

Harding Can Take Such a Position, Says H. Hoover, That He Will Force 1924 Selection

By David Lawrence
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Washington, Dec. 2.—Secretary Hoover's remark in an interview on the Pacific coast that President Harding "obviously will be the candidate in 1924," is an observation. Other members of the cabinet here have made the same way.

For some time outside of Washington, it has been an idea that in Mr. Harding's cabinet seat at least three potential candidates were present—namely, Secretary Hoover, Charles and Hughes. All three figured prominently in the presidential campaigns of 1916 and 1920, and their friends are no less for them today.

But Mr. Hoover stated a truism—if Mr. Harding wishes to run again, he is the logical candidate. The Republican party can hardly risk a public repudiation of its own administration by denying a second term to the very man who has been at the head of the administration. Champ Clark was at one time in mind the president of the Mr. Hoover. The venerable speaker of the house had nearly won the nomination in 1912 and was looked upon by many as the man who would carry certain candidate for 1916, but he dismissed the idea with a wave of the hand, declaring that if Woodrow Wilson had made the nomination, he would not have served to be renominated, and if he had made a poor record, then the nomination was not worth having.

MEANING IS SIMILAR
That is precisely the meaning of Mr. Hoover's comment. If Warren Harding's administration ranks high in the esteem of the Republican party—and Mr. Hoover evidently thinks so, because he is a vital part of this same administration—then Mr. Hoover cannot do anything else but nominate Mr. Harding. If it does not wish to do so, it will be proof conclusive that the Republican party is not strong enough on which any Republican candidate can hope to win and the nomination would be an empty honor.

It is, of course, the possibility of a re-nomination that is the key to the situation. Mr. Harding may voluntarily withdraw and that he may not want the re-nomination is a possibility that is known plainly that he does not want to continue the arduous tasks and responsibilities of the presidency. In such event there will be little opportunity for Mr. Hoover to be nominated, and the Republican party did not wish to renominate Mr. Harding and the field would be open to any member of the cabinet.

HOOPER'S PECULIAR POSITION
Mr. Hoover has had a rather curious political experience. He did not seek political attention in the first place, but had it thrust upon him by an overwhelming sentimentality which came to him to get into the contest. He used to tell his friends that because he had no previous political affiliation of an active kind it was a temporary way of interest in his which would pass. Nevertheless, he did try to assist in bringing a proper attitude toward public questions and was a time when he believed his influence might be more helpful if it were kept free from partisan connections. That he hesitates to declare himself as an out and out party man. Some of his friends still think that was where he made his cardinal mistake and that had he been an avowed Republican his nomination on either ticket would have been possible.

No such avowed theory prevailed in Mr. Hoover's mind, but he did come to the conclusion that by party affiliation he might be able to accomplish more than by standing aloof. He has not won the affection of the strict party men since he has been in office because he is not in the habit of playing politics. He has tried to concentrate on the duties of the administration feeling that there was credit enough for everybody in a job well done.

LEANS ON HOOPER
It is an open secret that President Harding leans heavily on Secretary Hoover. Of all the men in the cabinet none played so big a part in the huge administrative machinery of the war as did Herbert Hoover. He is accustomed to doing the big things and accepting large responsibilities. Hence, in many a large emergency it is Mr. Harding's custom to turn to the secretary of commerce even for some matters which do not logically fall in that department or any other. Mr. Hoover does not mind an increase of responsibilities. He is a man of limited appetite for executive tasks. Some of the men in the inner circle who are not accustomed to the Hoover type have upon occasion gotten the impression that he wanted to do other important work and that he had some political motive in the back of his head because of the Hoover cabinet.

The comment of Mr. Hoover that President Harding is the obvious candidate is a significant statement. It will put an end to the talk that men in the Harding cabinet want the presidency at the expense of their chief. And what Mr. Hoover says about the president will be shared by Henry Hughes and Weeks and others who are all anxious to demonstrate their loyalty as well as personal loyalty to their chief.

RICH HERBERT, 85, IS SLAIN IN EARLY BANKS

Ralph Dehinton, Labor Agitator 25 Years Ago, Found Dead in Cabin; Bullet Fired Through Door; Head Burned by Stove.

