

BOWERMAN MAKES REPLY TO BOURNE

Nominee Says Senator Urged Harmony When Seeking Votes Four Years Ago.

To Jonathan Bourne, Jr.: In the Portland evening papers of September 20 there appeared an interview, credited to you, in which you indulged in a great many generalities and meaningless platitudes. In this phraseology you presume to issue a command to the people of Oregon to vote against many candidates in the coming election nominated by the recent primary.

Since your election to the United States senate you have not taken sufficient interest in the State of Oregon to spend any considerable part of your time here. You have devoted your time and such enterprise and energy as you possess to pastimes and associations more agreeable to you while you were able to find in other parts of this and foreign countries. You have visited this state but twice during the last four years, and then devoted very little time to ascertaining the wishes of the people of Oregon, or their needs or requirements; but you have devoted your time to issuing mandates to the people of this state directing them how they should vote. You claim to be a friend of the people of Oregon. I presume you imagine that by repeatedly telling the people you are their friend, someone will believe you. Fortunately, however, some of your sins of commission and omission are matters of public record, which you are obliged to face and cannot avoid, excuse or deny.

Bourne Works With Aldrich.

It is a matter of public record that you, at the special session of congress in 1909, in a harangue, by courtesy called a speech, delivered by you, when the tariff bill was under consideration, referred to that other "friend" of the people, Senator Aldrich, as an authority upon tariff legislation. It is a well known fact that during your term in the senate you have labored in complete harmony with Senator Aldrich. In this so-called speech you stated that you knew nothing of the tariff, but that your particular friend, familiar and boon companion, Senator Aldrich, was a master of rates and that you would be content to abide by his decisions.

You voted against Senator Bristow's proposed amendment, which would have taken the "joker" out of the sugar schedule. By this vote \$60,000 a year is wrong from the people of this country and given to the sugar trust. You further outraged the people of Oregon and of this country on occasion by assisting in placing a duty of 15 per cent ad valorem on iron ore. Of course you knew the trust owned the iron ore in the United States and that by your vote you were taking this money from the people of this country and from your own constituents and giving it to the many millionaires who control this, the greatest trust in the world. No doubt you expect the householder, when he purchases a cook stove and pays this unnecessary tribute to your colleagues to be blinded to your neglect of duty by the platitudes and the other candidates who are not favored with your support, or with the acquaintances and associations of your millionaire chums and friends who are the beneficiaries of your misrepresentation of this state in the senate.

Duty on Woolens; Silk Free.

You voted to admit to this country raw silk free and to place a duty of 53 per cent upon the manufactured article. At the same time you voted to place a duty of 135 per cent (average) on woolen and worsted cloth, valued at not more than 40 cents per pound. Was this act on your part induced by your friendship for the people? Was it in the interest of the common people? Did you vote to place this exorbitant duty upon goods used by "us, of common people," for the benefit of anyone except your coupon-clipping chums and associates? Your chief legitimate income is said to be from a large cotton print mill, owned by yourself and relatives, in Portland. You voted to place a duty of 25 per cent on a square yard (see schedule I) on the cotton cloth manufactured by your farmer or other neighbor. You purchased the cloth and contributed to the support of the office of the people.

Instances almost without end can be cited in which you voted to place low duty on articles which are worn by men of your aristocratic class or placed upon your tables, and in which you voted to place a high duty on similar articles used by people in moderate or straitened circumstances. It would be a matter of more practical interest to the people of the state to receive from you a communication stating how much money this tariff bill places in your pocket each year and in what other way you have been benefited by your term in the senate of the United States than to receive your dictatorial instructions as to whom they should cast their vote for.

How many citizens of Oregon who "earn their bread by the sweat of their brow" honor you with their acquaintance? What effort have you ever made to acquaint yourself with the desires, hopes or requirements of the people who make Oregon great, namely, the producers?

outraged feelings by the happy thought that you secured this position and opportunity to plunder them and hope to continue in your present office by the use of resounding platitudes and windy commonplaces and the assertion that you are a friend of the people. How does 12 1/2 cents a square yard tariff on goods manufactured in your cotton print mill, which are used chiefly by poor people, compare with a duty of 25 per cent to 50 per cent on champagne? Did you make this great difference in order to encourage the use of champagne by your constituents and to induce them to dispense with the clothing customarily worn in this country? Probably you assume they will believe in your pretended friendship; pay you this exorbitant duty and then sing a sweet refrain in honor of their alleged friend.

Aristocratic Friends Favored.

Instances almost without end can be cited in which you voted to place low duty on articles which are worn by men of your aristocratic class or placed upon your tables, and in which you voted to place a high duty on similar articles used by people in moderate or straitened circumstances. It would be a matter of more practical interest to the people of the state to receive from you a communication stating how much money this tariff bill places in your pocket each year and in what other way you have been benefited by your term in the senate of the United States than to receive your dictatorial instructions as to whom they should cast their vote for.

How many citizens of Oregon who "earn their bread by the sweat of their brow" honor you with their acquaintance? What effort have you ever made to acquaint yourself with the desires, hopes or requirements of the people who make Oregon great, namely, the producers?

