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THE INTERESTS.

A great deal is being said this year about the "interests" and their corrupt alliance with politics. The interests have come to be understood as a combination of big business working through politics in such a way as to control administration for its own selfish ends. Generally speaking, the "interests" are of national scope. At least the people have come to so believe. But, is it not equally true that these combinations called "interests" have also taken lodgment in our community life and many times exercise a sinister political influence which results in the same abuses as are traced to the "interests" of national scope? Take Jackson county as an example. Some five hundred thousand dollars have been squandered during the past four years. Of course this reckless and loose extravagance has been accomplished directly through the county court, but has the county court been the sole beneficiary of its own laxity? The writer thinks not. The main beneficiaries have been the secret powers behind the court. Had the county court during the past four years been free from these secret influences no doubt a different result would have followed. What is this secret influence of which we here speak? Some have designated it as the "Medford gang." It might more properly be designated the Jackson county "interests." For its alliance with the politics of Jackson county is very much like that of the nationwide "interests" with the national administration. The national "interests" have controlled politics for selfish ends and the people have been robbed while the "interests" have grown fat. Is not exactly the same true in the politics of Jackson county? Why are the Jackson county "interests" secretly supporting the candidacy of TouVelle and openly fighting Judge Dunn? Is it not reasonable to say they are doing it with sinister motives and for selfish ends? Always the "interests" support the candidate through which they can accomplish their selfish ends and bitterly oppose those who are wise enough to represent the taxpayers and insist on economical, business-like administration. That is why the "interests" now habitat at Medford are supporting TouVelle and fighting George Dunn.

PARCELS POST.

There has been a growing demand in the United States for a parcels post law. The demand mostly came from the farmers and the big department mail order houses. As the bill was first proposed it carried a flat postage rate on packages up to eleven pounds without regard to the distance carried. The adoption of such a bill would have resulted in great harm to small retail stores throughout the rural districts because it would have put the large mail-order house in a position to outsell the local merchant. Senator Jonathan Bourne realized this situation. He believed that a parcels post should be adopted in the interest of the farmer but should be so arranged as to not put the rural merchants to a disadvantage. So he devised the plan followed out in the bill as finally adopted. The rate is based on zones comprising a fifty-mile unit, the basis per pound for the first fifty miles, including rural delivery, being 5 cents and grading up to some 80 cents for over two thousand miles haul. The result of this unit system will be that the rural merchants will be enabled to use the mail for local and rural route delivery at a much less cost per pound than the mail-order houses, as they will be compelled to pay the much higher rate for the long haul. Thus Senator Bourne has given the people the benefit of the parcels post without greatly injuring the local retail merchant.

Italy and Turkey are coming to peace terms. Turkey has plenty of trouble nearer home.

THE MEDFORD GANG.

The political manipulators at Medford have no politics. They change from republicans to socialists or democrats to prohibitionists as the occasion demands. The organization is for political spoils and it is not particular what political party is made the instrument through which its design is accomplished or whether any political party is needed to accomplish it. Through its control of the county court of Jackson county during the past four years hundreds of thousands of dollars of tax moneys have been squandered and the taxes have been raised to the limit. Certain localities and individuals have benefited from these reckless expenditures but little good has come to the citizens of the county at large. Now this gang is turning over heaven and earth to elect Mr. TouVelle county judge and are fighting George Dunn tooth and nail. Eight years ago when the voters of Jackson county elected George Dunn county judge he at once began to close up the leaks in the county treasury. He demanded that a dollar in value be given the county for every dollar expended through the county court. This did not suit the exploiters. They were looking for benefits rather than economical government. And the four years of Dunn's administration were lean years for the gang. Because Dunn refused to turn the county treasury keys over to them they designated him a "mossback." They had printed in the Mail-Tribune garbled photographs of highways constructed under Dunn's administration and called them "Dunn's elevated roads." They threw out every slander against Mr. Dunn that could be hatched in a dishonest and fertile brain. The people were misled and Mr. Dunn was defeated four years ago. Candidates of the gang's making were elected and resulted in the worse than wasting of some five hundred thousand dollars of tax moneys. Now this same gang is again opposing the candidacy of Mr. Dunn. That is one big reason why George Dunn should be elected and why the honest, intelligent voters of the county who were here at the time and know the animus behind his opposition are now enthusiastically for Dunn.

