

The Santiam News.

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The Santiam News

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ASSEMBLY SCHEME EXPOSED

Senator Jonathan Bourne Shows the Real
Purpose of the Schemers

Deer Park, Md., July 23.—Nomination of candidates for public office in so-called "assembly" is the first step toward the restoration of the convention system and the overthrow of direct legislation, direct nominations and other progressive measures adopted by the people of Oregon. All voters who believe in the right of the people to govern themselves and who oppose return to the corrupt methods so prevalent in the past, should join in defeating every candidate who seek or accepts an assembly endorsement. By such determined action efforts to revive political machines can be most effectively ended.

The assembly movement did not have its origin in a general popular demand. On the contrary, the plan was devised by would-be political bosses who thoroughly canvassed the state, enlisted the aid of former political leaders wherever assistance could be secured and by constant agitation and persistent urging induced a few persons in many precincts to designate delegates to the county assemblies. Only by this means could a semblance of popular selection of delegates be maintained and it is notorious that in many instances the number of voters present was less than the number of delegates chosen, thus demonstrating that the assemblies thus composed cannot be representative of public opinion. Political bosses are attempting to force Oregon Republicans to accept dictation from an undesired assembly made up of delegates chosen by a relatively small number of voters.

In other words, a coterie of would-be political doctors has declared the people of Oregon to be suffering from ills purely imaginary and employed themselves to prescribe a remedy. They also assume the right to mix the dose and expect the people to swallow it without a grimace. Later, they will expect the people to pay the bill in the form of legislation for special interests and distribution of political rewards. Unless I mistake the temper and intelligence of the people of Oregon, the dose will be refused, the prescription will be declined and there will be no bill to pay.

Lacking the courage to make a direct assault upon progressive laws which have been enacted in Oregon, self-constituted leaders have planned an indirect and covert attack. By which means they hope to be successful. Their pretension of allegiance to the direct primary law is but the kiss which precedes betrayal of their master, the people of Oregon. In an attempt to fortify their position they quote Governor Hughes, of New York, as favoring an assembly prior to the direct primary in that state, but they have not the honesty to submit to the people of Oregon, under the initiative, the question whether the people desire the Oregon law amended by restoring the convention system. They are not willing to trust the intelligence of the people even in this.

The issue presented is not one of personalities, but of principles. Doubtless, the guiding spirits of the assembly movement, in the hope of reinstating themselves in power, have tried to select as candidates men who are as free as possible from objection on personal grounds. They hope thus to accomplish a double purpose, secure the assistance of influential citizens and deceive the people generally as to their ultimate objects. But the principle at stake is of vastly more importance than the personal interests of any individual. The issue involves the right of the members of a party to select their candidates without dictation from a party boss who is willing to spend time and money necessary to build up a machine organization.

It is fruitless for advocates of the assembly plan to assert that there is

no intention to restore the evils of former days. Wherever irresponsible political machines exist, misrepresentative government obtains. Only by making all public servants responsible directly to the people and to them alone, can best service be secured. An obligation to a party boss or to manipulators of conventions is inconsistent with faithful service in the interest of all the people.

Voters who have lived long in Oregon need not be told of the evils of the convention system in this state. Those who have in recent years made their homes among us have observed the operation of the "system" in other states and are familiar with its results. Return to that system in Oregon means repetition of the disgraceful scenes which were exhibited in elections and in legislation prior to her popular government demonstration.

In an effort to conceal their selfish purpose, the leaders of the assembly movement pretend to be deeply concerned over the alleged disruption of the Republican party. They assume anxiety for the unification of the party. They ignore what everybody knows to be the fact—that party disruption grew out of the methods of convention managers and that some of the men who now plead so earnestly for party loyalty and harmony have been responsible for party defeat. Supremacy of principles is of more importance than supremacy of party, and he is an enemy of the party who leads it into abandonment of the fundamental principles of popular government.

Loyal observance of the spirit of the direct primary law and subordination of selfish interests to the welfare of the state, will do more than anything else to unify and strengthen the party. The assembly is designed to nullify the primary law. Success of the movement will be followed by attacks upon the initiative and referendum and other progressive laws. Because this is but the first step in the general attack and because it is wrong in principle, I assert that every man who has accepted an assembly nomination, either expressly or by acquiescence, should be defeated either in the primaries or at the general election.

