

DEPLORABLE EFFORTS TO BOLSTER UP FAILING FORTUNES OF BELL

RECORD OF LATE W. S. MELICK MISREPRESENTED

Campaign Calumny Clearly Refuted by Text of Pointed Letter Now Reproduced.

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

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W. S. MELICK, ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

OFFICE OF THE
State Board of Examiners.

W. S. MELICK,
SECRETARY.

Sacramento, Cal

May 6 1904.

Gen. John F. Sheehan,

320 Sansome St.,

San Francisco, Cal.

My dear General:-

After the very, kind, cordial and frank way in which the Board of Trustees of the Veterans' Home treated me while at Yountville and while I took every precaution in everything I said to the newspapers to express my good will towards the Directors of the Home, in reciprocation, you can imagine my chagrin in seeing the articles in the Examiner and the Bee. I did not see the Examiner representative at all. The Bee, I learned positively, simply used such information as would help Congressman Bell and fixed its article up to that end.

I write this to you and ask you to kindly set me right before any Directors and members of the Home who may be discussing it with you. As you are an old newspaperman yourself, you know how these accidents will happen.

With kind regards to yourself and others, I am,

Yours respectfully,

W. S. Melick

Sec'y. State Board of Examiners.

FAC SIMILE OF LETTER WRITTEN BY THE LATE SECRETARY OF STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS TO GENERAL JOHN F. SHEEHAN, SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, VETERANS' HOME, WHICH CLEARLY EXPOSES FALSE ATTITUDE OF BELL'S CHIEF SUPPORTER IN SACRAMENTO.

On the day that Walter S. Melick died the Sacramento Bee, hoping to advance the political fortunes of Theodore Bell, Democratic nominee for Congress in the Second District, published the following: "Walter S. Melick, that stalwart Republican secretary of the State Board of Examiners, stated to the Bee on May last that the board of directors had been extravagantly mismanaging the Yountville Home." As Melick's voice was stifled in death the Bee no doubt supposed that the dead could be misrepresented to malign the living and no exposure would follow. Happily the stalwart Republican secretary of the State Board of Examiners recorded his impressions of the Bee the day after that paper, in the interest of Bell, sought to misrepresent the management of the home. On May 3 Melick, in a letter to one director, wrote:

"I know you, personally, will not hold me responsible for the statements that are printed in the Bee, but I write you to ask the other members of the board who may think that I inspired such statements, to withhold criticism. When opportunity incidentally offers will you kindly speak to General Backus, General Stone and any others who might possibly think I made any such statements reflecting upon the institution."

ANOTHER LETTER.

The Bee, stinging itself in its mad rage, calls for something more elaborate and conclusive from the letters of the stalwart Republican secretary. The Call to-day presents the complete text of a letter from the late Walter S. Melick to General John F. Sheehan, secretary of the board of directors of the Veterans' Home, which letter contains clear and ample proof that will convince every fair minded voter in the Second Congressional District that the Bee in May last was engaged in a campaign of calumny to boost Bell.

Bell began his campaign for re-election by reviling the management of the Soldiers' Home, hoping to create a side issue and divert attention to the fact that he was the candidate of the party which declared protection to be robbery. The Republican State Central Committee was wise and accordingly forced Bell to stand in the open as the nominee of the Democratic party. For months no attention was paid to side issues, but since the Sacramento Bee has descended to the desecration of the dead to help the Democratic nominee the committee holds that some facts of general interest apart from strict party lines should be stated.

Some of the veterans dwelling at the home have saved from their pensions considerable sums of money. Small lawyers on the outside view with tender solicitude any old soldier who has saved a sum exceeding \$100. If the amount saved happens to approximate \$1000 measures are taken to declare the veteran incompetent. For example, Thomas McDonnell, who had lived at the home in peace and comfort for fourteen years, was found to be the possessor of \$1800, the sum of \$1000 being to his credit with the treasurer. The law firm of Bell, York & Bell took great interest in the case and handled the petition to have the old veteran declared incompetent and a guardian appointed for him. McDonnell was taken from the home. Shortly after he left the institution he died and his estate was recently distributed according to a will which was dated and witnessed about the time the court declared him incompetent. Bell, York &

Bell got \$150 from this estate under allowance of the court.

