

SENATOR SELLING ASKED A FEW RED HOT QUESTIONS

Judge Lowell, Also Candidate, Would Know Where Merchant Stands on Senatorial Issues; Has He Felt Pulse?

Pendleton, Or., Feb. 10.—Hon. Ben Helling, Candidate for United States Senator, Dear Sir: My friends over the state have called for your circular letters inviting encouragement in your candidacy for senator, and so long as they were confined to your own glorification, and just criticism of J. Bourne, Jr., I had nothing to say; but since some of your recent communications assume to excuse your candidacy upon the ground that you are my friend, and that you would not enter the contest except for information which you claim to possess that I cannot be nominated, I have something to say, and some inquiries to propound to you—not as an individual, but as a candidate for public office.

My information is to the effect that you probably cannot be nominated, and that the only result of your candidacy at this time will be the possible renomination of Bourne—an outcome which I agree with you would be most unfortunate for both states and nation.

You are classed as a millionaire, and as such are in touch, of course, with the interests, so-called, especially with the representatives in Portland, and I beg to inquire if it is not a fact that behind your proposed candidacy are arrayed the following forces:

- (1) The always reactionary newspaper, the Oregonian.
- (2) Theodore Wilcox with his great milling and warehouse interests.
- (3) Charles H. Cannon, W. Fenton and W. W. Cotton, with their allied railroad interests.
- (4) A. L. Mills and the vast banking interests for which he speaks.

Is it not from these sources whence comes your boasted information that I cannot win the Republican nomination for the federal senate? Or does it naturally arise in your mind because I am a poor man and you a rich man, and because all my life has been spent among the common herd, of which I am a part, and for whose welfare I have always stood?

"Have You Felt Public Pulse?" Have you been outside Multnomah county to get in touch with the people with the average man upon the farm, and in the workshop, and on the railroads, whose vote counts as much, for instance, as that of our mutual friend, E. B. Piper, of the Oregonian, or that of any one of the aristocracy of wealth and position, whose support I am willing to concede to be yours at this time?

Have you been anywhere, except in a few offices and clubs of your own city, to feel the public pulse? If not, what right have you to assert in deliberately written letters that you possess any such information as you claim, and at the same time assert that you are my friend?

You, as an intelligent man, well know that if you and other Portland politicians had rallied behind me three months ago, instead of endeavoring to find some Multnomah man to support, Bourne would now be out of the running. If he wins you and your friends must assume the responsibility. You will finally learn that Portland is not all of Oregon.

Possible Holes in Armor. You proclaim your matchless political strength. Has it occurred to you that there are possible holes in your armor? I am informed by a gentleman who was present that you are one of the men chiefly responsible for the defeat in the last legislature of Senator Dimick's meritorious bill for the improvement of hours and conditions for mill operatives at Oregon City. Is that the truth?

I do not know, and do not desire to do you an injustice. Are not you, with Mr. U'Ren and other members of the People's Power league, responsible for that unfortunate and mistaken amendment to the state constitution which makes it possible for a few dreamers to content with the present conditions in our counties with the menace of the single tax? Where do you stand on that question? Are you in favor of the idea, or opposed to it, or on the fence? Did not your league lend to the amendment its moral support and was not its real purpose so safely disguised that voters did not realize its significance?

Opposes Single Tax. I am opposed to the single tax, as amounting to substantial confiscation of property. What are your opinions upon the momentous national problems of the hour? I have published mine, and promulgated my platform, that the people might know and discuss the same. You will find that mine is thinking of other things besides Statement No. 1. All of us now support that statement. It is the law of the state.

If you want to enter this contest, it is a free fight. Do not delay. Come out in the open. We will then go before the electors, and they can determine which one of us stands for the interest of all the people. Your postage stamps will be wasted. In Sunday's Oregonian you published a list of names of an alleged 1500, and of course you selected those most favorable. Of the 46 there were about 21 clearly favorable to you, while the others were simply opposed to Bourne. My information is that I can defeat him. Are you sure that he is not indirectly working you now to divide the field in his interest? Respectfully,

STEPHEN A. LOWELL.

LARGE STREET PAVING ESTIMATE SUBMITTED

One of the largest street paving estimates ever prepared by the city engineer's office was submitted to the street committee of the city council yesterday. The estimate calls for bids on two new types of pavement. Five paving surfaces in all are specified. The lowest estimate is that for gravel bitulithic, a new pavement. The estimate for this is the lowest submitted, the amount being \$150,144. The estimate for asphaltic concrete, another new pavement, is \$154,168.

The district to be paved comprises portions of 11 streets in the Brooklyn district of the southeast side. Estimates for standard bitulithic, Haasand and asphalt have also been made. These all run considerably higher than those for the new pavements. The specifications provide for two types of sidewalk, artificial stone and asphalt.

Crews attend Oaks rink these days.

Social View of Labor Question

The Supreme Importance of Efficiency and Fair Pay Is Not That Employer Demands One and Employe the Other—It Is That in This Way Only Can a Worthy Race of Men and Women Be Built Up and Maintained.