During the four years since you were elected Portland and the state of Oregon have suffered immense loss in commercial ways on account of your neglect of official duties. With in the last few months you stood by and without protest permitted the reclamation area to be so amended that this state lost over \$5,000,000 which was due it, and should have been invested in irrigation projects in Oregon. This loss is only a small percent of the actual damage we have incurred by reason of your dereliction in duty. By reason of your carelessness in this particular our deserts will continue to be inhabited by the coyotes, jackrabbits and other creatures of the desert, when by the exercise of any reasonable diligence on your part these deserts would have been reclaimed and happy families would be inhabiting these lands, producing large crops which would have supplied the needs of other portions of the state. Even when the Board of Army Engineers was here last month to examine the Umatilla project with a view of correcting some of your errors and omissions, you did not have sufficient interest in the welfare and development of this state to accompany the party or to urge upon the members the merits of our only eligible reclamation project. You have devoted your time to tennis, golf and other pastimes, while our merchants have been denied their reasonable portion of contracts for government supplies. Yet you presume to dictate to the people of Oregon as to whether or not they shall support me.

Man of Many Parties.

In this interview you say: "All admire the courage of the man who goes down to defeat fighting for the principles in which he believes, but spurn with contempt the man who changes political creeds for the sake of victory," and "Chameleons and trucklers change their colors, but men of conviction fight for their principles to the death." Concerning some of these statements, there is no better authority in the state than yourself, for within the memory of young men you have been a Democrat, a Republican, a Populist, a non-partisan and all the time a demagogue.

It is manifestly apparent to all that you are no more a republican today than you were in 1896, when you undertook by treachery to use the office of secretary of the Republican State Central Committee to assist in electing Mr. Bryan president of the United States. It is also manifestly true that you are in league, and for some time have been working in complete harmony, politically and otherwise, with your Democratic colleague, Senator Chamberlain, and his protégé and legate, the Democratic nominee for governor of this state. While you prate about reform and the good of the people, you expect to use the office of governor of this state, if it can be placed in the hands of Mr. West, for the purpose of returning you to the senate of the United States and to perpetrate a further outrage upon the people of the country, and

of course the other partner in this political compact expects at the end of his term to be rewarded by re-election. You desire to convey to the people of this state the false impression that I have sought to return to the old system of electing United States Senators, and by the old system I refer to that method made damnable by your own practices, which are well known to our citizens; which practices were instigated and contributed to by yourself, and your associates, and yet you know, and the record of this state will prove conclusively, that I have never at any time favored or undertaken such a course. You know that I voted for you in 1907, because the people of the district I represented gave you their votes, and that I did this notwithstanding the fact that I held you in the utmost contempt, both as a man and as a public official. I told you when you asked me whether I would support you, that I expected to do so solely upon the ground that my constituents had expressed a desire to have you represent them, and when I cast the vote for you I wanted you distinctly to understand it was the vote of the people of Gilliam, Wheeler and Sherman counties, and not my personal choice. In 1904, when I was first a candidate for the office of State Senator, I promised the people of my district that I would vote for that man for United States Senator whom I believed they would wish me to. This was before the direct primary law was adopted or even drawn. Statement No. 1 was at that time unheard of, and your own unsavory reputation was so apparent and notorious that I did not expect that I would be compelled to vote for you; nevertheless, when by the use of money and artifice you did carry the district I represented, I cast the vote entrusted to me for you. In 1908 I was again a candidate for the office of senator, and I again promised the people of those counties that I would cast their vote for United States Senator for the man chosen by them. Mr. Cake carried each of the three counties I represent, and in fulfillment of that promise, in 1909, I voted for Mr. H. M. Cake.

I wish to call your attention to the further fact that in the recent primary I did not only receive more votes than you did when you were a candidate for United States Senator, but that the plurality given to me was nearly four times as large as yours. As soon as you were nominated in 1906 you cried for party harmony and the support of the united party. I not only gave you my vote in 1907, but bowed to the will of the people as to your election and successfully supported the man for president of the senate whom you desired; you claimed that unless your candidate for president of the senate was elected, the will of the people would be thwarted and you would be defeated. Since your election I have asked you for nothing and do not ever expect to ask or receive at your hand any favor or courtesy, official or otherwise. Even the courtesy of a letter thanking me for the assistance rendered in bringing about your election was not forthcoming.

I entered the contest under the primary law in good faith. I publicly announced that I would support the successful candidate and expected my friends and supporters to do likewise. In the primary campaign you used all of your influence, official and personal, to defeat me. After a fair, open contest in which no improper methods were resorted to by any candidate, to my knowledge, I was successful, and I submit that any man who has any element of fairness in his makeup, or any desire to do that which is right, will, if he has been defeated in an open political contest, support the successful candidate. A man who has no regard for the obligations he owes his party, who is not acquainted with the rudiments of fair play and transgresses all the elements known as manliness by bolting a ticket solely for selfish reasons, is a traitor to the interests of the people, an enemy of the direct primary law and is devoid of any characteristics of real leadership. The difference between the venality of yourself and the conduct of the honorable gentlemen who opposed me in the primary election, is most marked. This contest between myself and the other opponents was devoid of acrimony, personalities or other unpleasant features, and these gentlemen are to-day loyally supporting the entire ticket.

I believe you are not sincere in your alleged devotion to the primary law. If you are I ask you to announce publicly whether or not you will by every means within your power oppose the amendment, change or repeal of the primary law and other laws that have been heretofore or at any time hereafter may be written on the statute books by the people. Yours truly,

JAY BOWERMAN.

Portland, Oregon, Oct. 3, 1910.

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