The board has seen fit from time to time to refuse to give information concerning the amount deposited to the credit of each living veteran. Not long since an old soldier received \$1200 from the settlement of an estate in Iowa. The sharks on the outside knew that he was expecting the money and as soon as he received it they persuaded him to demand his discharge from the home. He went away from his comrades. His new friends on the outside put him in a room over a Yountville saloon and sent to Sacramento for a lewd woman to keep him company. His \$1200 was soon spent and when his money was gone he was kicked out doors into the back yard, where he lay sick, miserable and helpless until some one sent a conveyance and had him hauled to the steps of the commandant's office at the home. It is fair to the Napa lawyers to note that they had nothing to do with the last mentioned case.

BELL IS HOSTILE.

For a long time Bell has been hostile to the management of the home. His canteen amendment was a measure of spite. He said on the floor of the House, as reported in the Congressional Record, that the California management took the pension money from the veterans and gave them canteen checks. Congressmen from other States said this was a shame and told Bell that he ought to be ashamed to represent a State that allowed such transactions. The truth is that of \$75,000 of pension moneys handled by the treasurer, more than \$70,000 has been paid back in actual cash to the veterans. Bell misled his fellow members in the House. Such deception called forth a defamation of his own State. The Congressional Record contains his exact language and the books of the treasurer contain the exact figures. He cannot escape the record.

Through inexperience or blundering stupidity he inserted in the amendment abolishing the canteen the provisions that apply to the old regular army Soldiers' Home at Washington, D. C., and not the provisions relating to the government of National Homes for Disabled Volunteers. The law as amended by Bell deprives the veteran of his right to demand his pension. The national homes are entitled to maintain canteens. The State homes are not so favored. In the old regular army home at Washington the veteran is classed as an "inmate" who must be treated like a child. In the national home the veteran is a "member" with all the rights and privileges attaching to American citizenship.

Duncan E. McKinlay, who will be elected to represent the Second District in Congress, will be able to secure legislation which will give the veterans the right to manage their own affairs so far as pensions are concerned. He will go to Congress as the representative of the people of the district. Democratic attorneys with special interests to serve cannot be trusted to legislate for the public.

The Republican Congressional campaign in San Francisco will open tomorrow night at the Alhambra Theater with true Republican enthusiasm. Julius Kahn and E. A. Hayes, candidates for Congress in the Fourth and Fifth districts, respectively, will deliver the principal addresses of the evening, though other well-known speakers will analyze the issues of the campaign.

Bonfires and a band in front of the theater in the early part of the evening will herald the coming of the Congressional candidates, and a musical program, including songs by prominent vocalists, will be a feature of the evening. A big crowd of voters is expected to attend the meeting and see the campaign inaugurated. From tomorrow night on the Republican candidates for Congress will prosecute their campaign with vigor, with every prospect of success at the polls.

Democratic Congressional candidates Livernash and Wynn will speak at the Alhambra to-night at a meeting to be held under the auspices of the Iroquois Club. Livernash has been doing most of his talking at outdoor meetings, and this will be his supreme effort of the campaign. Wynn, who is not noted as an orator, will not be particularly conspicuous during the evening, but he will hold the center of the stage, no doubt, so long as he deems it expedient.

FERARI FILES PETITION.
Louis Ferari, Democratic candidate for Justice of the Peace, filed a petition with the Supreme Court yesterday asking that the Election Commission be directed to place his name on the official ballot. The office which Ferari seeks is held at present by Justice of the Peace Golden. It is claimed by the Democrats that Golden's term expires this year. The official himself thinks otherwise, and the matter will have to be settled by the courts. Ferari's argument is that his name should be voted upon, and then there will be plenty of time for the courts to pass upon the merits of the dispute. The Election Commissioners have refused to listen to his plea, and therefore he has appealed to the Supreme Court. No decision was rendered yesterday. The court will either set a day for hearing the arguments of contestants or deny the petition absolutely.

The looked-for petition for a writ of mandate to compel the Election Commission to place the twenty-two proposed amendments to the charter on the ballot, they having been rejected by the commission, did not materialize. It is probable that the proponents of the proposed amendments became discouraged at the action of the Election Commission and decided to abandon their fight for the present.

Gillett in Placer County.
AUBURN, Oct. 13.—The Republicans of Placer County opened their campaign at Auburn to-night with a good sized meeting in the Opera-house. Congressman J. N. Gillett was the principal speaker and reviewed his stewardship in the nation's Congress. The other speakers were Attorney General Webb and Hon. John B. Irish of Sierra, the latter being the Republican nominee for the State Senate in the Third District, comprising the counties of Placer, Nevada, Sierra and Plumas.

LIVERNASH JARS MAYOR'S NERVES

Candidate for Congress Surprises Meeting With Democratic View of Roosevelt.

