

Independence Enterprise

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MORAL PRINCIPLE

Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin, in a recent issue of his great political magazine, laid special stress upon the duty of the republican party to declare for certain well-defined principles, not because they were expedient, but because they were right. It has not been always that political leaders laid such stress upon the right as opposed to the merely expedient. The LaFollette idea, however, is the correct one. It is not so important that the party principles should be politic or expedient, but it is essential that they should be right.

This conclusion is a correct one. Not only because no party should commit itself to any policy except a right policy, but because the right policy will win in the end. The average voter is largely swayed by the moral principle in a campaign. Statistics may not move him. Abstract though logical arguments on behalf of certain governmental policies will not cause him concern. But let him understand that there is a moral principle involved, that a question of eternal right is to be determined and he becomes at once active and enthusiastic.

Political campaigns are not so much settled, after all, by appeals to the head as by appeals to the heart and conscience. A bold, fearless declaration for the right simply because it is right, will win support in quarters where a temporising, negative policy would excite dissent or be greeted by apathy.

The duty of the republican party is to stand for what is right. Then it will win because it deserves to win.

THE FIGHTING MICROBE

The fighting microbe must be doing its work in the republican ranks in the United States as well as in other ranks. So much dissension cannot be otherwise caused. And the late convention at Chicago seems to have stirred up the microbe and set it to work. In the republican convention the microbe has occasioned such irritation that actual war has resulted, and the Baltimore convention seems to have been more or less infected with the little creature. It has broken out in Huntington, Oregon, Portland, Albany and other places, and

even Independence is not altogether free from contagion.

Outside of municipal and state affairs the mischievous microbe has been busy getting old friends by the ears, disturbing the peace of families and communities and stirring things up generally.

Among the so-called progressives and friends of Roosevelt there is rampus from the same cause. The fighting microbe seems to have put in its spare time in these circles, and there are others. All these things provoke the peace loving to sorrow and tears.

That dogs should delight to bark and bite is their nature, but for brethren of one party or the representatives of a great people to allow the fighting microbe to gain such dominion over them is caddening. Surely there is here a field for the bacteriologist.

It is well to prevent Texas fever ticks in cattle, the San Jose scale on trees, and the destructive vermin on the hop vines, but there is fame and fortune beyond the dream of ambition awaiting the man who will discover the location of the fighting microbe, and a method of exterminating the same from the human system.

GIRLS VS. HOUSEWORK

A curious manifestation of what is sometimes called American spirit is shown by the refusal of American girls to engage in the service of cook and housemaids. Germans, Irish, French, Swiss and others will readily accept such work, but the American girl looks upon it as beneath her dignity. She will, however, become clerk, stenographer, typewriter, or anything rather than go out to service in a home. The work of the cook or housemaid is easier, the hours shorter and the wages paid today are equally as good. The aversion of the American girl is, therefore, not because of hard work or less pay. The cause must be sought elsewhere.

Without attempting to define the objections of the American girl to domestic duties, it may be said that domestic science in the public schools would scarcely be necessary if the average young lady did not shun the vocation which is so essential in her future home. While we approve of this course of study in the school, and recognize it as one of the very important branches of education under the present conditions, these conditions would not exist if there was a willingness on the part of the girls to accept work in the homes.

A JOKER IN IT

A bill to be voted on November 5, which ought to receive careful attention from citizens and taxpayers, is the measure affecting Oregon's printing. The measure was gotten through the Legislature of 1911, on the last day of the session, by a lobby of Salem printers, who claimed it to be a flat salary bill, in the interest of tax-

payers of Oregon. It was not to take effect until the end of the term of the present State Printer, Willis S. Duniway. But now the authors of the bill have on the ballot an initiative measure to advance the date from January 1, 1915, to December 1, 1912. This causes examination of the bill, and examination brings to light such glaring defects and "jokers" as to make it plain that the whole bill should be defeated, or at least deferred until its bad features may be remedied by the legislature, to meet in January.

The argument of the State Printer, in the pamphlet being mailed to voters, points out the bill's glaring jokers, and it seems highly probable that it never would have gone through the Legislature at all only for the fact that Mr. Duniway was ill in the hospital during the session of 1911, and unable to disclose to the Legislature the jokers in the bill.

The bill's worst clause is found in the second sentence of the seventh section, requiring the state of Oregon to enter into contract for the service of its printers. The union at Salem is pressing for a "closed shop contract," to bar out all printers not members of their union, and to require the state to comply with all the laws of the Salem Union, as well as those of the International Union, now in force or hereafter adopted. That is a most impudent proposition, as it would take the control of Oregon's printing away from the people of Oregon and put it in the hands of the labor union's government. This ought to defeat the bill by an overwhelming vote.

Another bad feature is that it takes the management and direction of the State Printing department away from the officers elected by the people of Oregon and turns it over to a clerk to be appointed by the Governor, the Secretary of the State, and the State Treasurer—no one of them having any knowledge of printing. It gives this officer \$2000 a year and provides him such other clerical assistance as may be required. How many other clerks he will require or what the cost will be no one can guess, but it opens a door to the State Treasury for the men back of the measure. This should be prevented before it is too late, and November 5th, next, is the time to retard this movement.

Another feature is that it requires a bond for the State Printer in the sum of \$10,000, but no bond for the clerk who is given full authority over the State's duty elected officer. And this clerk is given full power in section 12 to say what printing may or may not be done for every official, or for every department of the state; and in section 14 the same clerk is given authority to prescribe the style, manner and materials to be used by the State Printer in the performance of his work. This will give the clerk, whose title is secretary of the board, the power to expend such public money as he desires, in the matter of materials. This is certainly a provision that is indefensible.

In the matter of appropriations, the measure carries but \$20,000, "or so much thereof as may be necessary." Yet it will require seven or eight times that amount of money to carry the measure for a term of two years.

The authors of the bill did not print it in their initiative petition, but State Printer Duniway has printed the measure in full, and will mail a copy to anyone who may write to him at Salem, asking for same.

Senator C. W. Nottingham discusses the business and financial features of the bill, and shows that the measure cannot possibly be of benefit to Oregon's taxpayers. His argument, as well as that of Mr. Duniway, will be found in the pamphlet now being mailed to voters. They appear on pages 104 and 118.

The measure's purpose is to give the union full control, and means increased cost of public printing, at the time when State Printer Duniway has brought down the cost of printing to a very moderate figure. He receives a gross sum of \$38,000 a year, for which he furnishes a large printing plant, buys all inks and power, and employs from sixteen to thirty-five men, or an average of twenty-two printers, pressmen, linotypers, and proofreaders throughout the year paying them an average of at least \$100 a month, each.

The publisher of this paper knows something of the printing business, having been engaged in it for more than a quarter of a century, and we wish the readers of the Enterprise to know that the so-called flat salary law is a delusion and a snare. All taxpayers will be serving their own interests by voting no on this printing bill.

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DEAN J. PURVINE,

ARCHITECT.

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