

# LAFFERTY REVIEWS 3 YEARS IN CONGRESS

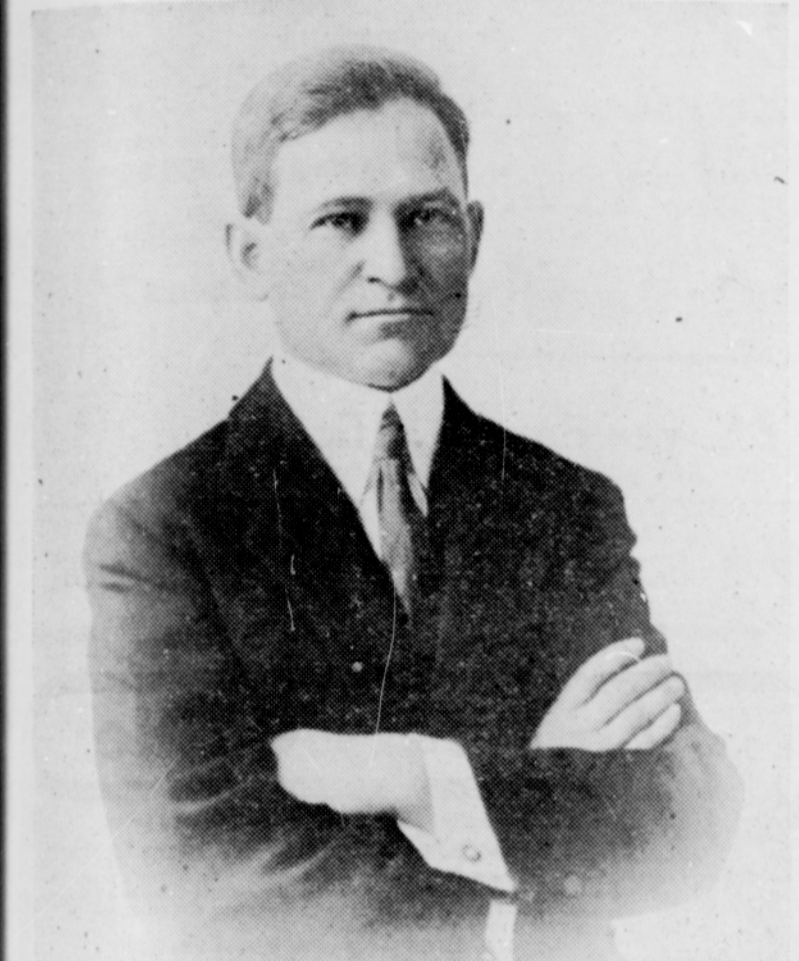
HELPED ENACT PARCEL POST, INCOME TAX, DIRECT ELECTION OF SENATORS, CURRENCY LAW AND ALASKA RAILWAY BILL.

Oregon Appropriation for River and Harbor Work Largest in History of State.

Striving for Government and Municipal Ownership of All Public Monopolies, Including Railway, Telegraph, Telephone and Steamship Lines, Electric Light and Gas Works and Street-Car Systems.

Has Urged and Is Now Urging More Liberal Homestead Laws and Would Give to Oregon the Profits From Her Forest Reserves and Complete Home Rule as to Their Management.

Will Continue to Fight for Enforcement of Railroad Land Grant, on Which Case He Has Worked Without Pay for Seven Years.



A. W. LAFFERTY

(From photograph taken at San Francisco, June 1, 1914, at close of his argument in land grant suit, wherein case was certified to supreme court, insuring early final decision—a great victory for Oregon. Each citizen is invited to call to see Congressman Lafferty personally at his office, 733 Pittock Block.)

The newspapers for two years have absolutely refused to print anything I was doing at Washington, and have deliberately tried to deceive the people into the belief that I was not taken seriously in the national capital, and was not accomplishing anything there.

Let the public speak: At the beginning of my second term I was promoted from membership on the committee on irrigation of arid lands to the committee on interstate and foreign commerce. The latter is the highest committee on which any Oregon member of congress serves.

On the first day of this congress I was selected by the Progressives and Progressive Republicans to present for adoption a complete new set of rules of procedure in the house, requiring among other things, record votes in committees and in the committee of the whole house, so that the public may place responsibility for failure to report bills, or to adopt them in committee of the whole. My motion to substitute these rules failed, but it received six votes more than the combined strength of the Progressives and Progressive Republicans.

