

PEOPLE FIRST, LAST, ALWAYS, CHAMBERLAIN'S WATCHWORD

Governor in Opening Senatorial Campaign Flays Political Bribery, Corruption and Graft Which Have Ruled Legislature. Trickery of Politicians and Jugglery of Public's Wishes Must Be Checked—Pledges Support of Laws Urgently Needed.

Governor Chamberlain's address in behalf of his candidacy for nomination as United States senator, delivered at St. Johns last evening, was as follows: I have been nominated by my party as a candidate for United States senator, and this representative gathering affords the interest felt in the campaign has shown more enterprise and energy than this during the past two or three years. Some have grown with greater rapidity; some have proven itself more aggressive in commercial and industrial development, and I feel that I have been honored in being permitted to make the opening speech of this campaign to my fellow-citizens here.

Regular Legislation. Oregon is not only attracting the attention of the world because of the rapid development she has made in all lines which go to make it a great state from a material point of view, but the advanced position which her people have taken in popular legislation is being followed by nearly all the states in the Union. In this connection I deem it proper to say that during my campaign for governor in 1902, the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution was before the people of this state for adoption or rejection. For this country it was new and untried, and there were many who feared the experiment, and I believe that I was the only candidate for any state officer who unhesitatingly and unqualifiedly appealed to the people to vote in favor of this constitutional amendment. It was adopted by an overwhelming majority, and in 1904, when the direct primary law was before the people for adoption or rejection, it was my privilege and pleasure to favor this legislation with my voice and pen.

Law for the People. This law, too, was adopted at the election which followed by an overwhelming majority. It cannot be claimed that either of these measures was formulated or adopted in the interests of the Democratic party, because while it is true the Democrats of the state generally supported the same, the Republican majority in the state was overwhelming. The fact is they were measures in the interests of the people without regard to party, and were so urged and understandingly adopted. After the adoption of the direct primary law, it will be remembered that pursuant to its provisions, candidates were nominated for the senate to be voted on at the election of 1906. That election resulted in the nomination of two Republican candidates, and my opponent understood that he was not in favor of the nomination of senators by direct vote of the people, whilst the two candidates who favored such nomination were nominated by a large majority of the popular vote.

When the legislature convened in January, 1907, in my message to the legislature, I urged Democrats as well as Republicans to vote for the two gentlemen who had received the highest number of votes at the hands of the people, and though they were Republicans, every Democrat present at the time of the election by the legislature

Asks Gave a Question. The record which I have made is a public matter. How does that made by my opponent, Mr. Calkins, compare with my own? Mr. Calkins, I believe, had made no record on the subject until the campaign which preceded the primaries in favor of either the popular legislation of today or the election of senators by direct vote of the people. On the contrary, two years ago he was a candidate for the United States senate, and his position for the nomination was silent upon this subject in his campaign, therefore, to say in all candor and frankness what he will do in those counties where on the Republican ticket men who have been nominated are opposed to Statement No. 1 and where independent tickets are pitted against those on Statement No. 1. Will he advocate the election of the Republican ticket who are opposed to Statement No. 1? If he does neither of these things, what shall I do? I am unwilling to be neutral; it is incumbent upon him to declare himself positively in every county where he has been nominated, and to vote only for those candidates for the legislature who have subscribed to Statement No. 1.

Needs of Oregon. The rivers and harbors of Oregon have suffered for want of congressional appropriations. Fitchwork has been done at the mouth of the Coquille river; insufficient appropriations have been made for Coos Bay; hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended for an appropriation; Tillamook bay and harbor have practically been walled off from the ocean by a breakwater. All of these rivers and harbors ought to receive aid in sufficient amounts to make them navigable for the deepest seagoing vessels. It is only a question of the expenditure of money, because nature has done much for them. The same thing is true of the Columbia river. A 300 miles serves as a boundary line between the states of Oregon and Washington, and for 1200 miles might be made navigable, has never received aid except in piecemeal, and after united action on the part of commercial bodies of the states interested. For years it was sought to construct a system of locks at the Cascades. Congress hesitated until the state appropriated money for the building of a portage road, and when congressional aid had been rendered temporarily unnecessary, appropriation was made sufficient to build the locks, which put the portage road out of commission. The same thing was done at Celilo, where congress refused to act until the state had expended more than \$250,000 in building a portage road 12 miles in length and in securing a right of way for the proposed government canal.

Money has been used without stint! The whole body politic corrupted and perverted, the rights of the people made the subject of barter and sale; needed legislation lost sight of and our state made a stench in the nostrils of the world. It is well known that these are the things which in Oregon at least were influential in bringing about the adoption of the primary law. The same condition has existed in other states in the Union, and there is no question but that they will soon follow in the footsteps of Oregon in the matter of the election of their senators. Five times in the history of the United States the senate of the United States has voted to amend the constitution of the United States as to give the people the right to elect their senators, but as often these resolutions have been buried in the senatorial committee, and there is no hope of constitutional amendment as long as the same corrupt forces control the destinies of the republic. The senate of the United States is understood to be the bulwark of predatory wealth and privilege, and so long as legislatures can be bought and controlled by corrupt boss and political machine, so long will the senate of the United States stand against the people, and as the representative of class legislation and special privilege. I speak of these things because the people cannot see too often the conditions which have heretofore existed in Oregon, and I want them to know that I have played some part at least in bringing about a change of these conditions, and that I am not a sudden convert to the doctrine of having "A government of the people, by the people and for the people" in fact as well as in name. I am in the fight to stay, and to test the question whether appeals to the people are to prevail, or whether the good people of this state in the present campaign place principle above party and country above all.

