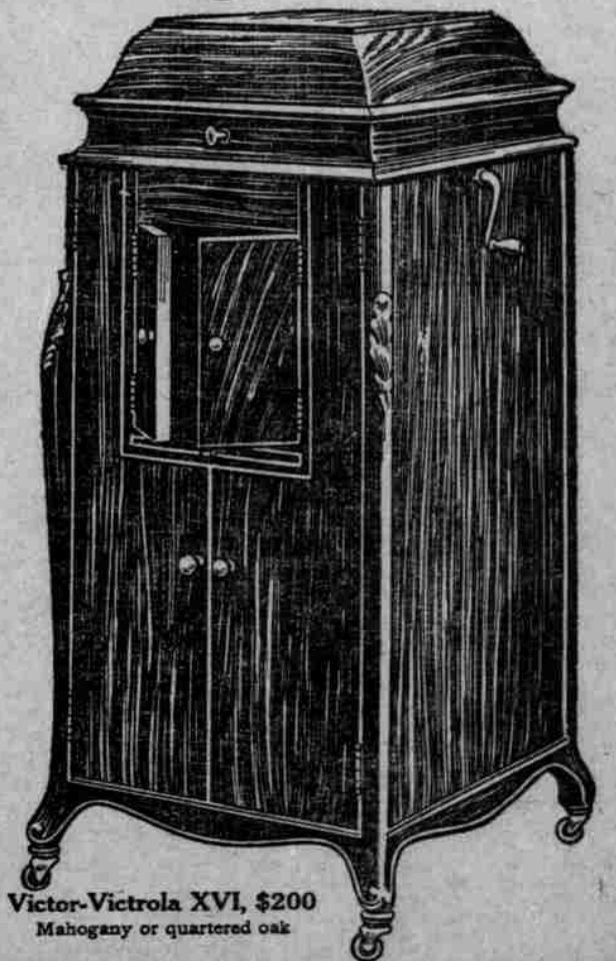
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