There are some people that have come into the valley during the past two years and that have not taken the pains to inform themselves as to the true situation who are now being worked upon by the gang day and night to have them cast their votes for TouVelle. This work is having some effect because the gang is smooth enough to veil its hand so that the claws are not discernible to the unwary. The gang is depending upon the new voters to hold the balance in favor of TouVelle.

Mr. TouVelle, personally, is as smooth a politician as the writer has ever known. He is a splendid mixer and is persistent. He makes himself a good fellow with every one he meets. He eats yellow-legged chickens at the church festival and is equally popular with those who know not the sound of a church bell. He can come as near being all things to all men as any candidate who ever canvassed for votes. Had the gang hunted for years they could not have found a "more representative" candidate.

In another way TouVelle fairly illustrates the acme of craftiness in playing the political game. He has a keen sense for the things that hurt and the things that help. No sooner was he nominated than he issued strict orders to George Putnam that the Mail-Tribune should be silent as a sphinx as to his candidacy. He seemed to thoroughly agree with Mr. Merrick that the best way to defeat a candidate was to have the Mail-Tribune for him. That nettled Putnam a little, but he and TouVelle had been long and close friends and Putnam wanted to help the cause because it was his own cause—the same cause had been his four years ago and he had done fairly well with it—and he itched for some more of it. So Putnam buried his pride and his ego in his shirt bosom and TouVelle fell on his neck and buried ego and pride and all under a copious covering of grateful tears. It was agreed that the Mail-Tribune should howl long and loud about the Medford bridge, but say never a word about TouVelle's candidacy. TouVelle has proven himself an able diplomat. He should be sent as ambassador to France or Fiji, and most of those in the valley who are on to the secret curves of the gang are willing that he should be sent there, but to make him county judge instead of George Dunn, never, never!

Who will dictate the business policy of Jackson county during the next four years? Will it be those who pay the taxes or the "interests" at Medford? TouVelle is the candidate of the "interests." Dunn is the candidate of the people.

Scale receipts at Tidings office

ISSUES.

"We are informed that anyone who declares Wilson is not the best boss buster in the country is a liar. Anyone who declares he is not the best trust buster is a liar. It is high time that all this vicious misrepresentation stopped and issues were discussed.

"But Wilson is an issue. Ninety-five per cent of the predatory trusts and monopolies are incorporated in New Jersey. Woodrow Wilson is governor of New Jersey. Mr. Wilson has control of the legislature in New Jersey.

"Any day by express provision of the constitution of that state Governor Wilson could drive out any dishonest corporation, compel an amendment to its charter or qualify its articles of incorporation. He could have done this any time during his administration. He hasn't raised a finger.

"The Standard Oil Company owes its existence to the state of New Jersey, the Tobacco trust, the Sugar trust, the United States Steel Corporation. These corporations paid \$6,000,000 this year to New Jersey for the privilege of doing business in 48 states. If Wilson is the boss trust buster why has he left these corporations alone when he could have done more than all the state and federal courts together?

"As to bosses. Will anyone deny that Sulzer is a typical Tammany heeler and spoils politician? Will anyone deny that Taggart of Indiana, Sullivan of Illinois, Murphy of New York are bosses? Will anyone deny that Wilson approves Sulzer and supports him? Will anyone deny that Murphy, Sullivan and Taggart are supporting and will vote for Wilson?

"Why? To put themselves out of business, of course. Isn't it perfectly reasonable to suppose that all the bosses will vote for Wilson, he being the best man qualified to throw them out of office?

"These things appear to be issues to us in spite of the objections of our democratic friends."—Sun.

And further: The American people claim to be against the trusts. The most prominent feature in the testimony of trust representatives before the senate committee investigating contributions to campaign funds was that every trust representative gave his testimony in such manner as to cast the greatest possible reflection on Colonel Roosevelt. Especially was this true in the testimony of Archbold and J. P. Morgan. Beyond question the trust testimony proves the interests squarely against the candidacy of Mr. Roosevelt. How the people expect to whip the trusts by defeating the candidate they oppose is beyond comprehension. There is not a schoolboy in America but is sure that Mr. Taft has not the ghost of a show to win. That leaves the fight between Wilson and Roosevelt. Every trust representative, as indicated by his testimony before the senate investigating committee, is bitterly opposed to Roosevelt. Therefore the trusts prefer Wilson to Roosevelt. Why?