Banks, Or., Dec. 2.—Ralph Dehinton, 85, reputed wealthy reclusive and well known labor agitator of 25 years ago, was murdered at his cabin home at Hayward, in Washington county, about Monday. No trace of his slayer has been found.

Dehinton was killed by a rifle ball fired through the door. The bullet passed through his head, apparently passing through the door, and entered his chest above the heart. Beside the body lay a loaded shotgun which evidently had dropped from his hand. In falling his head struck the hot stove behind him and the side and back of the head were burned.

CRIME IS DISCOVERED
The body was found Thanksgiving day by a neighbor, George Henner, who took the mail to Dehinton's home. Henner called the coroner, but in the excitement failed to tell that official that any suspicious circumstances surrounded the death of Dehinton. The coroner notified a Banks undertaker to get the body and the latter went for it Friday.

Sheriff Alexander is making an investigation of the case. Dehinton, who lived in Washington county, was a labor agitator for 25 years. He was a man who kept money about his home. He had at one time considerable land, but had sold off much of it.

HE WAS QUARRELsome
He was quarrelsome, and the authorities are attempting to determine whether a quarrel or robbery was the cause of the crime.

USED TO VISIT PORTLAND
About 25 years ago Dehinton made frequent trips to Portland, where he took part in labor tribunals and other arrests. He was widely known in this vicinity as a labor agitator.

Dehinton had lived in Washington county, Oregon, for 25 years. He was a man who kept money about his home. He had at one time considerable land, but had sold off much of it.

Gov. Blaine Raps Mediation Taxes
Washington, Dec. 2.—(I. N. S.)—Tearing into the rich tax dodger as "just as much of a criminal as the embezzling bank robber," Governor Blaine of Wisconsin sharply criticized Secretary Mellon before a gathering here today of notable progressive men and women and out of congress.

"Suppose Mr. Mellon would scourge the profiteers and the millionaires by the same vigor he does lesser criminals," demanded Governor Blaine. "Suppose he would really try to enforce the taxes assessed against the millionaires and the millionaires are powerless to enforce the law against the rich, or is that just a place of delirium in his mind? I would like to see an equality before the law?"

Secretary Mellon said that the government cannot collect taxes due from incomes and surtaxes on excess profits. "What," he meant when he said that is what the profiteers and millionaires do to escape the income and surtaxes is to make false returns, sometimes through fraud, perchance, but often through fraud and deceit, or by legal devices and other tricks of the trade, legally to cheat the government.

Phone Bad; Jury Gives Man \$1000

Minneapolis, Dec. 2.—(I. N. S.)—George N. Grimes, prominent attorney, is slated today over a verdict of \$1000 damages given him by a jury in what he claims is the only case of the kind on record in the country, where a telephone company has been found guilty of giving a subscriber poor service and been ordered to pay the subscriber for "loss of time and annoyance."

"For the past six years I have been hearing the same old words, such as 'The line is busy,' 'They don't answer,' 'But the party hanging up,' and other phrases, repeated to cover up poor service and inexcusable delay," Grimes said.

Grimes sued the telephone company for \$3000 damages alleged to have been suffered over a period of six years for poor service. The company attorneys had been only for the purpose of carrying to the highest court in the land, as to let the verdict stand would open the door to endless litigation brought by other subscribers who were minor and unavoidable lapses in service that no telephone company or management could possibly avoid.

WORKERS TO PLUG CHEST FUND GAPS
The total contributions to the Community Chest up to noon today were \$417,249; the budget is \$468,323, leaving \$231,084 yet to be secured.

The work of solicitation was taken up with added energy Friday morning. Certain districts, both in the residence and business sections, have not yet been visited by solicitors. With a view to closing up these blanks, General E. C. Sammons has issued the following call:

"If your office, store or plant has not yet been solicited for the Community Chest, please call headquarters, Main 5601, so that solicitors may be sent.

"Many calls from all over town have come in expressing the wish to give and the lack of solicitation. This will enable a check on colonels and captains to prevent any general failure of solicitation.

Nathan Strauss has been named chairman of the resolution committee, and he has called a meeting of the board of directors. Plans will be made for some intensive work before the drive ends. A general meeting of the workers of all divisions will be held Monday at the Multnomah hotel.

