

# CHARGES AGAINST BOURNE UNTRUE

Committee Appointed by Municipal Association of Portland Says Mr. Bourne Has Been Slandered.

## CHARGES NOT BACKED BY SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

Many Witnesses Called, But None Can Testify to Any Improper Conduct in Headquarters During Famous Legislative Session of 1897.

PORTLAND, May 25.—That the charges of improper proceedings in the Bourne headquarters at Salem were not founded on fact is the conclusion the investigating committee of the Municipal Association has reached after spending several days taking testimony. The committee makes no indorsement or recommendation concerning the choice of a United States senator, for it was not appointed for that purpose. The committee, consisting of three responsible and disinterested citizens of Portland, was directed to investigate the truth of charges that were made in anonymous circulars which were widely distributed in Portland. The investigation was undertaken at Mr. Bourne's request, because the charges were of such a nature that, if true, a moral issue would be involved in the contest for the senatorship.

The men appointed were all strangers to Mr. Bourne, he never having met one of them prior to the time the investigation was undertaken. Two of them he never met until after the committee had completed its investigation. It is known that one or two members of the committee entered upon the investigation with impressions unfavorable to Mr. Bourne. The report is therefore without bias in his favor.

The committee not only cross-questioned every person who came before it but sought out every person who could be located who pretended to know anything of the facts. Many persons were found who had heard the rumors, but none who knew the accusations to be true.

On the other hand, a number of prominent men who were frequent visitors at the Bourne headquarters and who would have seen improper conditions if any existed, testified that they saw nothing wrong. Men who lived in the Bourne headquarters refuted the stories that had been told by Bourne's political enemies.

The committee not only sought direct, positive testimony, but inquired of those who possessed hearsay evidence, but were unable to find even by that means any one who would say that the charges against Mr. Bourne were true. The committee also advertised its sittings so that any person not personally requested to appear might come in and tell what he knew. The men who testified did so under oath, and their testimony was taken in shorthand and preserved as part of the report.

The following witnesses appeared before the committee and gave their testimony under oath, namely: John D. Daly, Henry E. McGinn, Will R. King, W. S. U'Ren, Ben Selling, Edgar B. Piper, Frank C. Middleton, William W. Banks, H. S. Hudson, J. C. Bayer and David L. Povey.

The committee, consisting of Earl U. Bronaugh, Samuel Connell and H. Russell Albee, reports that the evidence adduced shows that at both the session of 1897 and that of 1903 headquarters were maintained by Mr. Bourne in what is known as the Eldridge block in Salem, where lavish hospitality was extended to all visitors. The testimony adduced does not show that the charges aforesaid were founded on fact or that lewd women were ever about said headquarters or that said place was the rendezvous of intoxicated or disreputable persons. In fact, several witnesses testified that such a state of affairs did not exist. Various rumors that hearsay reports of the nature of said charges have been communicated to the members of your committee outside of the sittings, and efforts, as diligent as possible within the time at our disposal, have been made to secure evidence as to said rumors that could be embodied in this report, but such efforts have been fruitless, as witnesses disclaiming personal knowledge as to common repute have been unwilling to testify before the committee.

### STATE PRINTER.

If a proposed amendment to the constitution of Oregon is adopted by the people in the coming election the office of state printer will be absolutely in the hands of the legislature. The office at present is fixed by the constitution and it is required that the public printing shall be done by the state printer. Not so under the proposed amendment, which says that laws may be enacted for the state printing and binding and for the election or appointment of a state printer. This leaves it entirely optional with the legislature whether it secure the printing by contract, provide for the election or appointment of a state printer, or abolish the office altogether.

The little word "may" in the amendment proposed gives to the legislature the latitude it will have in doing as it pleases with the office, and it would seem on the face of the amendment that if the legislature were disposed it could legislate the state printer elected in June out of office entirely, and let the printing out to any one it chose to favor. Section 1 of Article XII of the constitution, as it stands, is as follows:

"There shall be elected, by the qualified electors of the state, at the times and places of choosing members of the legislative assembly, a state printer, who shall hold his office for four years. He shall perform all the public printing for the state which may be provided by law. The rates to be paid him for such printing shall be fixed by law, and shall neither be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected. He shall give such security for the performance of his duties as the legislative assembly may provide."