Well, as stated above in the Sun editorial, Standard Oil, the Steel trust and the Tobacco trust, the Sugar trust and more than 80 per cent of all the great interstate trusts are incorporated under the laws of New Jersey. Wilson has been governor of New Jersey for two years. The constitution of New Jersey gives power to the governor to annul or amend the charter of any corporation that violates the law. Maybe that is why the trusts prefer Wilson to Roosevelt and why Wilson so completely dodged the anti-trust and tariff planks of the democratic platform in his speech of acceptance.

Gentlemen of America, you can never whip the trusts by supporting candidates which the trusts support.

IF YOU ARE A PROGRESSIVE
and do not like
HAWLEY'S STAND-PAT RECORD,
vote for

JOHN W. CAMPBELL

For Congress from the First District.

Hawley's record shows him to be a stand-patter of the stand-patters. Every move he has made since he has been in congress was in complete harmony with the Cannon-Aldrich program. You cannot hope to get your government back into the hands of the people if you vote for stand-pat congressmen. John W. Campbell is thoroughly progressive and will stand solidly in congress for progressive legislation. He is progressive rather than partisan, and is pledged to support progressive legislation whether it is put forward by a republican or a democratic administration. He stands for anti-trust legislation and revision of the tariff downward.

(This is NOT a paid advertisement.)

If it is Tidings work it is the best.

THEY DON'T ELIMINATE GOD.

All Europe has been roused by what Professor Edward Albert Shafer, president of England's greatest body of scientists, told these scientists the other day in Dundee, Scotland, respecting his ideas of the origin of life.

Most folks seem to think that scientists are not paying enough attention to what God is popularly supposed to have done in regard to originating life.

Professor Shafer gave God no credit at all. He thinks life is only a chemical action; that, in a swamp, some time, somewhere, a little salts, potassium, phosphorous, water and some other chemicals happened to get together, that there was a slight stirring, a movement, and life began. Even now, he thinks, if scientists will only watch the swamps carefully enough, it is not impossible that they will see new life being created.

By new life he does not mean the life that a parent passes on to a child, but brand new life, that has never existed before.

It doesn't seem to us that the scientists are really leaving God out of it. Even if they do discover that life is only a chemical action, can they tell us who made the chemicals, and by whose law these chemicals are converted into a mother, with her first babe in her arm?

Perhaps it is true that the first stir of life on this planet was only a lot of chemicals bumping into each other and mixing up. But who made the law by which this stir becomes the loving heart-beat of a parent, or the love of a man for a woman, or the ambition that causes men to move mountains, or the fidelity that makes a man give up his life for what he believes is true?

Common folk, who only know they are alive, but can't tell you how, ought not to make fun of scientists or condemn them, or put stumbling blocks in their way. Let them go on with their guessing and seeking.

The chances are that some day they'll help us to understand, even more fully than we do now, how great God really is.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE OREGON SYSTEM?

Then you should vote to send Jonathan Bourne back to the United States senate.

He is not only one of the foremost advocates of the Oregon system, but he has done more to advance progressive laws throughout the nation than any other man. La Follette says he has, Cummins says he has, Roosevelt says he has, all the truly progressive national statesmen join in commending Bourne for his stalwart and consistent progressivism.

Besides that, Jonathan Bourne has succeeded in getting better committee appointments in his five years' service in the senate than most other senators have gained in twenty years. Mr. Bourne is well up on the appropriations committee and has done more for Oregon in the way of appropriations than any senator Oregon has ever had.

Mr. Bourne is not the nominee of any party. He is running independent. The editor of this paper is affiliated with the progressive party in Oregon. In order to support Mr. Bourne the Tidings bolts the progressive nominee, Mr. Clarke. It does so because it believes in so doing it is best forwarding the Oregon system. The Tidings does not think it wise for the people to turn down a public servant who has made good. It deems it a reflection on the Oregon system and on the ability of the people to intelligently rule under it. For that reason the Tidings will support Jonathan Bourne.

The "Medford interests" have run Jackson county for the past four years. Mr. Taxpayer, how have you liked it? This same "Medford interest" is fighting George Dunn tooth and nail. Why do you suppose they are doing that? Mr. TouVelle seems to be satisfactory to the "interests," for he is being secretly aided and abetted by them in his gumshoe campaign.

Turks Win Victory.

Constantinople, Oct. 15.—Crushing defeat was dealt by a Turkish force to a large band of Montenegrin troops at Gisinje today. The Montenegrins were broken after a desperate fight and completely routed.

