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CORPORATION BOSS KITTRIDGE SEES DEFEAT

He, Like All Other Bosses, Must Give Way to Men Chosen and Elected by the People--Political Bosses and Corporation Agents Shall No Longer Rule the State.

The Territory of Dakota was ruled by Carpet Baggers for nearly thirty years. While some of the men sent to govern the honest, hardy pioneers were honest and well meaning, the majority were men seeking plunder and office through power given them at Washington. The pioneer settlers protested against the appointment of carpet baggers but their voice was unheeded and their protests treated with contempt. These men came to the territory and did pretty much as they pleased--some of them leading in drunken debauchery with total disregard for virtue. In 1873 the writer sent a petition to the President by the late Col. G. C. Moody, signed by nearly two-thirds of all the voters in the Territory protesting against the reappointment of John A. Burbank as governor, but that big petition and the appeal of Col. Moody were not considered. This infamous carpet bag rule continued until statehood in 1890.

In 1890 the rule of the state political boss and corporation agent began and continued with increasing insolence and arbitrary power until the people under the leadership of Coe I. Crawford smashed the corrupt machine and dethroned the corporation bosses, driving them from power, compelling the railroads to attend to their own business and destroying the power of the men who were running the state as a private graft, and these men compelled the people to pay enormous taxes that should have been paid by the corporations. Every taxpayer in the state has personal knowledge of these facts and know them to be true.

With statehood and a new capital at Pierre, opportunity was given a corrupt lobby to carry on its dirty and devilish work. Members whom the machine lobby could neither purchase nor bulldoze, might be unfortunate enough to surrender to the wine cup which was handy and always full. Once a member got into the hands of these soundrels he was doomed--he must surrender or be exposed, because while the wine flowed free the bawdy attachment of the lobby was used and a man found himself in the clutches of male and female harlots and thus he was forced to surrender to avoid exposure. Many good men have been all but ruined by that heartless gang of corporation tools who did the bidding of the bosses in shameless obedience. This horrible picture of machine rule and corporation politics was witnessed any night the corporation machine needed a victim who in sobriety of manhood could not be corrupted or led astray.

That is the way the machine bosses ruled until Governor Crawford and a reform legislature drove the lobby from Pierre and from power.

South Dakota is not the only state that has suffered from corporation rule. Every western state has suffered from the rule of men who were bribed with passes and temporary power, and every western state has been forced to throw off the corporation yoke, and the fight has been a bitter one.

We are all familiar with the struggle in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, and North Dakota was compelled, like Minnesota, to elect a democrat for governor as a stinging rebuke to the corporation machine that had forced the nomination of a corporation tool.

When Boss Kittredge and Alex. Johnson, of the Northwestern railroad, nominated Elrod before the convention met in Sioux Falls in 1904, the majority of the convention submitted in silence and others condemned the infamous trick. It was the most brazen bit of boss rule ever perpetrated on a long suffering people and the Crawford victory in 1906 was the answer hurled at the shameless ringsters.

In the face of this public record Boss Kittredge comes before the people seeking restoration to power that he may again insult the voters with new methods of corporation control. It takes a man with a large amount of brass to face our people seeking a reelection to the senate where he in contempt for the people, said he had no time to read the rate bill and silently and secretly opposed every move of the President to secure its passage. This is also a matter of public record.

Boss Kittredge must assume that the people of this state do not know what they want.

He must assume that they prefer boss rule to popular government. He must assume that the people

are fools and despise square deal methods.

He must assume that our people want a corporation agent in the senate instead of a man who represents them.

He must assume that the people are ignorant of the power that placed him in the senate and of his efforts to pay the debt.

He must assume that the people of this state are not progressive and care nothing for their rights as citizens and taxpayers, and in this assumption he may feel justified by reading the machine papers who are ready to wear the corporation yoke and sell their constituents like sheep.

Take the men who are supporting Kittredge and you will find some of them are disappointed office seekers who were feeders at the corporation crib, whose overturning by the reform forces made them bitter and in revenge they are willing to betray the people. All states are cursed with such ingrates, and South Dakota is no exception.

Every man who is supporting Kittredge knows his record and they know that he is not now and never has been a representative of the people or the best interests of the state. They know his record as a corporation boss and political dictator who made the machine followers submit to his commands.

