O VOTERS OF OREGON

(Continued from preceding page.) Oregon Senatorial campaign, and the annual tiddlewinks tournament.

If the burning questions of the day are only those I have read of from the Chamberlain and Booth sides, then the quicker Oregon amends its laws to make the Senatorship a draw-a-number lotthe Senatorship a draw-a-number lot-tery, with every Oregon voter an equal participant, the better. Let us see whether I overdraw the picture. The burning question of the hour is: "The cost of the American people's living. Is it or is it not greater than their income? Why is the cost on the increase? Why is their income on the decline?" This is the question of the hour. It is so big, so vital, so interwoven with

is so big, so vital, so interwoven with the affairs of every voter in Oregon, as well as every voter in oregon, as well as every voter in every other state, that, all other questions should be put to the rear until this one has been answered and answered correctly. Why? You ask. Because this is the situation and it is not possible to get away from

THE COST OF LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES MUST GO DOWN, OR THE INCOME OF THE PEOPLE MUST COME UP, OR THERE MUST BE REVOLUTION. There must be and will be enacted in every city of the United States the same terrible class war as has just been fought in New Jersey, Virginia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Colorado, California, Illinois and elsewhere. There must and will be, elsewhere. There must and will be, because the American people will never sit and wait for death by starvation, without first trying to wrest from the ones who robbed them and who have wealth beyond the dream of ancient or modern kings, what they produced but were pillaged of.

I want to say here to any of the

law-abiding, prosperous voters of Ore-gon, who may, from their lack of knowledge of what has been taking place of late in other sections of the United States, think I am drawing the long bow, that if they will read the government reports of the recent Massa-chusetts, Michigan and Colorado class wars, and the court records of the Los Angeles dynamiting, they will see that I have under, rather than over, pictured

WHAT IS THE PROBABILITY, THE POSSIBILITY OF THE COST OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S LIVING DROP-PING OF THEIR INCOME RISING PING OF THEIR INCOME RISING AS THINGS ARE GOING? I will answer the question for I am, from long study of, and active participation in, study of, and active participation in, the causes of high cost living, familiar with the subject. If things continue at the Oregon Senatorial campaign standard, there is as much chance of the cost of living dropping or the income of the people rising sufficiently to meet it as there is of the moon showering the people of the United States with the fresh cheese of which we are told it is made. The cost of living and the people's income are both galloping the other way.

other way.

I would not have Oregon voters think from the above that I do not believe that the Wilson administration's new laws, currency, anti-trust, etc., will not lower the cost of living. Undoubtedly they will, but the amount will be fully offset by the drop in the people's income, unless the real, the foundation causes of the present conditions are destroyed, and they can only be destroyed by the election to the Senate and Congress of men who will recognize their existence and will battle for their destruction

Does any Oregon voter believe that this, the greatest problem of modern times—the problem that calls for the most intelligent treatment any man or woman is capable of—can be illuminated with Senatorial campaign Chinese eggs or local butter, with the dead and moulded trading secrets of this man, or the gastronomic and other personal habits of that man, with Senstorial campaign yappings and yarlings that would not do justice to a marionetted Kilkenny

Does any Oregon voter consider, in this enlightened age, which is hurricaned with the merciless madness of the mob, with the merciless madness of the mob, the raw, red ragings of a robbed and raped people, the crimson corruption of courts, the stenchy scabbings of statecraft, the criminal conspiracies of capital, the lecheries of labor, the gangrened graftings of the great, the piteous pleas of the poor, and the rabid rottenness of the rich—in this enlightened age when he is solemnly or sullenly watching his living cost mount and his income drop, consider he is being honored by either of the Senatorial candidates when to his demand for the whys and wherefores of his condition, whys and wherefores of his condition, he is told that old, old tariff yarn, that ancient pork barrel tale, that mossed Mexican war story, or that new canal tall convenients. toll conundrum.

Chamberlain and Booth Messrs. Chamberlain and Booth are the candidates of mighty parties and the mighty parties have a mighty press. Either could have given Oregon voters a campaign worthy of a Senatorial candidate. Mr. Hanley has no press. He and his helper can only get to you as I do, by buying expensive advertising space; but, even with this almost prohibitive handican. I will give you my hibitive handicap, I will give you my idea of the kind of educational matter which should be submitted to Oregon

which should be submitted to Oregon voters at this critical election.

As you read my facts recall whether you have been shown any of them in this campaign. Then ask yourself, is it possible that they are facts, and if they are, should Oregon miss this opportunity of sending to the Senate the man who understands the real conditions of the country, or the man who knows nothing of the burning question of the times? of the burning question of the times?
And if they are not facts how can their fallacies be punctured?
This latter will be simple.