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Question of Party. Already it is being urged that it would be disastrous to the state to send a Democrat to the senate of the United States. I concede that it might have been better for the people to have nominated Senator Fulton as their successor, because of the advanced position he had secured on various committees and his wide acquaintance with members of the senate of the United States. I concede that he has been defeated in the house of those who ought to have been his friends. Now that he has been elected, I am unwilling to concede that the election of a Democrat to the senate will in any way be detrimental to the interests of Oregon. The question for the people to determine ought to be one of capacity and fitness for the place, rather than the politics of the individual. It ought to be determined just as they would determine the employment of any servant, whether in public or in private life. The business man in quest of an employee cares not for his political opinions, but only for his competency and fitness, and the same rule which prevails in business affairs ought to prevail in

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Needs of Oregon. The rivers and harbors of Oregon have suffered for want of congressional appropriations. Fitchwork has been done at the mouth of the Coquille river; insufficient appropriations have been made for Coos Bay; hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended for an appropriation; Tillamook bay and harbor have practically been walled off from the ocean by a breakwater. All of these rivers and harbors ought to receive aid in sufficient amounts to make them navigable for the deepest seagoing vessels. It is only a question of the expenditure of money, because nature has done much for them. The same thing is true of the Columbia river. A 300 miles serves as a boundary line between the states of Oregon and Washington, and for 1200 miles might be made navigable, has never received aid except in piecemeal, and after united action on the part of commercial bodies of the states interested. For years it was sought to construct a system of locks at the Cascades. Congress hesitated until the state appropriated money for the building of a portage road, and when congressional aid had been rendered temporarily unnecessary, appropriation was made sufficient to build the locks, which put the portage road out of commission. The same thing was done at Celilo, where congress refused to act until the state had expended more than \$250,000 in building a portage road 12 miles in length and in securing a right of way for the proposed government canal.

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Actions of Congress. As a matter of fact, those states whose congressional delegations voted political resolutions, as favorable consideration at the hands of congress as those which have sold delegations of the one or other political party. Take the state of Montana, for instance, with a Democratic and a Republican senator; in Montana it is that for 1900, the two cities of Helena and Butte had expended for federal buildings alone \$130,000. In 1904, \$119,900; in 1906, \$140,000; in 1908, \$129,800.85, and in 1906, \$18,269.41, a difference of \$255,198.54 in favor of scandalous and the rights of the people. Instances might be cited to show that those states which have divided delegations receive as much, or more consideration than those states which place party above every other consideration, but the discrepancies show, when in prompt attention of the neighboring state, as against three cities larger in size in Oregon, are sufficient to illustrate the point that they will soon follow in a reason for this. In those states where the delegation is divided, it is possible to secure cooperation of Democrats and Republicans.

Senator Keiser Oregon. In corroboration of the views herein expressed, I quote from an interview given by the Hon. C. W. Fulton, published in the Oregonian March 21, 1907, upon his return to Oregon after the expiration of Senator Geary's term. It will be remembered that an emergency appropriation of \$400,000 for jetty work had been obtained, and \$3,800,000 for river and harbor improvements. In speaking of the matter Senator Fulton was generous enough to give Senator Geary much credit for securing the appropriations, saying: "Mr. Geary very rapidly acquainted himself with the work to be done; made many friends and was tireless in his efforts. I never met a man who was more agreeable to work with; he was very effective in securing support for our measures, particularly among the Democratic senators." It must be borne in mind in this connection that the fact that Senator Geary secured the united support of the Democratic senators these appropriations could not have been passed at that session of congress.

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my election, to do all in my power to see that the needs of Oregon along all of these lines are met and complied with.

Reclamation of Arid Lands. Oregon has contributed a greater sum to the reclamation fund than any other state in the union, and yet she has not received her just share of this money. It is for the reclamation of arid lands. It is true that the projects in Klamath and in Trinitia counties which have been undertaken by the government have been instrumental in reclaiming many thousands of acres of land, but there are other sections where reclamation projects ought to be undertaken and forced to completion under governmental supervision—notably in Harney and Malheur counties. This is a work which should not be looked upon as local, but as national, and at least all of the money which Oregon has contributed to the reclamation funds ought to be expended by the government among our own people. Numerous projects have been undertaken under the provisions of the Carey act and by private enterprise. But in the very nature of things these are more difficult of satisfactory solution than those under the control of the federal authorities. These matters ought to receive the prompt attention of our representatives in congress, and will receive my undivided attention in case I am honored by the people of this state.

Interstate Trade. Greater power should be given to the interstate commerce commission in the adjustment of rates on interstate traffic, and this commission ought to be

so reorganized and increased that the work it has in hand can be more quickly disposed of than is possible at present. In an address delivered by me at the inland waterways convention at Memphis, Tennessee, on October 5, 1907, I said on this subject: "In Oregon and Washington alone \$150,000,000 is invested and 130,000 men are employed in the lumber business, so that by the arbitrary action of a few railway magnates a great industry may be either outrageously taxed or compelled to close down, and thousands of men put out of employment." This advance, which was then proposed by the railroad companies, means the freight rates, if shipments are made under it, a forced collection of from \$5-

(Continued on Page Five.)

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