Following is the text of the proposed amendment:

"Section 1 of article 12, of the constitution of the state of Oregon shall be, and hereby is, amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. Laws may be enacted providing for the state printing and binding, and for the election or appointment of a state printer, who shall have had not less than ten years' experience in the art of printing. The state printer shall receive such compensation as may from time to time be provided by law. Until such laws shall be enacted the state printer shall be elected and the printing done as heretofore provided by the constitution and the general laws."

### SERVICE MEDALS.

Many Members of Company D, O. N. G. Entitled to Them.

A new ruling provides for the issuing of service medals to the members of the Oregon National Guard. Every soldier who has served honestly and faithfully for five years shall be entitled to a silver medal with bar. For a like service of ten years he shall receive a gold and silver enameled medal with enameled bar. For fifteen years honest and faithful service he shall receive a silver and gold enameled medal with gold bar. All medals to be according to the design adopted by the military board and kept in the office of the adjutant general of the state.

A number of the members of Company D will be entitled to medals under the new ruling. Captain Bartelle has served for fifteen years, and all who know his record must acknowledge it has been faithfully. Lieutenant William Moore has been a member of the Guard for ten years, and several are five-year men.

### VINDICATES MR. BOURNE.

The principal objection to Jonathan Bourne at the primary election was the talk about his conduct at Salem nine years ago, and it was given considerable credence. He had ignored the malicious stories until the circulation of them by printed circulars through the mail, when they have been branded as false by men of unquestioned character and standing. Republicans who before believed the stories now have no hesitancy in supporting Mr. Bourne.—Hood River Glacier.

### Oregon Sets the Pace.

Albany Democrat: The same old gag: The entire nation is watching to see how the election will go.



HOW



FRANK BENSON, Republican Candidate for Secretary of State.

The sincerest tribute that can be paid to superiority is imitation. The many imitations of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve that are now before the public prove it the best. Ask for DeWitt's. Good for burns, scalds, chafed skin, eczema, tetter, cuts, bruises, boils and piles. Highly recommended and reliable. Sold by A. E. Crosby.

The Observer for the news.



A. M. CRAWFORD, Republican Candidate for Attorney General.

VOTING STRAIGHT. Leading Republicans Supporting the Straight Ticket.

Will Vote Straight. The recent election was a fair election. The successful candidates are the choice of the Republican voters and the choice was registered in the manner prescribed by law which the people themselves adopted. Such a nomination should mean something. In my opinion the candidates so nominated are entitled to the support of the Republican electors. While portions of the ticket are unsatisfactory to me, I shall vote it straight.—Wallace McCamant.

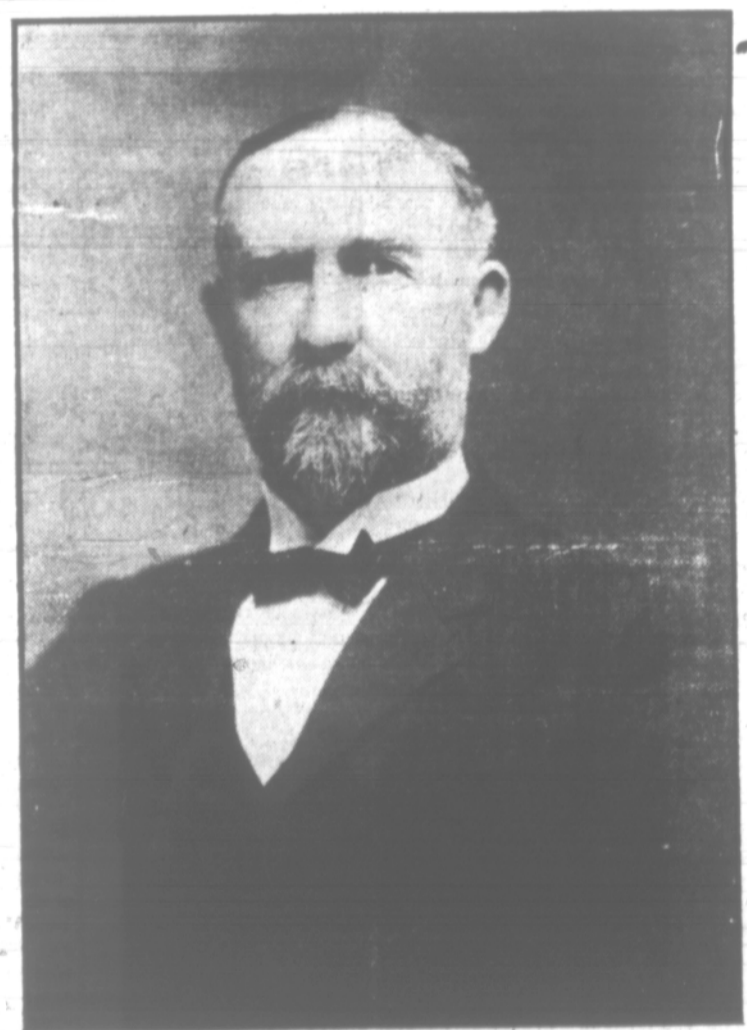
A Good Ticket. "The ticket is a good one, and, as it has been fairly nominated, it should, in my judgment, receive the universal support of Oregon Republicans. I shall certainly give it my hearty support, and hope to see every man elected, from United States senator down."—T. T. Geer, ex-governor of Oregon.

