

Lowden's Chief Plank Calls For a Business Administration

Says Millions Are Wasted in Washington

By Fred B. Pitney

IN THESE days, when women are so rapidly approaching full voting status, it is said to enhance the chances of a candidate for public office if it can be said, or indicated, of him:

"His wife has always been his chief counselor and confidant in all his affairs. He has never made an important move or taken a vital decision without first seeking her advice, and he has never made a mistake when he has followed her advice."

Hence Mrs. Frank O. Lowden becomes a person of national interest since Frank O. Lowden is openly, actively and aggressively seeking the Republican nomination for President, and here is what an intimate friend of both Governor and Mrs. Lowden said of her:

"Mrs. Lowden, if she were a man, would be a 'man's man.' She is a woman men like to talk to; sensible men, that is. She has sound views and practical common sense, and is familiar with important questions. She knows what she is talking about."

The question arises, Does Governor Lowden consult Mrs. Lowden? "Why, yes, I suppose he does," is the answer.

"Not in the way you, perhaps, mean consult; but he certainly discusses important questions with her. A man naturally would."

Doesn't Interfere

Pinning the question down more closely, Does Mrs. Lowden take part in the government of Illinois? Does she interfere in public affairs?

"Not that any one knows anything about."

Specifically, Who is Governor of Illinois?

"Frank O. Lowden."

Meeting Governor Lowden subsequently one agrees that the statement probably is correct. He impresses one as a man who would do his own governing. He is a squarely built man in the neighborhood of 5 feet 8 inches tall and weighing about 170 pounds. He is smooth shaven, has a rather florid complexion, white hair and plenty of it, a square jaw, an extremely direct gaze that would be more than disconcerting to a man trying to "put something over," an emphatic manner of speaking and a strong and hearty handshake. He is fifty-nine years old. He makes a good first impression, but it is not the impression of a statesman, a philosopher, a scholar or philanthropist. It is the impression of a business man, an executive who has the confidence in himself gained by successful experience.

Was a Noted Beauty

Before dismissing Mrs. Lowden from the equation, however, let it be known that she is the daughter of the late George M. Pullman, and with her sister, Mrs. Frank Carolan, of San Francisco, divided his estate of \$30,000,000.

Twenty-five years ago Florence Pullman was a noted beauty as well as an admired heiress. In 1893 Prince von Isenberg-Bernstein of Prussia tried to win her, and two years later she was ardently courted at Carlsbad by Prince Alexander of Serbia. The international gossips predicted a marriage, but in 1896 she was married to Mr. Lowden, who was then one of the rising young lawyers of Chicago. His friends say that at the time of his marriage his law practice brought him in an income of \$25,000 a year, which in those days was considered rather good, and since then he has made a fortune estimated in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000. This is independent of his wife's fortune.

Manages Her Own Estate

Mrs. Lowden is credited by her friends with being a good business woman and taking the principal part in the management of her own estate. Governor Lowden was for several years a director of the Pullman company, but resigned in 1904 to make the race for the Republican nomination for Governor



at Burlington, Iowa, where he remained until he got a job as a clerk in a law office in Chicago at \$8 a week. He went to Chicago in 1886 and immediately entered the Union College of Law, now the law school of Northwestern University. Here Lowden crowded two years' work into one and was admitted to the bar in 1887.

When Governor Lowden is asked what it is that interests him most he says, "I am a farmer." He points to the fact that he was born and brought up on a farm and that he has gone back to the farm. His farm, Sinnissippi, on the Rock River, near Oregon, Ill., is one of the show places of the state, while he cultivates 12,000 acres of cotton land in Arkansas.