By Lincoln Steffens. These articles are leading up to a criticism of labor, which may look to a blind partisan, like an exposure. And it is necessary to say this now, in advance, because so much has been made, both by my editors and myself, of my hope to present labor's point of view. Not mine.

My point of view is not that of labor. Nor is it the business man, nor the politician's. I am not a partisan, and never have been either in politics or finance. I have tried as a reporter to keep in mind always the common interest of society as a whole and to see in politics and in business what made for and what against the common, human good. So now in labor, I am for those acts and tendencies which seem to make for the good of humanity; not of the working people only (that's the narrow labor view), but of all the people. And I am against all that labor does which seems to hurt society; not business (that's the narrow business view); but the human community as a whole.

For example: The reasoning of a part of labor that efficiency would increase the wages of the workers, therefore, skimp, seems to me to be not only false, but fundamentally wrong. It is anti-social. Even if the premises were true and argument sound, even if skimping did reduce profits and came not at all out of the wage worker and the consumer; even then it would be wrong, from the social point of view. Anything that hindered or set back the development of efficiency in the workers would be bad because labor is so large a part of society that a spirit of skimping or habits of inefficiency might tend to produce a loose, weak society, an ineffective breed of men, a careless, skimping race.

Always Reaching for More. So with questions of wages, hours, and the other conditions of work, and the methods of improving them. Labor wants higher wages, as we have seen, primarily, for the same reason that most men want more of anything—simply to have more, and more, and more. Capital, so to speak, opposes this want of labor, instinctively, and for practically the same reason—because capital wants more and more, and more, and so, fearing that, if labor got more, it would reduce profits and come not at all out of the employer and employe clash and are forever fighting somewhere. It is their fighting which, at present, interests the public; a strike is an inconvenience and a disturbance of the peace.

But that isn't the reason we outsiders should take the part we do take in the conflict between capital and labor. Maybe fighting is good. Any one who, like Colonel Roosevelt, believes that peace, in the fighting attitude of preparedness, tends to produce a race of mollycoddlers, and that war is a form of murder that is not murder, but many exercises—all the colonels should applaud strikes, mobs and all such disturbances come cut against anybody or anything, even the soldiers and the war policy of direct action. We want to know what we want, first. We should have some sense of what society is or might be driving at. And, since society is all of us, it should be for the welfare of all men, women and children—the race.

How the View Changes. That's the social point of view. Take it for a moment, and see how, as from a mountain top, the view changes. The importance of labor's effort to get higher wages, ever higher wages, becomes trivial. You see that the wage worker is a very large part of society, and that the future of the race depends in startling measure upon the men, women and children that work in the mills, mines and shops. Business is important, too, but it is not, as business men so commonly think of it—it is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end. And that end is not profits alone; profits are only the wages paid to the leaders of society who carry it over to the rest of us.

In other words, business is not merely business. Business is the machinery which produces, prepares for our use and distributes the things society needs to live. And that's why business should be kept going industriously, efficiently, at peace. And that's one reason why strikes and fighting, skimping and inefficiency are bad, from the social point of view. Not because these things annoy or hurt or help the capitalist, and the employer, but because they injure society, which, I repeat, is all men and all women and all children.

And that's why low wages are bad, and long hours, and imperfect sanitation, and child labor and—all the other evils of industrial labor. Not because these evils hurt labor; not because some working men hunger and some women starve; not because some girls become prostitutes and many children are so exhausted by early work that they grow up to be bums, drunkards and cripples. That's the sentimental view of labor which corresponds to the personal view of business. It counts; it counts with me; and it should count, of course, with everybody; an unsympathetic race would not be a great race. It would be deficient in art, literature and music. But the sentimental view is not the view to be taken in these articles. I think it is pitiful to see men and women work too long for too little; I think it is hell to have any part of the human race overworked and underfed. But the point of view I take as a reporter is simply that such evils are bad because labor is so large a part of society that the suffering of the workers cannot help but injure the race, and their well-being will make for the well-being of society.

Underpaid and Overworked. Apply this, now, to our typical strike, that of the laundry workers in New York. Men and women, boys and girls, they were underpaid and overworked three days of the week, in some steam laundries which are unsanitary and at some machines which, it is said, injure the worker for life. We needn't be sentimental about it, because, from their own account, the life in the laundries had a good deal of fun in it. Especially for the young people. But I noticed that the grown-ups were pale, thin, rather weak, and more or less ailing. They were not good stock. And there are some 40,000 of them; in the next generation their descendants may be 80,000 or 100,000. Some of their children may be listless, weak, good-for-nothings of the kind we say "don't deserve any more than they get," which may be charity even the jail.

The condition of the laundry workers, then, should be bettered, for the good of society. But society pays no heed. You and I leave the laundry business to the laundry people, and they don't know how to solve the social problem in their trade. The employers, unorganized and in close competition, couldn't raise wages. And, of course, the employe, also in competition, and not only with another but with the people out of work in New York, who pressed for jobs—the laundry workers were helpless until they organized.

