

Lorimer, the New Illinois Senator

Former Street Car Conductor, Who Got His Start in Politics by Organizing His Craft, Is Known as the "Blond Boss."

Father of a Ship Canal From Chicago to the Gulf—Broadwinner From an Early Age—Good Mixer and Popular—Loyal to Friends

THE main facts about William Lorimer, the new senator from Illinois, are that he was born in England; that he is forty-eight years old; that he came to the United States in childhood; that his father, who was a minister, died when the lad was ten years old; that from then on he has been a breadwinner; that he had little or no schooling; that he sold papers, blacked boots, wheeled salt in the packing houses and was a horse car conductor; that he became a machine politician and is now known as the "blond boss"; that he has been widely and vehemently denounced as being a representative of the vicious elements and "the interests"; that nevertheless his private life is notably clean and his family life ideal; that he has eight children, to whom he is devoted; that he is a large man, serene, unflustered, a good mixer and popular; that he never goes back on a friend; that he has been in congress seven terms; that he is known as the "father of the deep waterway project" of a ship canal from the great lakes to the gulf; that he is a fair speaker, but prefers to work on the quiet, and that his election as senator came as a surprise at the end of the longest deadlock in the history of Illinois.

This is but a skeleton outline, but it gives an idea of the man. His career is not commonplace or usual by any means, and perhaps the strangest thing in it is that he, a party boss, was elected to the senate by a combination of Republicans and Democrats. Another striking feature about Lorimer is that several times his enemies have gleefully proclaimed that the "blond boss" was down and out. Yet

which was in the interest of some Chicago corporation. Billy Lorimer is of Chicago and for Chicago.

The Ship Canal.

Of all the things Lorimer has done or attempted to do for his own town the deep waterway project is the most momentous. When he first began the advocacy of this gigantic undertaking little attention was paid to him even in his own city. Gradually, however, Chicago began to awaken until today the ship canal from the lakes to the middle west. After fighting for it through many congresses and on the stump all over Illinois the new senator had the pleasure of seeing a great convention meet in Chicago in its behalf, at which both President Taft and William J. Bryan spoke in its favor. Now that he is in the senate he will make a still harder fight for his pet project and says that he will carry it through. For his advocacy of this one beneficent enterprise much can be forgiven him. There are many exam-



MRS. WILLIAM LORIMER.

traitor, and his pursuit is relentless. The foes of ex-Senator Hopkins explain the downfall of that gentleman as an effect of that very cause. They aver that it was Lorimer who made Hopkins senator in the first place, and when Lorimer was trying to nominate Yates over Deneen they accused Hopkins of trying to carry water on both shoulders. These are the charges, and whether true or not, the result is the same. Hopkins is out, and Lorimer is in. The "blond boss" turned the trick in the face of a plurality for the former senator in the primaries.

Waving His Candidate In.

One of the most spectacular political stunts ever pulled off by Lorimer was the nomination of Dick Yates for governor nearly a decade ago. It was on the third ballot when the cause that the Chicago man espoused seemed lost and, according to report, another man

ples of poetic justice in the world, and not the least of these is the general belief in Illinois that it was his championship of the deep waterway that was the deciding factor in gaining for Billy Lorimer the senatorship. It would be an interesting psychological study to know whether he had such a result in view when he began the seemingly hopeless fight. Why not give him the benefit of the doubt and believe that he was actuated by public spirit rather than private ambition? Or perhaps both factors entered, as they do in most men. In writing of many men I find that there is something good in all, just as there are other things to be deplored. In striking a balance between the two sometimes the scale tips one way, sometimes the other. In Lorimer's case that ship canal when it is carried through, as it certainly will be, will redeem much and blot out much. It will be a monument ever enduring, one of which the greatest and best might be proud.

In the end we are judged by our most conspicuous deed, whether it be of good or of evil. The deep waterway will certainly be the most conspicuous deed of Senator William Lorimer. Who can tell but that it may even swallow up his reputation as a "blond boss?"

Getting at the Real Man.

Fame plays queer tricks on us all. And we who most abhor the political methods of men of the Lorimer type are forced to applaud efforts in his long battle for this enterprise that is to bless the future. I am not seeking to excuse Lorimer. I am only seeking to do him justice. A character sketch that shows personal or partisan bias is not worthy of the name. The effort should be to get at the real man and set him forth as he is—no more, no less. Kindness and sympathy go a long way in getting at another's viewpoint and angle of vision. Until that viewpoint is gained a fair estimate cannot be made. I am frank to say that my first feeling as to Lorimer was one of repugnance. Looked at more closely, there is gold beneath the dress. This is not said of him because he is a United States senator. It would be just as true if he were still a west side street car conductor, although there would be no palpatating interest in him as such. These things can be said of him and for him: He has made his own way; he never loses his temper; in his home he is what every American man should be; his word never goes to protest; he sticks by his friends even though they go to jail; he is constructive and for his own town, and he has fought through good and evil report for at least one public work that will benefit mankind.