One hundred and seventy-five women employees of the Chest laundry assembled at the noon hour Friday and heard the Chest message presented by D. A. Norton. Mr. Norton was asked to return Monday, at which time a check on the Chest fund was presented from among the women.

SEN. BORAH SCHOOLS TO SETTLE GRID TITLE TODAY

Idahoan to Head Executive Committee of Bipartisan Legislature; Progressive Movement Declared Complete Success.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Senator William E. Borah of Idaho was elected this afternoon as chairman of the executive committee of the progressive national group composed of both Democratic and Republican legislators.

Others elected to the executive committee were Senators Ladd, Republican of North Dakota; Shepard, Democrat of Wisconsin; Logan, Democrat of Texas; Ashurst, Democrat of Arizona, and Representatives Woodruff, Republican of Michigan; Beck, Republican of Wisconsin; Logan, Democrat of South Carolina, and Collins, Democrat of Mississippi.

The meeting today signaled the opening of the second and final day of the series of progressive conferences to mold the program for progressive, constructive legislation in congress.

It is considered that "the people's legislative bloc," which is the purpose of Senator La Follette when he issued his call to progressives to cooperate with the progressive congressional bloc, "has been fully formed and rendered effective by the exchange of ideas during the two-day conference." Three hundred progressive men and women, in and out of congress, made the movement possible.

Such senators as Capper, chairman of the senate farm bloc, and McNary, Oregon, who are regarded as milder progressives, attended the conference in a rather skeptical frame of mind, and came out of it convinced, they said, that it headed in the right direction.

Harmony was the first objective. So far as could be ascertained after the two sessions Friday, this objective was reached. It was reached by the device of giving all members of the bloc absolute freedom to vote contrary to the group whenever they felt so inclined. No terms, no support, no policies without dissenting, no support at all.

DECISION IS EFFECTIVE
This is the most significant decision that was made. It was the decision that brought the milder progressives into line, and it is this decision that will determine the success of the legislative bloc. It is too small to be effective without them.

Senator La Follette opened the session today with a declaration that those engaged in the new progressive movement were committed to good, sound progressive work and economic thinking. It was announced that (Concluded on Page Eleven, Column Two)

WASHINGTON AND FRANKLIN ARE REPORTED IN FINE FETTLE FOR LOCAL CONTEST; ROOTERS PROMISE TO PUT ON NOVEL STUNT.

Washington, Dec. 2.—(U. P.)—The great trouble with the people on the west side of the Willamette river is that they are not looking far enough into the future. Unless there is a decided change in traffic conditions on the west side, and it is made easier for the people to get into and out of this district, business houses will establish themselves elsewhere so that their patrons can more easily reach them. There are serious features in this traffic situation that must be given our utmost efforts to remedy or the west side will suffer very materially. We seek constructive suggestions and not mere opposition to change.

It was that Mayor Baker set forth his views at the public hearing on one way traffic at the city hall Friday. He declared he is for one way traffic and would "fight the battle through to the end."

Many business interests were represented at the first of a series of hearings to be held on the one way traffic plans presented by a special committee appointed by the mayor. The committee is made up of representatives of the business community that one way traffic might be advantageously applied to automobile traffic, but various speakers urged that the advantages of the proposed change on the ground that it would tend to spread the business district on the west side, create lower rentals and spread the traffic.

John B. Logan was the special spokesman for a group of property owners in the district between First and Third, Yamhill and Washington streets. He admitted that generally it is probable one way traffic would have to be applied to the street and interurban cars, but urged that strict enforcement of the existing ordinance and making the one way rule apply only to vehicles would give relief for a considerable period.

Cobb stated that widening of streets is the only permanent solution of the congestion difficulties, but that a degree of relief could be assured by the enforcement of existing ordinances, and that many minor causes that all tend toward the traffic congestion. He urged that the placing of one way streets on any streets not thus occupied in the downtown district, urging that it would tend simply to increase the congestion.

Other speakers who urged that present street conditions be not disturbed at this time were G. T. Woodruff, president of the Building Owners' and Managers' association, W. F. McKinney of the Oregon State Motor association, and several others.

It is expected officials of the railroads will be present to present their views on car rerouting.