THE QUICKEST AND MOST FEAS-IBLE WAY TO PUNCTURE THE FAL-LACY OF MY ASSERTIONS WILL BE FOR SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN AND MR. BOOTH TO DO SO IN MY PRES ENCE, AND MUCH AS I WOULD DREAD THE ORDEAL OF MEETING THESE SEASONED DEBATERS, I HAVE NOT BEEN ON THE PUB-LIC PLATFORM, EVEN FOR A SINGLE SPEECH, IN OVER THREE YEARS, I WILL AGREE TO BE ON ANY PUBLIC PLATFORM IN ORE-GON, UPON NOTIFICATION THAT MESSRS. CHAMBERLAIN AND BOOTH WILL BE THERE, BETWEEN NOW AND ELECTION.

Why is the Cost of Living high?
Because these is of the country's sixty
billion dollars of stocks and bonds—
drawing 5%, three billion dollars annually -thirty billions which are fictitious fraud-made, mere printed paper created

by a trick.
This means that a few tricksters who This means that a few tricksters who created them, take each year from all the people, one billion, five hundred million dollars and they give to the people absolutely nothing of value in return for it. It is as though these few tricksters had power to levy on all the people for their own benefit a tax of one billion, five hundred million dollars.

These same tricksters levy and collect another one billion, five hundred million each year by the trick of making additional fictitious stocks and bonds.

The working of this gigantic scheme by which three billion dollars tribute is annually levied and collected from one hundred millions of people by a

is annually levied and collected from one hundred millions of people by a few men is the most ingenious affair in the history of the world, at the same

time it is simplicity itself.

Illustration. A Trust adds to the cost of the article it produces, say 5% for

dividends and interest on its illegitimate—its trick-made capital, in addition to the 5% on its real capital. This thusarrived-at price is the price paid by the people for the necessities.

At a time when the stock of the Union Pacific Railroad sold at less than one hundred dollars per share, and paid 5% annual dividends, it was bought up by the few tricksters, who increased the dividend to 10% and the stock rose to over two hundred dollars and was unleaded on the health and increases and the stock rose to over two hundred dollars and was unleaded on the health and increases. over two hundred dollars and was unloaded on the banks and insurance companies in exchange for the people's deposited savings. The few tricksters made hundreds of millions of dollars profit. To get from the people the extra 5% dividend the Union Pacific increased directly or indirectly, the charge for every pound of freight and every passenger carried. This increased the price of all the wheat, corn, beef, and other necessities of the people which were carried by the railroad.

Another illustration: The Steel Trust has five hundred millions of common stock. It does not represent a dollar of stock. It does not represent a dollar of real money. It is only printed paper given to the tricksters who created it, as a bonus for promoting the Steel Trust scheme. The Steel Trust pays a yearly dividend of 5%—twenty-five million dollars on this five hundred millions of worthless stock. To get this twenty-five million dollars the Trust adds to the legitimate cost of the rails it sells to the railroads and the railroads take the twenty-five million dollars from the people in the form of increased freight and passenger rates.

THE COST OF LIVING CANNOT

THE COST OF LIVING CANNOT DECLINE UNTIL THESE THREE BILLION DOLLARS OF ANNUAL TRIBUTE HAS STOPPED.

This is the greatest question before the American people, for it means that if it is not stopped—if it continues—the people will, when they realize, as they are beginning to realize, that they cannot meet the cost of their living with their income, revolt against its collec-

Nothwithstanding this is the greatest question of the times, can any voter of Oregon recall a single reference to it by Senator Chamberlain or Mr. Booth? Their campaign has given Booth? Their campaign has given voters all sorts of worn threadbare "tariff, etc.," arguments as the reason for high cost of living but it will be noted that the cost of living has steadily mounted whether under Democratic or Remublican rule and regardless of tariff. Republican rule and regardless of tariff

The everyday people of the United States have saved up and deposited in Savings Banks over five billions of money (there is less than four billions of all kinds of American money). For this money the people receive 4%—two hundred million dollars annually. They received the same rate, 4%, forty years ago when the two hundred million ago when the two hundred million bought what today requires four hundred million to pay for. That is because the high cost of living has cut (to pay the few tricksters their three billions of annual tribute), the purchasing power of the income of the people's savings in two. At the same time the National Banks and Trust Companies owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the same few tricksters who levy the three billion tribute, borrow the people's savings from the Savings Banks levy the three billion tribute, borrow the people's savings from the Savings Banks at from 3½ to 4½%, and reloan it to the people at "any old rate." This "any old rate" charged the American people by the System, the few who annually levy three billion tribute, for the use of their own savings, can best be ascertained by glancing at the National Bank and Trust Companies' advertisements. "Capital, one million dollars. Surplus and undivided profits, five million. In business twenty years, during which business twenty years, during which time we have earned sufficient to pay