Such things weigh. They contain substance and have meaning. Perhaps I have omitted the one element that counts for most in the world, though it may be rated at more than its worth—Mr. Lorimer has plucked the golden apple of success. That is the credit side of the account, and why cast up the debit? The papers have been full of it for years, and it is generally known of men.

No sketch of Senator Lorimer would be complete that did not include Mrs. Lorimer. She was born in Canada, and he married her when he was a street car conductor. The same loyalty that has held him to his friends and to his city has welded him to his home. In the life of this man there is none of the sickening story of the successful man outgrowing the partner of his humble beginnings.

was actually nominated. Suddenly Lorimer appeared on the stage waving a Yates banner. He kept it up until the convention was stamped, and in the confusion the third ballot was never counted. A fourth roll call was ordered, and the day was won for Yates.

The act by which the new senator first forced himself into general notice was almost as spectacular. It was in 1892, and he was a delegate to the Minneapolis convention. Illinois was for the renomination of Harrison, but Lorimer would not be bound by the delegation and voted for James G. Blaine. As Blaine had hosts of friends in Chicago, the rising young politician lost nothing by the move.

Serene and Canny.

Lorimer in his acceptance speech blandly and benevolently handed out bouquets to everybody, even his foes; looked as innocent and cherubic as a blond boss could; said he was a Republican, but loved the Democrats who had jumped the fence in his behalf; talked for tariff revision downward because it had been promised in the platform; spoke a good word—two of them, in fact—for his deep waterway scheme and looked so serene that no one would have dreamed that he had just pulled off a deal without a parallel in the history of American politics.



WILLIAM LORIMER, UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM ILLINOIS.

at the next turn of the wheel he won greater victories than ever. His present triumph is a case in point. He had fought Deneen both in the primaries and at the polls, and Deneen gave him a drubbing each time. "That is the end of Billy Lorimer!" yelled everybody. And now look at him—only one minute dumped in the gutter and left at the rear and the next on the front seat of the band wagon at the head of the procession!

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Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

PERT PARAGRAPHS.

It is a question whether waiting deserves anything or not, but it sometimes wins.

Time, tide and scorching automobiles wait for no man.

Sometimes it is merely force of habit that keeps a man from paying his debts.

While an idealist is looking for his ideal some sordid minded relative is slaving to pay for the idealist's meal ticket.

One reason why we don't like to mention our vices is because it is obviously superfluous.

When they begin to act as if you were one of the family it will be safe to look out for some other loafing place.

When a man is a guy he does not call attention to his condition. That does so itself.

There are people who would rather work than starve, and as long as they continue to multiply the world is comparatively safe.

There are a great many commendable actions that the ordinary man would rather commend than perform.

It is hard to understand when we aren't hungry how anybody can starve to death.

Being optimistic is easy when the conditions are right.

The Lowly Singer.

The humble poet goes about in very modest raiment. If he could coin his tuneful words he'd gladly make a payment on rage that glistens as the sun and raise an awful holler. But now he has to be content—He hasn't got a dollar.

For him the sun unfolds its light, For him the stars are gleaming, And so he cannot waste his time On profit bearing scheming. He must remain content to get The robin's morning greeting, And not disturb his high flown thoughts With vulgar things like eating.

Were he disposed to drop a peg And lower his profession Things might be drifting round his way In quite a long procession. Would he write ads. instead of songs Extolling pills or bacon He'd rake in coin; but, oh, his art Would have to be forsaken!

No; he will go along his way, Wrapped in his inspiration, Let sordid poets sing of soap; His theme is all creation. So take him gently by the hand And lead him to the table, And then the poet's appetite You'll find was but a fable.

His Dreadful Price.

"I have just had some swell photographs taken." "I hope that they do you justice." "Thanks, awfully, but that's not what's troubling me." "What is?" "How I am ever going to do the photographer justice?"

An Oversight.

"The constitution is a grand old document." "Yes, but they wrote it too soon." "Why so?" "They should have waited until automobiles had been invented and made it unconstitutional to run a fellow down."

Coming.

When flying is perfected And man is on the wing A Wilbur Wright elopement Will be the proper thing.

Man From City Hall.

"Why does the man scrutinize his features so closely in the mirror?" "Perhaps he is trying to detect the flight of time." "What for?" "Doubtless he desires to arrest it."

Her Opinion.

"Mr. Footprint, you are the most graceful dancer in the room," said the sweet young girl to the awkward guy who was falling all over her. "A fine compliment, I am sure." "No; just a knock on the other dancers."

Like Play.

"Going to send your son to art school?" "What do they do there?" "Just make pictures." "I should say not. I want him to learn something."

An Oversight.

"Seen anything of a horse thief going by here?" "I don't know. Several men have gone by, but I didn't think to ask any of them if they were horse thieves."

No Satisfaction.