Postmasters On Civil Service List.

New York, Oct. 15.—President Taft, on board the yacht Mayflower, today signed an executive order putting 35,000 fourth-class postmasters in the classified side.

SUNSET MAGAZINE and Ashland Tidings one year \$2.75 to old or new subscribers. Regular price of Sunset Magazine is \$1.50 per year.

Old papers for sale at the Tidings office.

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FOR SEASON OF 1912

Do not throw your apples away on a glutted market. Put them in cold storage for better prices.

Your potatoes will not sprout or grow soft in cold storage.

Get our prices, which are as low as in the east.

We have a limited amount of dry wood for sale, and the best Washington state coal for the lowest possible price for cash.

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The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

Riley's Birthday.

Occasionally some man has sprung from the plain people who sings because he must. He was not trained to do it. He had no expensive college education which made him think of making literature. He simply had melodies that crooned in his brain and love for his kind that abode in his heart, and the result was true songs.

Such a one was Burns in Scotland; such another was Beranger in France; and such, we are persuaded, is James Whitcomb Riley in America.

In each case their first friends and first audiences were composed of the plain people. Burns' simple love songs, Beranger's ballads about home folk, Riley's melodies about little children and Hoosier farms, went straight to the heart of the people who ordinarily do not care for poetry, because it is above their heads. After all, most of us feel emotions more rapidly than we think thoughts. We cry or we laugh more readily than we ponder cloudy metaphysics. And that is the reason we hail as our brothers certain singers long before the critical pundits awake to the astonishing fact that these men have produced literature!

Riley, the discoverer of "Little Orphan Annie" and many another quaint lad and lass, will live in our American literature just as surely as our Longfellow and our Poe. And that is why it was fitting to celebrate his birthday. He has been peculiarly our kind of man—one of us, living our kind of life, thinking our kind of thoughts, sharing our sorrows and our joys.

So here is to Jim Riley, poet, laureate of the plain people. Long may he sing for our delight!

Story About a Dog.

They must die. Sentence has been pronounced upon the whole five of them and the executioner is preparing his means with which to kill. They are friendless and homeless. Society has turned its back upon them. The law has them.

Perhaps it is well, in order to avoid some slight confusion, to state here that the five condemned are not men. They're dogs impounded by the great city of Portland, and the law has set 10 a. m. for their killing. But, Chief of Police Shaw to the rescue! Why not auction off in-

stead of kill off, he asks, and so before 10 a. m. he mounts the auction block.

A black shepherd sells first call. A shepherd's specialty is driving sheep. A little Spitz brings a fair price. Lap-dogging is a Spitz's specialty, and there are some women who prefer lap-dogs to children. Two fox terriers sell like hot cakes. Fox terriers' specialties are rat-catching and giving the neighbors nervous prostration.

And now Auctioneer Shaw puts up for bids the last, an ordinary street cur, mongrel through five generations and altogether miscellaneous. What do you bid for just such a dog? What's offered for this fine mongrel of just such hair, flesh and bones? Bring on the chloroform, Mr. Pound-keeper! But a little girl comes through the crowd. She wants that dog. Why? The cur has no speciality. Worthlessness is written all over him. He is friendless. But he wags his tail. His eyes appeal. The child wants him to love him, that's all. She asks them to hold back the chloroform until she can go home and get her pennies from her little savings bank.

Only a cur dog, thought the chief of police, but what a price he brought—the love of a child. You see, the chief had for years been rubbing up against human nature. He had seen it in the slums and in the environs of the aristocracy. He had known strong, able workmen to be auctioned off in the wage-market. Always he had seen folks bidding in at lowest possible price the things of the highest value, for profit's sake. He had seen the poor, the friendless, the unspecialized chloroformed in some way or other—put out of the way in behalf of the profitable. Here was pure love, backed by the pennies of a child's bank, offered just for love's sake, and as the chief put the mongrel pup into the child's arms he must have said under his breath, "You lucky cur!" for the greatest of all specialties is the ability to return love for love, at which there are few creatures more accomplished than a cur dog.

Third Trial in Hearst Libel Suit.

Los Angeles, Oct. 15.—A new trial of a libel suit brought by William Davis of Pasadena against William R. Hearst was granted today by Superior Judge Bordwell, on account of error. This will be the third trial of the case, Davis having been awarded \$25,000 in the first and \$32,000 in the second hearing.

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