LAWSON'S FIGHT ON STANDARD OIL

Already The Giant Highwayman of Commerce is Begging For Mercy.

A gentleman who is more or less conversant with Mr. Lawson's plans says:

"Although I have not always agreed with Mr. Lawson in his views of things, I have always considered him a daring operator and a remarkable man in many respects. For the past few weeks there has been much discussion in his loudly-beralded campaign against the Standard Oil forces. In a great many quarters the belief has obtained that this war would never reach a very troublesome state for the Standard Oil interests, yet at the same time his friends have stoutly maintained that not only would his fight amount to something, but that he would win it. The forthcoming series of exposes of Standard Oil methods by Mr. Lawson, the first of which is about to make its appearance, will, it is believed by those who have had an inkling of the character of his statements create a profound sensation throughout the country. The means adopted to advertise this series of articles will be unique in the history of advertising; just what some of these will be I am no: at liberty to say, but it is violating no confidence to state that some of them will arouse the keenest possible public interest. Friends of Lawson claim that the serenity of the Standard Oil camp has been seriously disturbed at the prrospects of a prolonged campaign engineered by Lawson, particularly as they now have Heinze in a position where they know what to do with him.

"It is claimed by certain people in Boston that Standard Oil shadows are dogging Mr. Lawson's footsteps, are following the movements of his associates with scrupulous care, are haunting the premises where the first installment of the 'Story of Amalgamated' in all its sinister details is being prepared for publication; and it is claimed they have secured an imprint of the initial chapter of the expose of Standard Oil methods. As a result a number of persons have been carefully served with legal warnings to desist from participating in the publication of the Amalgamated memoirs. A number of times wihin the past few weeks representatives from the Standard Oil offices have interviewed Mr. Lawson and endeavored to effect a settlement of the difference between himself and the working head of the Standard Oil combination-H. H. Rogers-but without result. The Lawson ultimatum of restitution to Bay State Gas shareholders and Amalgamated Copper company shareholders remains without amendment. Says Mr. Lawson: 'There can be no deviation from this.'

"Samuel Untermeyer, whom I regard as one of the ablest financial lawyers in the United States, has paid repeated visits to the Boston operator and has urged upon him the advisability of coming to terms, but the latter has invariably answered that his fight cannot be settled upon The biggest and best stock. a money basis. Undermeyer, it is

claimed, has come back repeatedly after many rebuffs, only to be met with the same answer. The strongest pressure was brought to bear when the proof sheets of the first installment of Lawson's Amalgamated memoirs were secretly conveyed to the Standard Oil office. For several days the wires were bot with messages from Standard Oil headquarters to the headquarters of Mr. Lawson, but without result. Surrounded by a corps of expert stenographers, Lawson has for days been shut up in his offices plotting out his story and composing the text of his remarkable statemenst to the public. He has done no other work. This expose, in all the fullness of detail, promises to be one of the literary-financial sensations of the year. In technique it will range from the poetic to the tragic. There will be pen portraits of persons so graphic in character that the intimacy of the writer with the man whom he discusses will be impressed upon the minds of the readers. Descriptions of incidents will convey the same impression. The arraignment of Standard Oil methods by one conversant with the ways of these money kings of the twentieth century will be one of terrible significance."

Lawson tells one: "I am in this fight to a finish.""-Statist.

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