The people of Oregon are again on trial. Will they be betrayed into returning to the former days of legislative and administrative special privilege auctions? Are they stupid and ignorant animals, incapable of self-government, or are they the most intelligent people in the world, as demonstrated by their popular government laws which they now enjoy, but which the assemblyites evidently wish to deprive them of? Success or failure of the assembly movement will furnish the answer.

JONATHAN BOURNE, JR.

AT THE FAIR GROUNDS

About Twenty Running Horses Will Contest
For the Purses

That the track events at our coming Fair will surpass those given at either of the previous Fairs, seems now assured. There are now sixteen racers at the Fair Grounds stables in active training and the number will be increased to twenty before the week end. These are all gallopers; the harness horses will arrive later on.

The track has been worked down to good condition and with the daily application of water, via the sprinkle wagon, it will soon be all that can be desired. Having a bountiful water supply on the Fair Grounds, simplifies matters greatly, besides reducing the expense of the water problem fully two-thirds.

Of the horses now in training, Mr. Galbraith, of Oakland Cal., has 4; Mr. Winningham, of Fresno Cal., has 3; Geo. Brown, of Corvallis, has 4; Wm. Abel, of Marshfield Ore., has 3; Mr. Boyton, of North Yakima Wash., has 4, and W. W. Percival, of Independence, will arrive this week with 2 more. Portland is expected to send up 3 more horses within the next few days.

It would be difficult to assemble a finer appearing bunch of racers on the

A VETERAN EDITOR DEAD

Harvey W. Scott, the Man Who Made The
Oregonian, Succumbs From the
Effects of an Operation

Harvey W. Scott, editor and part owner of the Oregonian, died at Johns Hopkins hospital, in Baltimore, last Sunday afternoon. His death resulted from an operation the day before for a prostatic trouble. Mr. Scott had been ill for three months, though only his relatives and immediate friends were aware of the fact; nor was his illness regarded as being of a dangerous character by those who knew of it.

In the death of Editor Scott, the country at large loses one of the very few old time brilliant editors that had not preceded him and the Oregonian experiences a loss which cannot be repaired. While many people did not agree with the political teachings of Mr. Scott, all acknowledged his transcendent ability as a writer and thinker.

Mr. Scott has had editorial management of the Oregonian almost from its infancy. He has watched it grow from a small 6-column folio sheet to its present mammoth proportions. In fact he has been the Oregonian. Whenever one thought of or mentioned that paper, Mr. Scott was always coupled with the thought. Of course the Oregonian will survive this irreparable loss; yet it can never be just what it was when its masterful editor in chief was at his desk, wielding his trenchant pen.

Mr. Scott came to Oregon when there were but a handful of people in the then unorganized territory. He has been an active participant in its affairs almost from the date of its territorial organization and he has been a part of the affairs of Portland since it was a hamlet in the woods on the west bank of the Willamette river.

Of course Oregon and Portland will continue to prosper, nevertheless one of her most eminent citizens has passed to the realms of the Great Beyond. But Oregon will miss her gifted and self-made adopted son; Portland will miss the man who has made that city notable because of his indomitable energy and brilliancy of mind; but, most of all, the Oregonian will miss the masterful, powerful intellect that has made the Oregonian one of the most influential newspapers of the United States. There is no one who can completely and fully supply the place of Harvey W. Scott.

Notice to Contractors

Sealed proposals for the construction of a one-story, with basement combined, union high school and public school building. Bids will be received until the hour of 7 p. m., Saturday, the 13th day of August, 1910, by A. E. Meyer, clerk of Union high school district No. 1.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of Architect Wm. R. Hand, Flinn block, Albany, Ore., or of the clerk, A. E. Meyer, Crabtree, Oregon. The school board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

A. E. MEYER,
Clerk of Union High
School Dist. No. 1

Clean Up

All property owners are hereby notified to clean up and burn all trash and litter in the alleys and about their premises generally. The fair will soon be here and Scio should present as cleanly appearance as possible.

By Order of City Council,
J. N. WEDDLE, City Marshal.

coast than are now here preparing for the Fair events. Everyone of them seem born for turf contests. Fair visitors are sure to see some splendid bursts of speed, in the various race events and, mayhap see records smashed during the four days of what promises to be the best Fair ever given in Linn County.