our stockholders 20% yearly and in addi-tion have 'made' 400%, which is now on hand." If this will not explain what hand." If this will not explain what "any old rate" is, one has but to turn to the Pujo Congressional Report and read the testimony of the New York bank presidents, that their banks had earned 2800% on their capital in twenty years. And if one is still puzzled, he has but to observe the marble palaces in the different American cities which have been built to get rid of the oceans of profits made from borrowing the people's money at 4% and loaning it back to them at "any old rate." One bank in one of the big cities was driven by its accumulated earnings to put \$350,000 into bronze doors. If the Oregon voter is still puzzled about the "any old rate." let him automobile through his state as I have done and listen to the hardest working men and women on earth I have done and listen to the hardest working men and women on earth pathetically ask: "Why is it we are compelled to work like slaves and only allowed to retain enough of our earnings to keep body and soul together that the holders of our 8 to 12% mortgages may take the balance?"

This, too, is the burning question of the hour and yet who in Oregon has heard any reference to it in this Chamberlain-Booth campaign?

Chamberlain-Booth campaign?

The everyday people of the United States have billions of their hard-earned savings in the Life Insurance Companies, which, notwithstanding the reforms I forced eight years ago, are still dominated by the System. These billions return to their owners, the people, about the same yearly rate as their savings in Savings Banks. The Life Insurance Companies, like the National Banks and Trust Company custodians of the people's savings, accumulated them so fast that to get rid of mulated them so fast that to get rid of them they were compelled to invest in bronze doors and such bric-a-brac as the crowned heads of Europe cannot afford to buy. One of them, which collects its premiums fifty cents and a dollar at a time, has put millions and millions of its surplus into an enormous marble tower which these thrifty custodians of the people's money proudly boast, eclipses all its competitors' spendings. The part that Life Insurance Companies play in the wholesale robbing of the American people is most interesting. The first thing that started me on my Life Insurance crusade was this odd

happening. At our annual New York Horse Show meets I roticed that one of our young millionaire directors, who, if he was in the country at this time, I am sure would take delight in sneering at Mr. Hanley as a Senatogial Joke, each year decorated us with costly bunches of violets. Upon investigation we found that his annual expenditure for such necessities was \$30,000 and that they were paid for by the great Life Insurance Company of which he was a high official. Can the hardworking Oregon rancher voter who each year pinches out of his earnings his \$30 Life Insurance premium, imagine the fun of blowing in a thousand such yearly premiums for violets? I wonder. At the end of my reform crusade we found that the office furniture of one of the great companies had cost considerably over a million dollars of the policyholders' money—\$60,000 rugs, \$12,000 desks, chairs at \$2000 apiece. The whole

desks, chairs at \$2000 apiece. The whole was sold at public auction and realized old junk prices.

"And what has this ancient history to do with high cost of living and other questions of the day?" I hear the Oregon Senatorial candidates ask. Only this. These depositories of the people's savings are today, notwithstanding the reforms forced a few years ago, dominated by these three billion dollars tribute collectors. Don't believe it? Let's ute collectors. Don't believe it? Let's

When the lid was lifted from the rot-

ten New Haven Railroad cauldron the other day by President Wilson's investigators, one of the Life Insurance Companies was found to be the largest holder of the New Haven stock, \$7,000,000. How did it happen—the tribute leviers who still dominate this great people's saving institution loaded up with New Haven stock at \$100 a share and dumped it on the company at around and dumped it on the company at around \$200 a share; and now that it is practically worthless, millions of the people's savings have disappeared—into the pockets of the tribute collectors. Any Oregon voter versed in two-two-four mathematics can ascertain how much was added to the Life Insurance section of high cost living by these honorable trustees' New Haven deals and by scores of

Nothing has a greater and more direct effect on the cost of the people's living than railroads. Every dollar they take from the people in the form of freight and passenger rates is so much added to the cost of the people's living. This is so fundamental and obvious to the Oregon rancher, manufacturer, store-keeper, that I have only to call atten-tion to it. A railroad is entitled to take from the people its running expenses, necessary improvements and a fair in-terest upon invested capital, but it is not entitled to add to the people's cost of living by taking from them in freight and passenger charges, interest on fic-titious capital, capital which represents money directly or indirectly stolen by the ones who dominate the management. Here is one of the most important branches of the great question—high

There has been stolen from the rail-roads of the United States during the past thirty years billions of dollars. Oregon voters know this. It is common knowledge now, for the investigation of the Frisco, New Haven, Boston & Maine and Rock Island wreckage and robbery, by which over a billion of dollars was stolen in such nasty, sneakthieving ways as to compel criminal prosecution, is now

Ten years ago, when I publicly pointed to the New Haven and Rock Island railroads as the gigantic swindles they have since been declared by the government to be, I was called a madman, for the stocks and bonds which are now nearly worthless were then selling at fancy high prices and were eagerly sought by conservative investment buyers.