His Farm Makes Money

Whatever Governor Lowden may think about it, his interest in his farm is as a job to do successfully. He bought the beginnings of his farm in 1899. At that time he had had twelve years of successful work as a lawyer, during which, with absolute truth to character, he had become, from a trial lawyer, the chief counsel in the reorganization of various great business enterprises. He bought the Hemenway farm un-

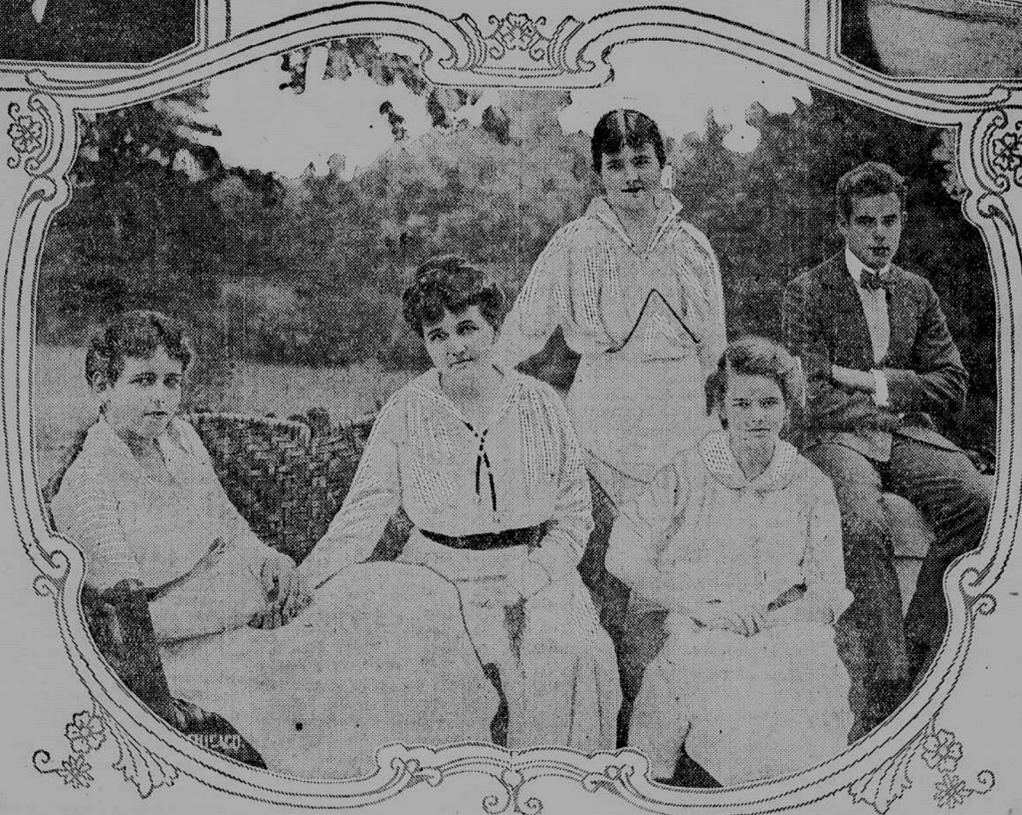
land that was nothing but an expense. Governor Lowden promptly retired from the practice of law and the reorganization of other peoples' businesses to make Sinnissippi farm a dividend paying enterprise. And he did it. Moreover, he bought 12,000 acres of Arkansas bottom land and turned them into a dividend paying cotton plantation.

Not "Son of the Soil"

But Governor Lowden has no bark on the back of his hands. He does not wield the hoe or milk the cows. His farms are business enterprises. They are practical undertakings. It is a good thing in Middle West politics for a candidate to be able to say "I am a farmer," but unless he could make farming a practical success Lowden would be practicing law in Chicago. He would not be living on the farm merely for the love of the soil. Moreover, it would have to be a success on a big scale. One thousand acres in Illinois was not enough for him. He had to have another 12,000 acres in Arkansas. He had to have a big job.

Therein lies the reason Lowden wants to be President. He has had a big job as Governor of Illinois. It is the biggest thing he has had yet, and he has done it successfully.