MAYOR FIRM ON ONE-WAY TRAFFIC IDEA

Congestion Remedy Must Be Applied or West Side Will Suffer, Says Baker; Others Would Confine It to Autos.

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Stands Trial PRINCE ANDREW of Greece, brother of the deposed King Constantine and general in the Greek army, who is on trial for his life before the same military tribunal which had six leaders executed this week.

Athens, Dec. 2.—(U. P.)—Prince Andrew, a leader in the Constantine effort to restore Greece to the glory of the Hellenes, went on trial for his life today before a military tribunal.

The former king's brother faced a court martial composed of revolutionaries who sentenced the cabinet members and army leaders who were executed this week.

He is charged with disobeying orders issued by General Papayoyannis for an attack at Palaio, where he commanded an army division during the disastrous defeat of the Greek armies by the Turks in the recent war.

The room was crowded with revolutionaries and sympathizers of former King Constantine as the trial began. Great crowds, excited by the trials and execution, milled outside.

Princess Alice, wife of Andrew, sat by the side of the prisoner. The prince will be allowed only five witnesses to refute the accusations, it was announced.

TIME BELIEVED RIFE TO MAKE GREECE REPUBLIC
Athens, Dec. 2.—Events in unhappy Greece today pointed to another political upheaval which may result in the angry Hellenic peoples driving George, the new monarch, into exile with the luckless ex-king, Constantine. As in other Greek crises, former Premier Venizelos, now attending the Near Eastern peace parley at Lausanne, emerges as the "man of the hour." It is understood that the friends and adherents of the aged statesman are not unwilling to participate in another coup similar to the one during the war which resulted in the rule of Greece by the aged Cretan.

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INCENDIARY WIPES OUT ELKS' TEMPLE

Fire From Basement Completes Destruction of Oregon City Fraternal Lodge; Damage Is \$30,000; Insurance, \$14,000

OREGON CITY, Dec. 2.—Oregon City's firebug, according to Fire Chief William Prieb, caused the loss early this morning of the Elks Temple, Seventh and Water streets. Damage is estimated at \$30,000, with \$14,000 insurance.

This is the tenth suspicious fire in Clackamas county this year. Losses in these fires have aggregated \$288,450.

The flames started about 2:30 o'clock in the bowling alley in the basement where, according to Prieb and John Moore, steward, no rubbish, furniture or other inflammable material was stored. The collapsed floor of the bowling alley, they say, makes virtually impossible the theory at first held that the fire was due to a careless smoker.

Moore said he left the building at 12:40 o'clock this morning after making the rounds. He said that at that time everything was apparently in good shape, including the furnace. A meeting of the Elks lodge had been held in the basement.

The alarm was turned in at 2:20 o'clock by a roomer in a lodging house next door. The fireman worked for a quarter of an hour alone, when a general alarm was turned in, calling out all volunteers in the city. The dense smoke that poured from the building for half an hour saved it from flames, which burned steadily for more than an hour. Nearby dwellings were saved, but the building, with its entire contents, was a total loss.

The front cornice of the building collapsed into the street. Both floors of the building were gutted. The roof fell in, the four outside walls remaining.

Immediate plans for the construction of a new temple in the same site were announced. The committee is composed of Don W. James, W. Brown and Bill Logan. The public is invited.

Investigations of the suspected fire in Oregon City and Mount Pleasant this year have been made by Chief Prieb and the fire department in other cities. No prosecutions have resulted.

\$1,600,000 CITY BUDGET APPROVED
Approval of a \$1,600,000 improvement work program as planned by the department of public works of Portland for 1923, has been given by the tax supervising and conservation commission. The exact amount to be allowed in the city budget for engineering and inspection fees, etc., is not yet settled. The commission instructed its engineer and auditor, R. G. Dieck, to prepare estimates on the cost of handling the program, which may result in the city budget for the next fiscal year. The amount asked for in the city budget will be reduced in quite certain, as this was indicated by Chairman Muller. The program was approved by the city commissioner, who is to finish the city crushed rock from Kelly Butte at \$125 per cubic yard, whereas the cost of the material is \$125 per cubic yard. Approval also is given to the item of \$10,000 for maintenance of macadam streets.