THE RAILROAD SECTION OF THE GREAT QUESTION OF THE DAY HIGH COST LIVING, IS ONE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO EVERY MAN WOMAN AND CHILD IN OREGON.

Today the railroads of the country Today the railroads of the country are doing more to paralyze the country's business than any other industry. They are deadlocked with the government over the question of increased rates. They have stopped construction and threaten to keep it stopped until they are allowed to add further to the parallel seat of living. No Organ voter people's cost of living. No Oregon voter should allow himself to be fooled into believing that it is possible to raise railroad rates without raising the cost of living. An illustration which will be easy of comprehension by Oregon voters: The late Mr. Harriman so juggled the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads as to rise over night from poverty to phenomenal riches, \$200,000,000. Nothing like his wealth-wizarding the his wealth-wi has taken place in the history of the whole world.

Harriman's operations were taken to the courts and decided illegal and the Union Pacific was compelled to disgorge the Southern Pacific and other railreads. Union Pacific stock now owned by the people who exchanged their savings for it has dropped from away over \$200 per share to about where it started from, \$100. Everyone has lost but Harriman. He lost none of the oceans of money which he secured by his illegal transaction, his family still has it. By the way, Mr. Oregon Voter, did you notice that the wife and family of the poor devil over in Washington, who borrowed a few dollars from his bank, intending to repay it, had everything but their clothes taken away from them and that he was railroaded to prison for a long time? And that there were convicted and sentenced to prison last year a large number of letter carriers whose stealings averaged a few dollars apiece?

Amongst Mr. Harriman's many exploits was the building of the Deschutes railroad. It cost about fourteen millions of dollars, and as we of Wall Street got

of dollars, and as we of Wall Street got the news back there in those magic

the news back there in those magic money making days, it was to be such a success that its effect on Harriman's stock and bonds brought to his coffers fifty to sixty millions of profit. Now here is the proposition that I would like to put to you Oregon voters:

Mr. Hill's Deschutes railrond runs up one side of the valley and Harriman's the other. I am told that they together cost \$28,000,000. One of them will supply the wants of Oregon, say for one hundred years. Should the people of Oregon be compelled to pay the additional freight charges—be compelled to submit to a further rise in their cost of living to pay interest and dividends on the \$14,-000,000 Harriman borrowed to sink in this road that he might use its building as a boomer for his Union Pacific stock, the booming of which boomed them all along the line? Or should the family of Harriman, the wizard of railroad jugglery, be compelled to refund to the people the \$14,000,000 wasted in duplicating the Hill road that the \$14,000,000 cating the Hill road that the \$14,000,000 might be used in irrigating the now waterless lands adjoining and the balance used to replace those cities along the line of the road which died for the want of

One other proposition, Mr. Oregon Voter, and I am done. As you go up the Deschutes valley and observe that wasted \$14,000,000 of the American peowasted \$14,000,000 of the American peo-ple's savings and the world of parched land which is actually sobbing for water, does it occur to you if that \$14,000,000 had been spent for spreading the Des-chutes River over the valley's baked agricultural riches, the valley now would be one of the most prosperous spots on God's earth and the Hill road, having all the business, would give even better service than now. Does it occur to you when you observe the struggling father, worn mother, and little assisting tots working from sunrise to sunset to build their home and compel their new-born ranch to give them the prohibitive cost living and the shylock usurers of the living and the shylock usurers of the System the mortgage interest, and when you later observe the sullen father, the frenzied mother and the weeping tots navigating the dusty roads for a new home to replace the foreclosed one, and when you listen to the tales of hay sold at less than cost and cattle sacrificed to meet the loan company's queer 10%-interest-and-you-sell-them-at-our-price contracts, and then you recall the tales of tracts, and then you recall the tales of the middle west prosperity, and those of the eastern banks a-burst with to-be-loaned-to-Wall-Street-at-2% billions of the people's savings, and then when you read in the press of the great eastern cities of the out Neroing of Nero by the new rotten -with-freshly-pillaged-wealth American royalty, do you not feel like dropping to your knees and praying: "Send us a Congress of Bill Hanleys, real men whose kindly hearts and nature souls have fitted them to make of our glorious country the happy homes our forefathers intended it should be?"

THOMAS W. LAWSON

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