When the bill to repeal free tolls was reported to the house, I submitted a minority report. This report was copied in full in many eastern papers, but was not mentioned in a single Portland paper. By a vote of the house, I was given control of a part of the time in the tolls debate. I paraded this time out among my colleagues opposed to the repeal, yielding first to one and then to another. Members get time to speak on a given bill by securing it from the one having control of it.

When the interstate trade commission bill was reported to the house—also from my committee—I made a minority report recommending that the number of commissioners be raised from 3 to 7, and that the commission be given power to control monopolies as well as to "investigate" them. The house turned down my recommendations, but the senate committee, where the bill is now pending, has adopted many of them. The Progressives and Progressive-Republicans voted for my proposed amendments in the house.

During the present session of congress I have secured the passage of 12 private pension bills, the largest number secured by any of the five members of the Oregon delegation. During my three years in congress the appropriations for river and harbor work on the Columbia and Willamette rivers have averaged \$2,000,000 a year, the largest in the history of Oregon. Two years ago the river and harbor bill carried a larger appropriation for my congressional district, at that time taking in eastern Oregon as well as Portland, than for any other district in the United States. Yet, they say I have done nothing in Washington but talk.

My bill has been introduced at each session to compel the return to Oregon of the \$7,000,000 she has contributed to the reclamation fund in excess of the amount she has received. The department has fought it, and made adverse recommendations to the house committee, preventing favorable report. But I have kept at it, and only recently Secretary Lane, recognizing the justice of Oregon's claim, has ordered the building of the West Umatilla project to cost \$4,000,000.

I secured the passage of the Borah three-year homestead bill through the house. The department opposed it and finally succeeded in having an amendment added, requiring that one-eighth be cultivated the third year—20 acres on a 160-acre homestead—which practically nullified the act as to western Oregon. The cultivation of two acres would be enough in a timbered country, and I have a bill

pending to reduce the amount to two acres. I have a bill pending to eliminate all agricultural lands from the forest reserves, and open them to homestead settlers only. The department opposes this bill also, and I shall not be able to secure favorable action unless the president comes to the aid of western settlers, which we expect him to do at the December session.

For seven years I have worked on the railroad land grant case without pay. The opening of that tract of 2,300,000 acres to settlers will be accomplished inside of two years, if the people will back me up, and the result will be an increase in the value of every dollar's worth of property in western Oregon. June 1 the circuit court of appeals, at San Francisco, made an order certifying the case to the supreme court, thus saving at least three years of delay. I started this litigation on August 16, 1907, and I appeared and argued in the case at San Francisco. I shall appear in the case without pay in the supreme court at Washington this winter. I shall keep after this case whether defeated or elected, but if I am repudiated by the very people I am working for it will probably mean the death knell of the case.

My bill to convey the forest reserves in trust to the states wherein they are located, would, if adopted, reduce the taxes of Oregon one-half for all time to come. Oregon has 16,000,000 acres in the forest reserve, worth \$400,000,000. The taxes on that amount at 20 mills, the average rate in Oregon, would amount to \$8,000,000 a year. These lands are kept off the tax rolls, so Oregon loses \$8,000,000 in taxes annually thereby. My plan is to have the government convey the forest reserves in trust to the states, not absolutely, but upon condition that the states shall not sell any of the land, but shall hold it forever for forestry purposes, and shall only market the ripe timber from time to time, thereby keeping up the present average stand forever. But the sale of ripe timber would net Oregon at least \$8,000,000 a year, and reduce her taxes one-half, thereby compensating the state for taxes lost, and, beside, would give Oregon people employment, and give us home rule. The department is against my bill. If Portland repudiates me, against will say that Oregon is also against the plan. I invented the plan, and am the only man who has such a bill pending.

Besides what I have done to bring about the consideration of laws for the benefit of Oregon, I have voted in the interests of the people on every question that has come up; and even my enemies do not deny this. The five my enemies do not deny this. The five my enemies do not deny this. The five my enemies do not deny this.