Will Be Supported. The state conference of Republicans held in this city last October had but one purpose in view, that of creating and maintaining a sentiment of loyalty to our party's nominees, and I am pleased to believe that the spirit of loyalty engendered at that conference permeated the 750-odd precincts throughout this state, to the end that the nominees of our party, for state offices in particular, will be supported by the Republicans of Oregon on the 4th day of next June.—Frank C. Baker.



J. H. ACKERMAN, Republican Candidate for State Superintendent of Schools.

"It is a good ticket and should be elected from United States senator down."—T. T. Geer, ex-governor of Oregon.



JAMES WITHYCOMBE, Republican Candidate for Governor.

# WORK OF OREGON STATE GRANGE

Asks that State Be Redistricted Into 80 Representative Districts and Adoption of Recall or Imperial Mandate.

## NEXT STATE MEETING TO BE HELD AT HOOD RIVER

Grange Assumes Position on Number of Questions at Issue in the State—Other Matters Relating to the Order and Its Work.

The Oregon State Grange closed a busy session at Albany last Friday evening. During the session officers were elected and installed for the ensuing term of two years.

Austen Y. Buxten is master. Mr. Buxten is a farmer of Washington county, and a graduate of the Corvallis Agricultural College, of which his election as master of the Oregon State Grange makes him a regent.

C. L. Shaw of Linn county was elected overseer, Mrs. Clara H. Waldo, lecturer, W. A. Young of Columbia county, steward; A. N. Warfield, of Benton county, assistant steward; Oscar Eaton, of Clackamas county, chaplain; H. Hirschberg, of Independence, treasurer; Mary S. Howard, of Multnomah, secretary; E. C. Hauffman, of Montavilla, gatekeeper; Mary Grisenthwaite, ceres; Mrs. Durbin, Pomona, Rosa Littlepage, Flora, and Mrs. Ollie Mason of Hood River, lady assistant steward.

Wasco county was signally honored by this grange, as Hood River was selected by a unanimous vote as the meeting place of this body the fourth Tuesday of May, 1907.

Among the important features of legislation asked for by the grange, is the redistricting of the state into 80 representative districts, each electing one representative to the legislature; the imperative mandate or recall of public officers by a vote of the people in case of malfeasance in office; the placing of the state printer on a flat salary; use of contract labor in public road building assessment roll and state meeting of assessors; and the limitation by national legislation of great wealth. This latter is proposed to be accomplished by means of a tax upon inheritances or conveyance of wealth beyond a certain sum.

There were 54 voting members present, but over 400 visiting members during the sessions. Sixty-six candidates were initiated into the fifth degree and 84 into the sixth.

### A Lot of Jays.

It is time for the Republicans to get together now and elect the ticket from stem to stern. There is no sense in electing Democrats in a state as strongly Republican as this. It is absurd that in a state that gave Roosevelt 40,000 majority we should have a Democratic governor and United States senator, a Democratic mayor in Portland and a Democratic sheriff in Multnomah county. Republicans on the outside must think we are a lot of jays.—J. Frank Watson.