Use and Abuse of Unions. Now the business men who own the laundries objected to the unions; of course they did. Unions are organized to use force; to compel higher wages; and, sure as the world, once organized, the union will abuse its power. Not only the laundries, we all know that. And the abuse by labor of its organized power is an evil, as we shall see. But I think we can learn to distinguish between the good and the evil uses of unions. Whether we can or no, however, unless society is ready and able to protect the race interest in that part of society which washes and dries our clothes, it is to the laundry workers themselves to solve their own problems, we must see that the organization of the laundry workers' union is right, from the social point of view.

Bad from the business man's point of view, because it will interfere with his liberty and hurt his business by stopping it, if necessary, to enforce demands, the laundry union may seem had to the laundry workers also, from their point of view, and for the same reason. Most of the laundry workers didn't belong to the union, and don't now; and they oppose the strike; and they would prefer now to go back to work. The union leaders have to send strikes out as tickets to persuade the would-be scabs to sacrifice their immediate, individual interest to the welfare of the laundry workers as a whole. This is bad, too; there really should be some other way to make the conditions of that part of the community better. But, taking human nature and facts as they are, we

DIVORCES OUTNUMBER MARRIAGES IN JANUARY

Marriages and divorces increased last month over the corresponding month in 1911. The increase in divorces is much greater than the increase in marriages. These notes are shown by the monthly report of County Clerk Fields, wherein it is set out that the county issued 266 marriage licenses last January against 245 the previous year, and 62 divorces against 56 in 1911.

The total receipts of the clerk's office amounted to \$8952. The total expenses amounted to \$5521, which leaves a total profit to the county for \$3272. There were 16 nonsupport cases handled in the county court during the month. There were 29 insane persons committed to institutions. Men to the number of 15 were admitted to citizenship.

ROADS OF SCOTLAND THEME OF DISCUSSION

(Special to The Journal.) Corvallis, Or., Feb. 10.—An enthusiastic group of road builders met last night at Commercial club rooms. Professor John Fulton talked on the roads of Scotland, he being a native of that country. He told not only what is needed in the way of roads but explained in detail how they should be constructed. The Grange and highway road bills also the Johnson road bill, presented to the legislature five years ago, were discussed by earnest advocates of the respective bills.

INDUSTRIAL FAIR IN BENTON COUNTY

Plans Are Forming for Big Display by School Children.

Corvallis, Or., Feb. 10.—At a date to be set as soon as plans are well under way Benton county will have an industrial school fair. The probable time of the fair is in the latter part of August or the first of September. A committee consisting of R. D. Hesel, chairman, M. S. Woodcock, R. W. Kirk, A. J. Johnson, H. L. Mack, C. A. Dohell, Mrs. Thomas Callahan and Dr. J. R. N. Bell, has been appointed to raise funds and arrange details for the coming fair.

The members of this committee have been assured that if they will raise \$750 in the county outside of Corvallis the executive commission of the Benton county promotion fund will contribute a like amount, making \$1500. When this has been done the citizens of Corvallis will contribute an equal amount, with the understanding that the amount shall be used for prizes.

Benton county held its first industrial school fair five years ago, and it was so great a success that another was held the following year. Owing to the fact that the committees in charge failed to call for exhibits until it was too late, the fair was postponed in 1909. Since that time industrial school fairs have been held in a number of counties of the state with great success, and Benton county has determined to reestablish the annual industrial school fair.

The exhibits of the previous fairs were taken to Salem and placed in the Benton county exhibit, where they materially helped to win for Benton county the prize for the best general exhibit of agricultural products.

It is very probable that the pure bred livestock men of the county will arrange for a stock show to be held at Corvallis at the same time as the industrial school fair.

Chicago Raises Teachers' Pay. (United Press Leased Wire.) Chicago, Feb. 10.—The salaries of 6500 school teachers today have been ordered increased by the Chicago board of education.

Caring for the Unemployed. (United Press Leased Wire.) San Francisco, Feb. 10.—The San Francisco Labor Council today decided to appoint a committee of one from each affiliated union to act in conjunction with a like committee from

A Warning Against Wet Feet Wet and chilled feet usually affect the mucous membrane of the nose, throat and lungs, and la grippe, bronchitis or pneumonia may result. Watch carefully, particularly the children, and for the racking, stubborn coughs give Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. It soothes the inflamed membranes, and heals the cough quickly. Take no substitute.

For sale by Skidmore Drug Co., two stores: Main store, 151 3d St. Branch store, Morrison and West Park sts.

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can see that unless the laundry workers are organized in numbers great enough to control the labor of the laundries as the proprietors control the machinery and the trade, the employers and the employe cannot come together and better the conditions of the trade. Therefore the union, the strike, and the picketing of the laundry workers are necessary—from the social point of view.

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