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RULES GOVERNING CONTEST:---All compositions to be in before 8 P. M. Saturday, May 18th. Age and name of contestant to be written plainly on outside of sealed envelope. Deposit compositions in sealed box at Bend Hardware.

Points Awarded as Follows:---50 Points for Argument. 25 Points for Neatness. 25 Points for Composition.

BEND HARDWARE COMPANY

PRIMARY RACE NARROWS DOWN

(Continued from Page One.)

of that committee. This may seem peculiar in light of the fact that a public endorsement was given for Moser. But the endorsement was based upon the attitude taken by Moser during the last session of the legislature on the anti-picketing bill. His followers insisted that Moser was entitled to the endorsement from the stand taken there, and so he got it.

Moser Not a Winner.
But getting an endorsement from labor, and getting a majority of the votes of organized labor are two separate and distinct propositions. No one expects Moser to get any particular share of the labor vote now. Labor likes to vote with a winner and it is conceded on all sides that Moser is not a winner, or anything like a near winner.

The fact is that, the Moser boom has "busted." Likewise the Simpson boom has "busted." The Anderson boom was never there to "bust," and it is even predicted by some that Harley will beat Anderson.

The whole thing, with the primaries a week away, simmers down to the old story that there are but two booms for governor now on the political market, and these are the booms for Withycombe and Olcott. One of the other of those two gentlemen will land right side up with care

after the primaries next Friday with the Republican nomination tucked safely into his pocket, unless some great upheaval occurs within the next week. There seems no possibility of an upheaval that could dislodge both of them, so it will be the wise gambler that keeps his money in his pocket, if he has a hunch to bet on any but one of those two.

No Talk But Withycombe.
This is the consensus of opinion on all hands. In Portland there is no other talk but Withycombe and Olcott as probable winners, although Simpson will get some votes there and in Southern Oregon.

But the man with the spotted strength never did have a chance in a primary election in Oregon. He may gain big leads in one or two sections, but the man with the strength all over comes up behind his leads and fairly gobbles them up with his little pluralities in every precinct. Both Withycombe and Olcott have strength all over. This strength will eat up any leads that Simpson may gather from a favorite son standpoint. The result will depend upon who has the most strength all over—Withycombe or Olcott.

There is no denying the fact that each one of those last two named candidates have a following in every precinct in the state, and Simpson will have to spend more money, and Gus Moser will have to shoot more hot air, than they have ever spent or shot before, ere they overcome the

mighty handicap against them. As it is, Gus has fairly talked himself out of the race and is no longer a factor to be considered. Those who have a record as being the best depositors give Gus the fourth place at the best in the state at large, with him dragging along as third or fourth in Multnomah county.

Woman Dopes It Out.
A woman, who has acquired considerable of a "rep" as a "politicker" since suffrage came into vogue, made an interesting assertion the other day. She said that if Simpson could be in every town in the state the day before election he would stand a good chance of not receiving any votes at all. Harley is one of those kind of candidates that cause a shudder to run up and down the spine of the ordinary citizen when sizing up the Astoria candidate at close range. If he could be placed on exhibition all over the state his chances would go glimmering. But, as it is, he is apt to get quite a considerable vote, although he hasn't a ghost of a chance for the nomination, and if by any chance he got it any respectable Democratic candidate would eat him alive.

Mud Slinging Creeps In.
Apparently editors of the big papers with Republican leaning are putting on the soft pedal as much as possible this campaign to prevent opening running sores before the primaries which might not heal before the general election. In spite of all they can do, some nasty mud slinging has crept into the campaign. This is not true so much among the candidates themselves as among their alleged friends, and it is possible that more than one candidate may go down to defeat at the coming primaries because he has been a victim of his friends. But it must be said to the credit of the big dailies that the campaign this year, at least the last three weeks of it, has been the cleanest that has been waged for many a year.

Walter Pierce, who evidently will be the Democratic nominee for governor, is somewhat of a bugaboo to the Republicans and at all odds, whatever happens, no dyed-in-the-wool Republican cares to see Walter in the executive chair. Walter is a radical of the radicals and under right conditions he might become a formidable contender in the race before the general election if the Republican party is sufficiently split by a nasty pre-primary fight.

Pierce Strong on "Sob Staff."
Walter could almost weep his way into the office if he could muster sufficient audiences to watch his tears. He has a resonant voice, which gradually becomes liquid as he warms himself to his work as a spellbinder, and the first thing the listener knows the tears are fairly coursing down his cheeks. A too-sympathetic listener suddenly finds himself weeping along with Walter, and then Walter knows he has speared the sympathetic listener for his very own. Walter's tears, and a life sized scrap in the Republican primaries, might do some

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real damage. Republican leaders know it, the editors know it, and none of them want Walter.

McNary Good Republican.
Stanfield has stirred things up a little by hinting that Senator McNary's Republicanism is in doubt. John McNary, the senator's brother, has come back with a red-hot reputation of the Stanfield argument and has pointed out that his brother, the senator, has a record for Republicanism of which any man with a party sense might be proud. As chairman of the Republican central committee in 1916 he carried Oregon over the top for the Republican presidential nominee, the only state to turn the trick west of the Mississippi river. He was appointed to the senate by a Republican governor, whose Republican principles have never been called into question. He was formerly president and one of the organizers of the Young Men's Republican club of Salem and since a mere child he has been an advocate of Republican principles.

Stanfield accused McNary of supporting West for governor in the primaries when he ran against Bowerman, the Republican nominee. The writer, through personal knowledge, happens to know that this is a mere fabrication. The Republican nominee in that campaign had no stauncher supporter than Charley McNary. The writer also happens to know that West knew this very thing when he appointed Charley McNary as justice of the supreme court, and he commented upon it at the time. This is no hearsay because the writer was in a position to be personally familiar with these facts, and for many years he has been in a position to know personally that Oregon has had no stauncher, truer Republican than Charley McNary. When Bob Stanfield makes the assertion that McNary is not a Republican he does so upon poor advice. It may be said in all candor and fairness that Stan-

field would not make the statement if he did not believe it, because Bob Stanfield is square and no one who knows him has ever accused him of being anything else but square. He has been misinformed, that is all. But anyone who questions the Republicanism of Charley McNary knows not whereof he speaks. McNary was a good enough Republican to be president of the Taft-Sherman club in 1912, and a good enough Republican to put Hughes over in Oregon in 1916. A man who championed those two candidates can scarcely be brought to task for his Republicanism.

Burdick After Speakership.
Whisper has it that Denton G. Burdick of Redmond has speakership aspirations. The whisper became rather loud not long ago when Burdick was in Portland and confided as much to his friends. Herb Gordon of Multnomah and Seymour Jones of Marion have similar aspirations. Of course all such aspirations are frustrated upon the aspirant being first elected to the legislature. There seems little doubt, however,

that Burdick, Jones and Gordon will all fulfill their aspirations to be elected.

Gordon told friends in Portland that he is quite anxious for the speakership job and that he believes he could get a good following if he stepped out after it. Some of his friends advised him not to try it, but whether this dampened his ardor or not has not been learned. Chances are that he will be in the race, if he is elected. So far he is the only Eastern Oregon man whose name has been suggested as a candidate for either the speakership of the House or the presidency of the senate.

Just as an aside, A Portland candidate dropped into Salem the other day and was engrossed in conversation with the writer in the capitol lobby. Another candidate came swinging around the corner.

"What are you trying to do, get your name in the Bend paper?" remarked the second candidate to the first candidate.

"Oh, is this the man who puts the Bull in Bulletin?" commented the first candidate.

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