Kittredge used to sit in his office at Sioux Falls and issue orders to his henchmen, now he is compelled to go out and seek endorsement from a people he has treated with contempt, and for this he denounces the primary.

The primary is the voice of the people and the boss is afraid of the primary.

Free passes and corporation orders have heretofore made it possible for the big boss to boss the little bosses and compel their obedience to orders, but the primary and anti-pass laws destroyed this infamous condition, and the spirit of reform will sweep the last vestige of the degrading and humiliating disgrace from the state.

The people of South Dakota know Boss Kittredge and his record and they would be unworthy of the trust imposed upon them by statehood did they return such a man to the senate. His opposition to President Roosevelt's desire to prosecute the timber thieves of Oregon is enough to drive him from the senate when honest people have the power to do so. To continue such a man in office would be a menace to honest government, and the writer, who has an intimate knowledge of the honest, law abiding manhood of the state, cannot believe they want such a man to misrepresent them any longer.

He has opposed the reform movement at home from the day he was repudiated at Sioux Falls in 1906, and he is now secretly at work to restore himself and the corporations to power that the people may be plundered some more.

Does he think the great reform wave that is sweeping all the states is only a foolish whim of the people?

Does he think reform is only an accident and will pass away?

Does he think our people are less intelligent and patriotic than the people of Wisconsin who wiped out boss and corporation rule under the leadership of Gov. LaFollette?

Governor Crawford began the reform battle in 1904 in order to place the state government in the hands of the people. He was defeated through treachery and corporation bribery. He continued the battle and the people recognizing the justice of his cause, rallied to his support and helped him drive from power men who were using the state as a private graft. The people had been demanding reform in state affairs for years; they had been demanding that corporation property be taxed like other property but the corporations owned the bosses and nothing was done to bring relief until Gov. Crawford and a reform legislature was elected, and a case in point will explain what has been done in this direction.

Here in Canton the Milwaukee paid taxes to the amount of \$978.46 in 1906; in 1907 under the Crawford system of fair taxation the Milwaukee will pay \$2,492.96, and the good people of Canton have been making up this under-valuation out of their own pockets, because Boss Kittredge and his little bosses were serving the railroads.

Governor Crawford has well and faithfully served the people in state affairs and he will champion their cause in the United States senate.

The people no longer beg and plead for justice and a square deal; they have assumed the power that of right is theirs and will select their public servants hereafter.

The Territory began and continued under carpet bag rule for nearly thirty years and then came statehood with boss and corporation rule which continued with arrogance and impudence until the people under the leadership of our matchless young statesman, Coe I. Crawford, drove the grafters from the temple they had defiled.

Reform has come to stay and let no man be foolish enough to think otherwise.

Norway

Its Geography, Climate, Government, Social Institutions and Resources.

By Hon. R. O. RICHARDS OF HURON.

Christiana, Norway.

Aug. 23, 1907.

To Dakota Farmer's Leader, Canton, S. D.: Different from the Jew, the Scandinavian intermarries with other races, hence his identity is quickly lost in the great multitude of races. Full of sentiment and desire for adventure which seems to be in his blood and each generation fired anew by the fairy tales fed on in the youth, the Scandinavian as a rule is, in a way, a restless individual and a natural sailor; like his half-brother, the Irishman, he is impulsive and will go farther for sentiment than money if his heart is touched; but as a rule neither are good money gatherers; but as respective knights of the rail and sea, they know no fear and are hard to beat.

Denmark, Norway and Sweden at present are separate constitutional and hereditary monarchies. At various times in the past, two and even all three have been united; but the union has never been lasting and while they are near neighbors and friends and their languages are very similar, their manners, thoughts and customs somewhat differ and like all surviving national entities, each is jealous of its own traditions, so it would seem they will do best to keep house separately in the future after the many unsuccessful trials of uniting in the past. They have always had, as it seems, family quarrels among themselves; but it is doubtful if any of them would consent, without a fight, to have any foreign power take the other. Many still do a great deal of talking about the separation of Norway and Sweden but it is pleasing to note the courtesy and kindness with which a Swede is treated in Norway or visa versa, and the best of feeling exists between the Danes and Norwegians, so that this national antipathy so much heard about is only skin deep and its allusion by some, at this time, is merely an evidence of individual puerile human nature.

The royal succession is in direct male line in the order of first born. In default of male heirs, in Norway, the King may propose his successor to the Congress (Storting) and this assembly has the right to nominate another, if it chooses.