GOVERNOR FRANK O. LOWDEN of Illinois and Mrs. Lowden, who was Miss Florence Pullman. Below are Mrs. Lowden and the four Lowden children, photographed at the Lowden farm in Illinois



of Illinois. He again entered the Pullman directorate after his retirement from Congress in 1911, and resigned once more in 1916 after being elected Governor of Illinois. His letter of resignation said:

"I do not feel that in the discharge of my duties as Governor I should be officially connected with a company whose interests might be affected by any action I might be called upon to take as Governor."

The Lincoln tradition adheres in Illinois. Log cabin beginnings always help a candidate for public office and if, in addition, the candidate's father had the foresight to be a blacksmith, election is practically assured. Governor Lowden fills both requirements.

Of Scotch Origin

He is of Scotch origin, and the original home of the family, in this country, was Vermont. Governor Lowden's grandfather went to Erie County, Pa., and the Governor's father left the Pennsylvania farm when he was fourteen and in 1853 reached Chicago County, Minn., where, in 1856, he married Nancy Elizabeth Breg. Governor Lowden was born in Sunrise, Minn., January 26, 1861. When he was seven years old his father moved to Point Pleasant, Hardin County, Iowa, the boy trudging barefooted along the road behind the prairie schooner that carried the makings of the new home.

The log cabin that gave Governor Lowden his political start ornamented the Iowa farm, while Congressman Frank L. Smith, who ran against Lowden in the Illinois gubernatorial primaries in 1916, said:

Father a Blacksmith

"Lowden's father was primarily a farmer of the pioneer type, but ran a blacksmith shop on his place as a secondary issue for the accommodation of the neighbors. My father was a blacksmith and nothing else."

After the primary returns had been counted Smith said:

"I guess Lowden's father was a better blacksmith than mine, even if blacksmithing was only a side issue with him."

Opportunities for education were not large on the Iowa farm, but young Lowden was determined to have an education. By the time he was fifteen he had made such good use of his time that he had a school of his own to teach and to add to his income was cleaning up the schoolroom. With the money he saved he entered the University of Iowa when he was twenty years old. His money ran out, and he was compelled to go to teaching again, but he kept up his studies and was able to return to the university, from

which he was graduated at the head of his class.

This was Lowden's first goal. His second was the law school. After finishing at the university he returned to teaching, getting a school

der the suspicion that he was going to make it his country home, and during the next four years added to it from time to time, until in 1903 he woke up to the fact that he had acquired more than 1,000 acres of

So he wants to try a bigger job.

Lowden took his first active part in politics in the McKinley campaign of 1900. He had intended going into the 1896 campaign, but sickness interfered. In 1904 he was candidate

for Governor of Illinois and held 567 votes against the Yates-Dineen combination through sixty-seven ballots in the famous deadlocked convention. Dineen finally beat him, and Lowden turned in and worked

Laurels of Columbus Are in Danger

THE memory note of the average American to the effect that "Columbus discovered America in 1492" may have to be revised. There is a chance that the word "discovered" is all wrong. The possibility of the continent having been discovered "way back at the end of the fifth century by Buddhist missionaries seems to be very good.

In the early days of the present century Professor John Fryer, of the University of California, did original research on the matter of the supposed early visit of Asiatic Buddhists to America, and he discovered facts which he set forth in an article printed in "Harper's Encyclopedia" in 1903 which convinced many at the time that these early missionaries were the real discoverers of America.

Now come further reports from Mexico of the recent discovery of hieroglyphics on the foundation stones of the pyramids of San Juan Teotihuacan, twenty-seven miles northeast of Mexico City, which are pronounced similar to symbols still in use in the Chinese language by

Fong Tsiang Kuang, Chinese Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico City, says "The Kansas City Star."

He says the words "eye" and "city" are clearly depicted in the newly discovered hieroglyphics. This new find seems to lend support to Professor Fryer's proposition of an early day visit of Chinese to America.