"I am afraid I will have to give up smoking." "The doctor order it?" "No; my wife is beginning to like the odor of a good cigar."

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 5, 1909. Notice is hereby given that on June 4, 1909, LENORD D. PUGSLEY, of Chester, Chouteau county, Montana, assignee of James P. Chowere, filed in this office his application to enter under the provisions of the act of congress approved July 1, 1898, (30 Stat. 297, 298), the southeast quarter of section 34, township 21 north, range 5 east, (serial No. 06285). Any and all persons claiming adversely the land described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 15th day of July, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 15, 1909. Notice is hereby given that the NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY, whose postoffice address is St. Paul, Minnesota, has this 15th day of June, 1909, filed in this office its application to select under the provisions of the act of congress approved July 1, 1898, (30 Stat. 297, 298), the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, in township 21 north, range 7 east of the Montana principal meridian, containing 40 acres. Serial No. 06329. Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 30th day of July, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register. First publication June 19, 1909.

Notice of Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 21, 1909. Notice is hereby given that LAWRENCE PAPAN, JR., of Teton, Montana, who, on July 9, 1902, made homestead entry No. 111 (serial No. 05877), for SW 1/4 section 22, township 25 north, range 10 east, to make final five-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. commissioner, at his office in Fort Benton, Montana, on the 30th day of July, 1909. Claimant names as witnesses: Benjamin Keaton, Hugh Nottingham, William Lyon and Ira Winey, all of Highwood, Montana. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Notice of Final Proof.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 21, 1909. Notice is hereby given that LOUISA C. KENISON, widow of Edwin Kenison, deceased, of Highwood, Montana, who, on July 5, 1904, made homestead entry No. 111 (serial No. 05877), for E 1/2 SW 1/4 section 20, N 1/4 SW 1/4 section 21, township 21 north, range 7 east, Montana meridian, serial No. 06428, 06429, 06430. Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 30th day of July, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register. First publication June 23, 1909.

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 21, 1909. Notice is hereby given that JED L. WASHBURN, whose postoffice address is Duluth, Minn., has this 21st day of June, 1909, filed in this office his application to select under the provisions of the act of June 4, 1897, the E 1/2 SW 1/4 section 3, and N 1/4 SW 1/4 section 34, township 22 north, range 8 east, Montana meridian, serial Nos. 06428, 06429, 06430. Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 30th day of July, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register. First publication June 23, 1909.

Isolated Tract—Public Land Sale.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 21, 1909. Notice is hereby given that, as directed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under provisions of the act of March 2, 1907, (34 Stat., 1221), we will offer at public sale, to the highest bidder, at 10 o'clock a. m., on the 30th day of July next, at this office, the following tract of land, to-wit: W 1/4 NE 1/4 section 23, township 21 north, range 8 east, Montana meridian, (serial No. 02065). Any persons claiming adversely the above described lands are advised to file their claims, or objections, on or before the time designated for sale. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register. C. A. WILSON, Receiver.

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 23, 1909. Notice is hereby given that the NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY, whose postoffice address is St. Paul, Minnesota, has this 23rd day of June, 1909, filed in this office its application to select under the provisions of the act of congress approved July 1, 1898, (30 Stat. 297, 298) lots 6 and 7 and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 24, in township 21 north of range 8 east of the Montana principal meridian, containing 117.35 acres. Serial No. 06507. Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 31st day of July, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register. First publication July 2, 1909.

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., May 24, 1909. Notice is hereby given that JOHN O. HANCHETT, of Harvey, Wells county, state of North Dakota, assignee of August Koutke, filed in this office his application to enter under the provisions of the act of congress approved July 1, 1898, (30 Stat. 297, 298), the SW 1/4 NW 1/4 section 30, township 32 north, range 6 east, Montana meridian, serial No. 06159. Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 15th day of August, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, MONT., June 30, 1909. Notice is hereby given that the NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY, whose postoffice address is St. Paul, Minnesota, has this 30th day of June, 1909, filed in this office its application to select under the provisions of the act of congress, approved July 1, 1898, (30 Stat., 297, 298), the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 2, in township 25 north of range 3 east of the Montana principal meridian, containing 40 acres. Serial No. 06619. Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason, to the disposal to applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office on or before the 15th day of August, 1909. J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

Sheriff's Sale.

The Security State Bank of Havre, a corporation, plaintiff, vs. Alexander McLoughry, defendant. To be sold at sheriff's sale on the 31st day of July, 1909, at 2 o'clock p. m., at front of court house, Fort Benton, county of Chouteau, state of Montana, the following described property, to-wit: Lot numbered two (2) and lot numbered four (4) and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 35, in township 30 north of range 16 east. Also the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 22, and the west one-half of the northwest quarter, and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter, and the southeast quarter of section 23, in township 30 north of range 16 east. Dated Fort Benton, Mont., July 8, 1909. By CHAS. CRAWFORD, Under Sheriff.

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