The Constitution of Norway adopted May 17, 1814, and patterned after the French and American, vests the legislative power in their Congress. The King possesses a limited right to veto laws passed by the Congress. This royal veto may be exercised twice; but if the same bill passes three Stortings formed by separate and subsequent elections, it becomes the law of the land without the consent of the King.

The King has command of the navy and army and makes all appointments but with few exceptions, cannot nominate anyone but Norwegians to office. The Congress meets every year. Elections take place every three years, when 123 representatives for Storting are elected, 82 from the rural districts and only 41 from all the towns. From this will be seen that the farmers of the country control the government. The Constitution provides that to every one representative from the towns, there must be two from the country, so the Constitution makers safely anchored the control of the national government in the hands of the rural districts.

Upon meeting, the Storting goes into a committee of the whole and then and there nominates and elects one-fourth of its members into an Upper House (Lagting), the remaining members being organized into the Lower House (Odelsting), each body choosing its own president. Questions relating to laws must be first considered separately by each house, but if the measure falls in one branch, it may yet pass by the required two-thirds vote upon the final joint ballot, which vote must be taken, before a bill is finally disposed of, in case of previous failure in either House.

King Haakon, The Seventh, seems to know the art of popularizing himself with his subjects and the Norwegians are proud of him. He is frequently seen in civilian clothes and a derby hat walking or riding in the streets of Christiania. He is a fine, intelligent-looking young man, erect and perhaps six feet tall, rather thin in flesh and about 35 years old, modest, affable and democratic. One seldom converses with a Norwegian here, who, upon learning that you are a foreigner, does not in course of his remarks refer to the new King with an apparent air of national pride, which is quite pardonable, after 400 years of no chief executive whom they could call their own. A country loses much, yes, very much, when it loses its independence.

The writer would inquire why they called him Haakon and why they could not have given him a more euphonious name, when they would answer that it sounded good to them; besides that, the Haakons reminded them of the time when Norway was a world power and "bloomed" as they call it, long ago. One of their Haakons was offered the title of Roman emperor by the Pope and held many territorial possessions including Ireland, by a vassal King.

The writer would, also, inquire, why, when they were making a change that they did not make Norway a republic when they would answer that they did not believe in the frequent presidential elections and that the consequent tearing up of things every few years would be disastrous to the poor, debt-burdened country like Norway; that they desire to work out their own destiny in peace and do not wish too many statesmen and demagogues developed, which frequent elections would be certain to breed; besides they expressed themselves not entirely convinced that a chief executive, an impartial King, always bound to follow the wishes of the majority, was not preferable to a party president anyway, as long as they, the Norwegian people, as electors, really held the power just as much as in a republic.

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CANTON, S. D.

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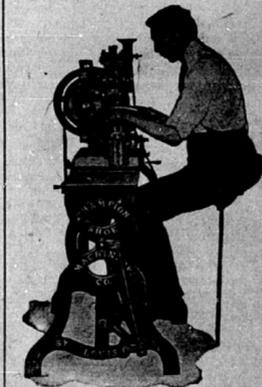
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Queen Maud is also quite popular and so, of course, is the little four-year-old Prince Olaf. The picture of the royal group seems exhibited for sale everywhere one goes, in stores, hotels and cafes and is, also, said to adorn the walls of most homes.

In commerce, the balance of trade is always against Norway, in other words, they buy about one hundred million kroner more than they sell every year; which would naturally mean that they would go "busted" entirely, but the earnings from the shipping business more than offset this balance. Norway has namely: A merchant marine of 7,267 ships aggregating one and a half million in tonnage, so by being a packhorse on the water, it manages to pay its bills and the country seems prosperous though in a country where wages are low and chances to save are meagre and where the young emigrate and leave the old behind, and the sea each year claims many lives and makes many widows and orphan children, there is yet an undesirable percentage of pauperism or dependents for public support.

The number of persons who received relief last year numbered 80,000 which was provided mostly by local taxation. This system is now, however, going to be changed and a general compulsory national life insurance scheme put in vogue, to entirely wipe out the poor-house proposition and remove the humiliating stigma attached to the receiving of public support, when anyone is unfortunate enough to be so situated, as to require public relief. The scheme has been thought of and worked upon for years and dur-



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