The article by Professor Fryer setting forth his reasons for belief in a fifth century visit to America by Buddhists follows, in part:

"The direct evidence of this early Buddhist mission, though based chiefly on Chinese historical documents, covers also the traditions, histories, religious beliefs and antiquities to be found in America, extending all the way down the Pacific Coast from Alaska to Mexico, as well as to many localities considerable distance inland.

"From early times the Chinese classics, as well as the historical, geographical and poetical works, allude to a country or continent far to the east of China, under the name of Fusang, or Fusu.

"The narrative of only one visit to Fusang is on record in Chinese history, namely, that of Hui Shen, a native of Cophene, or Cabul, which was the great center of Buddhist missionary exertions in early times,

Since this account was considered of sufficient importance to deserve a place in the imperial archives of the Liang dynasty and is handed down with the full authority of the great Chinese historian Ma Tuan-Lin, there should be no doubt as to its authenticity.

"The narrative states that there was a Buddhist priest named Hui Shen, originally a native of Cabul, who, in the year 499 A. D., during the reign of the Emperor Yung Yuan, came from the country of Fusang to Kingchow, the capital of the dynasty of Tsi, situated on the River Yangtze. The country being in a state of revolution, it was not until the year 502 that he reached the court of the Emperor Wu Ti, of the new Liang dynasty. The Emperor treated him as an envoy from Fusang and deputed one of the four principal feudal lords, named Yu Kei, to interrogate him concerning the country and to take down his story in writing.

"Among other things, Hui Shen said that the people of Fusang were formerly in ignorance of the doctrines of Buddha, but during the reign of the Chinese emperor Ta Ming, of the Sung dynasty, or A. D. 458, there were five bhikshus, or Buddhist monks, from Cabul, who traveled there and promulgated the

knowledge of the doctrines, books and images of Buddhism."

The story of Hui Shen is told in some detail, but all descriptions of the country of Fusang and its people and customs mark them as applying to the Pacific Coast in general and Mexico in particular, according to Professor Fryer. Many names and religious beliefs and customs of the nations of Mexico, Yucatan and Central America show Asiatic influence, he says.

"When we come to look for visible traces of Buddhism among the antiquities of Mexico we are soon amply rewarded," Professor Fryer's article continues. "Images and sculptured tablets, ornaments, temples and pyramids abound that cannot well be ascribed to any other source with a show of reason. Among these may be mentioned: An image of Buddha at Palenque, sitting cross-legged on a seat formed of two lions placed back to back, closely representing images found in India and China; a perfect elephant's head sculptured on the walls of Palenque, the elephant being the usual symbol of Buddha in Asia and no elephants being found in America; an elaborate elephant-faced god found among the Aztecs, which is evidently an imitation of the Indian image of Ganesha."

for his successful rival's election.

His first political office was in 1906, when he was elected to Congress to succeed the late Robert R. Hitt. He remained in Congress until 1911, when he resigned because of ill health.

In Congress he was interested in practical matters. When he came to be Governor of Illinois he showed it again more clearly than ever. His first statement said:

Evils That Crept In

"I do not wish to prophesy an Augustan era for the state during my administration. I do not care to boast of high ideals. But I have definite views regarding certain changes in the administration of state affairs. Many evils have crept into the state government which I believe I shall be able to remedy. I am going to give Illinois an honest, efficient and economical administration."

Governor Lowden as his first act reorganized the government of Illinois so that instead of consisting of 128 overlapping and duplicating commissions it consisted of nine departments, and the expense of administration was so much reduced that the tax rate was cut from 90 cents to 75 cents, and the total of the taxes to be raised for state purposes was cut \$4,000,000. In the three years he has been in office administration expenses of the state government have been so reduced that the state tax rate has been cut 33 per cent, and \$7,000,000 a year in state taxes has been saved to the people of Illinois, and this during the war and in a period of constantly increasing costs.