My bill for the loaning of treasury notes of the same tenor and effect to the farmers, upon first mortgages not exceeding 50 per cent of the unimproved value of their farms, and at 2 or 3 per cent interest—much more than we are to charge the banks—has received favorable comment from farm journals all over the country, but has not been mentioned in Portland. Of all the rural credit bills pending, mine is the only one which proposes loans of treasury notes direct to the farmers. The other bills authorize the farmers to "organize" for the purpose of borrowing money. They can do that without an act of congress. My agricultural asset currency bill, if passed, would be the greatest stimulus to farming ever enacted in the way of the law. It would save to the people the \$500,000,000 in interest which the farmers are now paying yearly to the money power for the loan of "credit."

Are you surprised that I am hard fought? Look out for real war between now and November 3. Very sincerely, A. W. LAFFERTY, 733 Pittock Block. (Paid Advertisement)

berlain's bill, Senator Norris offered an amendment for the building of 20 government ships connecting the railroad with the states. The amendment received nine votes and the promise of others when the matter shall come up as a separate bill.

This brings me to a brief consideration of government and municipal ownership of public utilities, including steamships, railroads, telegraphs, telephones, electric light and gas works and street car systems.

I am absolutely convinced that the cost of living will never come down to the average citizen till the government shall take over all natural monopolies, and furnish public utility service to the country at cost. I am also convinced that no man or set of men has any right to own a public monopoly, upon which the public must depend for its very existence, and through which individuals can and do invariably, charge the public exorbitant profits. I am not in favor of confiscating the property of monopolies. I favor taking them over at their actual physical value, and thereafter furnishing the service to the country at cost. No one would be hurt thereby. Everyone owning stock in any public monopoly would receive all his property was worth. He would not be entitled to the speculative profits of the future.

Recently I made a speech pointing out how the government could build a fleet of 200 great ocean liners, the largest and finest in the world, to cost \$4,000,000 each, making the total cost \$800,000,000, or twice the cost of the Panama canal, and could yet pay for same in less than 12 years by carrying only half our outgoing and incoming commerce, at the rates it is now carried by the ocean steamship trust. This fleet would have the capacity to carry all our commerce. Since I made that speech, Senator Lewis, of Illinois, has introduced a bill in the senate, providing for 100 government ships. His bill also provides for government acquisition of the railroads. We could take over the railroads at the price they claim they are worth, increase the wages they are paying, and then pay for the railroads in 15 years. But if we take them over, it will be at their physical value, which is about half their claimed value, and it is upon the latter that they are now charging the American people freight and passenger tariffs to the tune of \$30.57 per capita per year.

The Glass-Owen currency bill will soon be in operation, and it will revive business, and give to our people as much prosperity as we have ever enjoyed. But even then they will not be getting what they are entitled to, nor will they get their full dues till the measures I herein advocate are passed. But the currency law is a great measure, and it is by far the biggest bill of the present administration.

By the new currency law the country is divided into 12 regional reserve banks. San Francisco is headquarters for this district. Each bank within the district subscribes to the regional reserve association's stock to an amount equal to 20 per cent of the stock of the local bank. When the 12 regional reserve banks are so organized, which will be within a very few weeks now, the government is going to loan to the regional reserve banks all the currency they desire on collateral security. The modus operandi will be this: A local business man wanting to borrow \$10,000, or any other amount, will go to the local bank and deposit his note for 90 days for the amount he borrows. The local bank will endorse the note and forward it to San Francisco to the regional reserve bank, where it will be again endorsed. Then the federal reserve agent, one of whom will be stationed at each regional reserve bank, will accept the note as collateral security for the loan to the regional reserve bank of treasury notes of the United States for the full amount of the note so deposited as security. The government is only going to charge one-half of one per cent interest for the loan of the treasury notes. The treasury notes purport on their face to be obligations of the United States, and are redeemable in gold at the treasury of the United States on demand.

Interest rates, even on short time loans, ought to come down to 4 or 5 per cent under the new law. One London writer says that America's new currency law will have a greater effect on the business of the world than will the opening of the Panama canal. Certain it is that we shall have no more artificial panics, as men can hereafter get money so long as they have property. This is what we call "asset currency."

