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REPUBLICAN CRITICIZES MR. HUSTON

Expresses the Opinion That Those Who Have Stood by the Party Are Those Who Should Have Republican Support

That man who aspires to a seat in congress ought to have such a political record as will recommend him to the favorable consideration of the members of the party and be of such a character that he himself can point with pride to it, instead of either ignoring it entirely or being constantly called upon to apologize or defend it.

Every man reaps that which he sows, and S. B. Huston, who is now seeking nomination at the hands of the Republican voters of this district as a candidate for congress, finds himself a very plain target for the piercing shafts of ridicule and denunciation. He dare not refer to his political career in asking for the support of Republicans, for he well knows that ten of the best years of his life were spent, in the very county where he now lives, in denouncing the Republican party, its platforms and principles, its men and measures. He has the full consciousness within himself that for ten long years he was actively engaged in condemning and ridiculing the very party whose support he now seeks. Now is all this, had though it is, the worst. It must turn his soul as with a white hot iron, as he remembers that he was brought up a Republican, and that all through his growing manhood and for several years after he came to this state he was proud to say he was a Republican, and then, how in the full possession of his faculties, and after he had arrived at a mature age, he deliberately and cold bloodedly turned his back on the Republican party and spent the next ten years trying to break into office as a Democrat. The man with a tortuous political career of that kind is entitled to allow the public, whose favor he seeks, to inspect him at every close range.

S. B. Huston came to Washington county something more than 20 years ago. He was at that time a Republican and formed a law partnership with T. B. Handley, who was practicing in Hillsboro, but who later moved to Tillamook and who died there quite recently. At this time all of the law firms in Washington county were located at Hillsboro, and all were Republicans. Mr. Huston tells his friends that he left the Democratic party in 1896 on account of the "money" question. But did anybody ever hear him tell why, ten years earlier in 1886, he left the Republican party? I do not see any statement of these important questions in any of his campaign literature. If the memory of men who were then living, and there are plenty of them, is not at fault, Mr. Huston left the Republican party in 1886 or thereabouts on account of the "money" question also.

Huston's first appearance as a candidate for office in Washington county was at the election held on the 7th day of June, 1886, when he was defeated for representative to the legislature on the Democratic ticket. Two years later, in 1888, he secured the nomination for state senator on the Democratic ticket, while the late Hon. Thomas H. Tongue was the Republican candidate. The election was held June 4, 1888, and Mr. Huston was again defeated, receiving 836 votes to 1063 for Mr. Tongue.

In 1892 Mr. Tongue was renominated for state senator by the Republicans and Mr. Huston by the Democrats. At this time Mr. Tongue was a delegate to the Republican national convention and was not able to take much part in the campaign, and, in fact, was at Minneapolis in attendance at the convention when the election took place. The result was that Huston was elected, receiving 1415 votes to 1267 for his opponent. Huston then served in the Oregon state senate for four years as a Democrat. In 1896 he was renominated by the Democrats of Washington county for state senator. The fusion party nominated A. C. Archbold and the Republicans Samuel Hughes. At the election, held June 1, 1896, Mr. Huston received 955 votes, Mr. Archbold 1086 and Mr. Hughes 1407. It will thus be seen that Huston was rather a bad third in this race, and this is a very important fact to remember in view of what happened very shortly afterward. Mr. Huston deserted the Republican party in 1886 or thereabouts, purely and simply for business reasons. There was no Democratic

lawyer then in Washington county, so Huston must needs change his politics to fill this vacancy.

There was no moral question involved here; just a deliberate, premeditated, cold blooded act to advance his business interests and to get into politics. From all this it is difficult to see the real reason why Huston changed back ten years later from the Democratic to the Republican party? He says he made the change because he couldn't stand for silver. But did he, though? It wasn't "free silver" or "free gold" or free anything that made him change his politics in 1886 and isn't it just possible that "free" silver is a mere subterfuge, and that it simply furnished an opportunity for a shifty politician to make another jump?