Introduced Budget System

Governor Lowden introduced the budget system into the financial administration of Illinois. The new organization saved \$150,000 in traveling expenses in 1918, notwithstanding higher railroad fares and increased prices at hotels. There was a saving of \$90,056 in printing where there usually had been a deficit.

These are the outstanding facts of Governor Lowden's administration in Illinois. They show what he stands for and the road his thoughts travel. When he was asked for the purposes of this article what he wanted emphasized in his candidacy for the Republican nomination for President, he replied:

"A business administration of the national government. There is one branch of the administration at Washington whose work is duplicated by forty-two bureaus. Forty-one of those forty-two bureaus ought to be abolished, and the expense of their administration done away with. "That is merely one example. There should be a budget system in national finance and the government

Governor of Illinois Began Life as Poor Boy

organized on business lines and all the useless expenses of administration cut off. Millions of dollars could be saved and cut off the taxes the people have to pay.

Has No Panacea

"I have no panacea for this country, but all the taxes of every kind are passed onto the people and by the time they reach the people they have been doubled or trebled in going through the middlemen. Cut the costs of government administration and you cut taxes. Cut taxes and you cut the cost of living."

He said in one of his recent speeches:

"How important it is in these extravagant days that we should begin to apply some of the principles of modern business to the greatest business of all—the business of our government. Business everywhere has often changed its methods. Banking and manufacturing have been revolutionized perhaps a half dozen times since our Constitution was adopted. Agriculture has undergone a complete transformation since my own boyhood days on the farm.

"In the government alone we have made no progress at all. We are famous the world over for the triumphs and achievements of individuals in private enterprise. Isn't it about time that we give some attention to the public business, because it affects every other business and every individual in this country? We talk much about readjustment and reconstruction. I want to tell you that the place to begin readjustment and reconstruction is at Washington, if we would return to normal conditions. This can be done only by the application to government of business principles."

Retained Democrats

Lowden is a Republican. The superintendent of charities and the assistant superintendent of charities in Illinois are Democrats, holdovers from Governor Dunne's administration because they were the most efficient men to be found for the places. The director of the department of public health is a Democrat, because the best man for the place happened to be a Democrat.

"It is easy enough to pick men," says Governor Lowden. "You consider the job you want done and you make up your mind you want it done right. Then you look around for the best man there is to do that job right and you go get him. You don't think about paying a debt, political or any other kind, by giving out the job. You think about getting the job done right and then you get the right man.

"When I wanted a director of the department of public welfare I went to the chairman of the board of directors of Montgomery Ward & Co. in Chicago. He didn't want to come. He had to give up his business and give up making a lot of money to come. But I didn't let him alone until he came, and he gave up his business in Chicago and a big income there and his home and moved to Springfield and has been on the job ever since."

As to Minds

"Do you feel that you must have in your cabinet men whose minds willingly run along with yours?"

"If you have a puppet he won't be any good and he won't be able to do his job. But if you know your job and he knows his job, the job you want him to do, your minds will run together without any trouble."

"I had in mind President Wilson's letter dismissing Secretary Lansing."

"Oh, that was nonsense."

"In your appointments do you look for the men you want in politics or business life?"

Governor Lowden recounted a conversation with a man who is one of the great figures in American public life.

"We were talking about President Taft's Cabinet," he said, "and my companion remarked, 'If I were making up a Cabinet I would not have a man in it who had not had experience in Congress.' "Political experience doesn't hurt the right man," continued Governor Lowden. "It is a good thing for him. There is no reason why a man in politics should not be a good business man and a good executive. On the other hand, a man holding an important office can't do anything against the will of the people. He must have the people with him and he must know how to get them to go with him, and there is no school in the world like Congress for teaching a man how to get the people with him.

"Other things being equal, the man who has had experience in public life would be the best man for an important public office. But the first thing to be considered is whether he can do the job. The man you want is the man who can do the job."