My bill for the loaning of treasury notes of the same tenor and effect to the farmers, upon first mortgages not exceeding 50 per cent of the unimproved value of their farms, and at 2 or 3 per cent interest—much more than we are to charge the banks—has received favorable comment from farm journals all over the country, but has not been mentioned in Portland. Of all the rural credit bills pending, mine is the only one which proposes loans of treasury notes direct to the farmers. The other bills authorize the farmers to "organize" for the purpose of borrowing money. They can do that without an act of congress. My agricultural asset currency bill, if passed, would be the greatest stimulus to farming ever enacted in the way of the law. It would save to the people the \$500,000,000 in interest which the farmers are now paying yearly to the money power for the loan of "credit."

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## Pleasant Home

Mrs. Brower will give a tea for the benefit of the Ladies' Aid of M. E. church on Wednesday afternoon, July 29. All members and friends are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, of Newberg, are visiting their son-in-law, A. Rich. Mrs. Surber, of Troutdale, was visiting with the Rich family.

Mrs. Saunders, of California, was at the home of her brother, Albert Quay, a few days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton, of Inola, Kansas, are spending the summer with their son and daughter of this place.

Mrs. Whitehead and her daughter Mrs. Ayers, of Portland, were callers at the home of J. W. Lauderback's recently.

Frank Knowlton and his father made a trip to the coast and report it rather cold down there.

Forrest Lauderback has gone to the harvest fields in eastern Oregon.

Mrs. Saettler has been quite sick but is improving now.

Mr. Saettler, who has been working at his trade as harness maker, in Seattle, has come home to spend his vacation.

A mothers' meeting was held this afternoon at the residence of Mrs. I. G. Denny, under the auspices of the Womens' Christian Temperance Union. Mrs. Lillian M. Mitchner of Kansas was not present as was erroneously announced in the last Outlook. However, Mrs. Mitchner will speak on Saturday afternoon, July 24, at 2 p. m. at the Cottrell church and in the evening at 8 o'clock at the Pleasant Home church. A general invitation is extended to hear this gifted woman.

I have here a handy article that sells for ten cents, began the caller. "Don't want it," snapped the woman.

"I didn't think you would buy it," said the caller as he turned to go.

"The lady across the street told me your husband never gave you any money."

"She did eh?" exploded the woman. Give me five of those things you are selling. My husband gives me more money in a day than that old cat gets in a month."

## Lusted

Mrs. Martin and daughter Mrs. Edwards and baby of California, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Robertson.

Mrs. G. Blackburn, of Cottrell, visited her daughter Mrs. Guy Robertson last Wednesday.

Quite a number from this vicinity attended the gun club shoot at Jenne station last Wednesday.

Mrs. Parson's 3-year-old niece, who resides at Mabery had the misfortune to fall and break her leg. Dr. Bittner, of Gresham, was called to attend her.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lusted, of Lents, and Miss Inez Lusted, of Gresham, visited their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. William Lusted last Sunday.

Mr. Jackson, of Scenic Park place, is having a well drilled this week, the depth is about ninety-six feet at present. Mr. West of Portland is doing the work.

## Melrose

Chas. Tallman and family motored over to Chautauqua at Gladstone Sunday.

Elmer Mercer and family and Roy Cuddiford and family are spending a few days at Seaside.

Bessie Strebin is at the coast with the girls' hose team, of Gresham, of which she is a member.

Mabel Wood successfully passed the teacher's examination and will teach the coming winter in Eastern Oregon.

George Jones, Theo. and Ralph Mercer went to the mountains for a few days' outing.

Thos. Wiles has been suffering from rheumatism.

Rev. J. H. Wood and wife attended the quarterly meeting at Troutdale and report a good time.

The fourth quarterly conference of this circuit was held at Pleasant Home Wednesday.

Late potatoes look well in this section. That's the beauty of this soil, it does not dry out like the gravel sections.

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### Powell Valley Gospel Tent.

Sunday, July 26, at 8 p. m. Pastor G. F. Enoch, of Bombay, India, will lecture on India and Its Peoples, relating actual experiences connected with the daily round of mission work. Also on Wednesday, July 29, at 8 p. m. his subject will be The Eastern Question in the Light of Prophecy. Mr. Enoch is an eloquent speaker. Singing begins at 7:30. All are cordially invited. Meetings are in charge of J. Peterson and O. E. Sandnes.

### Irishman—"Three cheers for home rule.

Scotchman—"Three cheers for hell."

Irishman—"You are right; ivery one should stick up for his own country."

## PHOTOS

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