

**SEATTLE LETTER**

(By Robert S. Doubleday.)

The people of the State of Washington have become so accustomed to the intemperate, inaccurate and frequently vicious utterances of Will E. Humphrey, former republican congressman, that even his public statements are not taken seriously by the thinking and well informed. His most distinguished success has been to make entirely fitting and appropriate the sobriquet of "Wild Bill" that is popularly applied to him.

Mr. Humphrey has of course broken into the political arena again, and has been running wild as usual. After a number of speeches, mostly lurid, vicious, illogical and untruthful, attacking the president and everyone and everything else that does not bear the republican party stamp, Mr. Humphrey has summed up for Mr. Harding, the republican presidential candidate, in the following words: "I believe Warren G. Harding to be the best fitted man in America to be president of the United States."

If Mr. Humphrey is correct in his conclusions, the standard of American statesmanship has reached a low level in efficiency, in ideals and in concept of public needs and tendencies.

Mr. Harding has not, during the period of his membership in the senate, either introduced or championed a single important constructive meas-

ure. He has not been identified and cannot be, either by his friends or his enemies, with one solitary outstanding issue, either good or bad.

In the records of the senate, he ranks below every other senator in initiative, activity and accomplishment.

During his membership in the senate, he has dodged or been marked "absent" on 1,163 roll calls and quorum calls.

Such bills and resolutions as he has introduced have been local in character, with the possible exception of eight.

Such addresses as he has made in the senate have invariably been reactionary in character, and have been considered "halting" inconsistent and generally illogical." He merely followed after his bosses, Penrose, Smoot and Lodge, and without exception demonstrated his loyalty to and sympathy with them, both politically and economically. Wherever party organization and spoils have been involved, he has invariably lined up with what is known as the "Old Guard," in other words, the representatives of the predatory interests and the worst in politics. He has never been charged with "irregularity" or failure to serve the republican machine at any time. In nearly six years in the senate in all the votes taken in that body there have

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been but nine instances in which his vote chanced to be in harmony with the more progressive group.

When prohibition issues have been up he has voted for the liquor interests 30 times, with only two votes the other way for some special reasons.

After a long period of lack of interest in the matter he finally voted for woman suffrage with a good deal of obvious reluctance and indecision.

He voted for the Cummins railroad bill and the anti-strike provision.

He voted seven times for the iniquitous Shields water power scheme, and has persistently stood against conservation.

Upon every occasion of consequence when choice was to be between standing for capital and standing for labor he has stood for capital.

He has opposed public ownership in every form.

He even voted against the government armor plate factory at the beginning of the war, by which the government protected itself against the profiteering of the steel interests.

He opposed the government taking control of the wire service during the war.

He opposed and voted against every amendment intended to increase the taxes on great, swollen incomes and on profiteering.

He opposed publicity being given to the profiteering reports and fig-

ures. He opposed uniformly open sessions of the senate and fought the abolition of secret sessions.

He opposed the appointment of Louis D. Brandies to the supreme court.

In his first session he voted against the infamous "river and harbor port bill" for some reason, but thereafter supported all such appropriations, even during the war.

He was against a tax on campaign contributions.

He opposed making proper and adequate appropriations for the federal trade commission.

He opposed the bill for food relief for starving Europe.

He opposed self-determination of races and peoples wherever opportunity was afforded, and is against Philippine independence.

He supported and voted for conscription for the army as a permanent policy.

He opposed a referendum on war as a peace policy.

He opposed the disarmament of all nations.

He stood for the Lodge reservations.

He favored and voted for the present "political" adjournment of the senate.

In completing the summary from which the above is taken, Lynn

Haines says: "This summary may require explanation in one particular—the length of it and the number of subjects included might suggest a contradiction of Harding's inactivity and colorlessness, but these conclusions are drawn for the most part directly from his votes. A senator may vote occasionally and do little else, which was Harding's way. During his time in the senate there has been more than a thousand roll calls. No senator, had he deliberately chosen such a course, could have dodged enough test votes to disguise his real attitude and inclinations."

The United States senate at this time is at a strikingly low ebb of efficiency and statesmanship, as will be generally agreed, but even so, Mr. Harding is rated at the bottom of the list.

While he has been in the senate, he has introduced 134 bills. Of these 124 were for pensions or some form of local money spending. Only nine could possibly be deemed of any general consequence, and not a single one of them had to do with the great problems of pressing importance at this time.

The most important bill he introduced was one to "encourage the teaching of Spanish" in this country. He ran counter to this afterward, however, by declaring "the necessity of making this an English speaking republic."

The other bills that he introduced that were of any public interest, as distinguished from the local "pork" or pension bills are these: To provide a memorial for those who lost their lives in war, to provide for a celebration of the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims, to authorize the loaning of tents, as a remedy for the appalling housing situation, to investigate influenza, to pay draft board clerks, to change a law on fur bearing animals in Alaska, to appoint an American battlefield commission, to amend the National McKinley Memorial Birthplace Association Act, and to grant some discarded rifles to Sons of Veterans Reserve.

This accurate presentation of the record of Warren G. Harding covers the period of his years of membership in the United States senate. It is the record complete and without bias, elimination or abridgments, as he has made it during a crucial time in the national history. The statement of facts are not mere political campaign arguments, or half truths or presentation warped by political prejudice. They are matters of official history and are irrefutable. No matter how much they might be or may be denied, they will remain facts. Yet republican campaign managers and speakers and the designing interests that are behind them assure the American people that "Mr. Harding is the best fitted man in America for president of the United States."

told of the pathetic case. It was from a Salvation Army captain who had received this order from Commandant Earle: "Go over and find this child and bring her to me."

The captain rode 50 miles from the county center at which he was stationed—50 miles along country roads and some of the miles over loney trails. He wrote:

"I brought the girl, who is but 15 years old, back with me. My wife and I are caring for her and will bring her to you as soon as she is rested. Her condition is delicate, but now that she has found that you will be her friend, she is gaining in strength."

So out of the remote mountain glade came a child to the refuge that the army offers behind its shield, in the home that is for girls in their hour of darkest need.

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**FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL RESCUED BY SALVATION ARMY**

SPOKANE, Aug. 30.—Commandant True Earle, in command of the Salvation Army rescue and maternity home in Spokane, heard a call for a friend—a call that came over the mountain range that divides Idaho, from a girl whose 15 years of happy life on a mountain farm had been darkened by despair. The cry was for sanctuary, for kindly hands and motherly hearts to stand by her in her misfortune.

Wednesday, August 18, a letter

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