Remember that in June, 1886, Huston was the Democratic nominee for state senator, and that he was soundly beaten for the place. Remember also that in June, 1896, Thomas H. Tongue, Huston and Tongue both residing in Hillsboro, was elected to congress. This necessarily resulted in taking Mr. Tongue away from home much of the time and the consequent abandonment in great part of his large law practice.

Suppose he had been elected state treasurer in 1896 instead of defeated, what would his politics have been today? Thomas Tongue was one of the most brilliant men who ever sat in congress from this or any other state. Washington county will always be proud of him and will always regret his untimely death. He brought honor to himself and to his adopted state and county. Though born in a foreign land across the sea, he was an ever true and sound and loyal and intensely patriotic American. He was a lifetime Republican, devoted to his party and always eloquent in defense of its principles and platforms. He was not a squarer, a straddler, a traitor to first one party and then another. To compare Huston and Tongue is like comparing a piece of smoky glass with the glistening brilliance of the diamond. And yet Huston, who was Tongue's bitter opponent, twice a candidate against him for state senator, now appears in Republican clothing asking to be sent to fill the place once held by Tongue. Ye gods, its enough to make a saint turn in his grave.

Huston spent ten years denouncing the Republican party. He denounced protection and called it a fraud and a humbug, he was for free trade and a tariff for revenue.

Where does he now stand on that question? He apologized for ever having been a Republican and said the only way he could account for it was that he was young and inexperienced. And do you think the Republicans of Washington county and of this congressional district will have that man in congress? This political freebooter, buccanner and pirate, first sailing under one flag and then another, always looking for preferment and plunder. I have confidence enough in the intelligence of the electors to believe they will do nothing of the kind.

Four years ago the Republican party of this state made the frightful blunder of nominating an ex-Democrat for governor. If by any chance Huston should receive the Republican nomination for congress it would most certainly result in the election of a Democrat in June. There are hundreds of Republicans in Washington county and thousands of them in the district who will sever under any circumstances vote for S. B. Huston to go to congress.

And he is held in just as much contempt by Democrats as he is by Republicans, and justly so, too. There has never been another such example of political perfidy in the annals of public men in the state of Oregon as is afforded by the example of Huston. Men have changed their politics, but the man who has been a deserter of and a traitor to both of the great political parties, and then seeks high position, is fortunately a rare creature. Let the voters of this district on the 20th day of April administer such a stinging rebuke to him that it will serve as a warning to others and make them realize that honesty in politics is just as essential to true success as it is in anything else.

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Mrs. N. W. Clarke, of this city, was one of the successful ones in the word contest given by the Eilers piano house and has received a certificate crediting her with \$100, good in the payment of any piano or pianola at any of the Eilers stores. In view of the fact that thousands entered into this contest, Mrs. Clark is to be congratulated on her ability as a word builder.

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We have 22 acres of fine land south-east of depot to rent or sell in tracts of 5 or 10 acres, with payments of \$5 or \$10 down and \$5 per month until paid out—6 per cent interest semi-annually.

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High School Baseball.

"The" Butler, the professional pitcher, will not coach the baseball team of the high school, as he has accepted the management of the Athens baseball aggregation, but Ralph Cronise, the manager of the High school nine, is corresponding with other baseball stars and hopes to secure a competent coach.

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The resignation of Fred Cary, captain of the team, also struck consternation in the ranks of the baseball devotees at the High school, but the best will be made of the peculiarly embarrassing situation, and a new captain will be selected. Cary is reported to have joined the Willamette university squad, and his action for so doing has been severely criticised by the students of the High school. While Cary's resignation cripples the nine the baseball enthusiasts have not lost heart, and are determined to see the High school make a record this season.

To Assist in Investigation.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 5.—Mr. Miles M. Dawson, of New York, the attorney for the Armstrong Insurance Investigating Committee, arrived here today, to assist the Wisconsin legislative committee in the investigation of the affairs of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.

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GRAND PARADE AT 7:30 P. M.

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Tickets for sale by all the club members or at the Y. M. C. A.
Prices—Girls under 12, 10c; others, 15c.
Boys under 15, 10c.
Numbered reserved chairs, 5c extra.