Ratification of the candidates of the Labor Union party was the object of the meeting held by the members of the various labor organizations of the city last evening at the Alhambra. Mayor Eugene Schmitz, E. J. Livernash and the inevitable James Gallagher were among those who were listed to speak on the subject of the good that unions do, but there was a breaking away from the schedule that caused a deal of turmoil and considerable work when Livernash forgot that he was at a union meeting and began to talk promiscuous politics.

Livernash referred to President Roosevelt as the man with "the clanking sword and the jingling spurs" and seemed to be of the opinion that the shadows of San Juan Hill had no being in the campaign. He drifted from labor to the "common people" and, finally, to naval guns and how well they could be made in naval gun factories.

But there was here a rub more than Hamlet ever figured on. Mayor Schmitz, who was popping with political enthusiasm, and James Gallagher, who was as filled with indignation as a seltzer bottle is filled with carbonic acid gas, were there with a stream of adverse opinion as to the nation's chief executive that, when injected into the astonished audience, made things fairly bubble.

Thomas Egan, chairman of the county committee of the Union Labor party, opened the meeting with well chosen and well received remarks. He said it was a gathering of union labor men and had no party significance so far as the national administration contest is concerned. He then introduced Mr. Williams, Union Labor candidate for Congress. Williams spoke of "equal rights for all and special privileges for none." After his talk, Livernash was introduced and received applause. He said that he would tell of his personal experience in Congress and what he had done for labor. He told of the work of the American Federation of Labor and spoke of the efforts of Samuel Gompers in the interest of labor legislation. Next he told of the manner of the Federal Government and the decline of simplicity in the White House and gave an account of the President and the lives of his principal chiefs, ending this particular subject with an overhauling of the officials in Washington in general.

After Mr. Livernash had been seated Mayor Schmitz arose to explain that the meeting was not one for the discussion of national issues. He said he had understood that the occasion was not for the deciding of who was the better candidate for President, the Democrat or the Republican. He wished it understood clearly that he was not in sympathy with a Democratic meeting.

"I am for Theodore Roosevelt for President," he added, "so far as I am personally concerned."
Judge Murasky, candidate for Superior Judge, was introduced and made a short talk on unionism and politics, after which James Gallagher arose and reminded those present that the Union Labor party's platform is in favor of no particular administration, creed or faction.

"Why cannot we stand on this platform?" asked Mr. Gallagher.
"One speaker has referred to the

"clanking sword and jingling spurs," and I cannot stand for this. We want to go before the country as a free people."
Mayor Schmitz closed the meeting by saying that never before had the opportunity been presented, except through the Union Labor party, for men of all parties to meet and speak in a common cause from the same platform, and he was sorry that anything had occurred to disturb the peaceful equilibrium of this peculiarly interesting social condition.

It might incidentally be remarked, by way of a finale, that during Mr. Williams' and the Mayor's remarks certain reflections were made upon the candidacy of Mr. Wynn for Congress in the Fifth District. Mr. Williams alleged that Mr. Wynn had on a certain occasion betrayed the Union Labor party, and that he had done so with a view to supporting Franklin K. Lane and subsequently getting the nomination from the Democrats at this year's convention.

Must Explain Election Board.

The Election Commission yesterday sent citations to S. G. Murphy, Sig Greenbaum and I. Ackerman to appear at its meeting next Tuesday night and show cause why they should not serve as election officers in their respective precincts. Murphy had already produced a doctor's certificate that he is in ill-health and not able to serve, but the commission takes the ground that he may be well on election day. No replies have been received from Greenbaum and Ackerman to the notifications of their appointment.

McKinlay Speaks at Oak Park.

SACRAMENTO, Oct. 13.—Duncan E. McKinlay, Republican Congressional candidate from this district, returned to Sacramento County to-day after several days of successful campaigning in Glenn County.

He delivered an address to-night at an enthusiastic Republican rally at Oak Park, Sacramento's populous suburb, and was loudly cheered. Congressman James McLachlan, who has been campaigning in the Sixth District, also spoke and made a telling appeal to the voters to send McKinlay to Congress.

Modesto Republicans Hold Rally.

MODESTO, Oct. 13.—The Republicans of this vicinity held a rally here to-night. Bonfires, a brass band and the booming of cannon marked the first Republican demonstration of the campaign in this county. Hon. I. A. Simons of New York and Colonel T. V. Eddy of San Francisco were the speakers of the evening and the large Armory Hall was crowded to its utmost.

Not Enough Voters to Fill Offices.

SAN DIEGO, Oct. 13.—It has been discovered that there are six precincts in this county with not enough voters in them to fill the offices on the Election Board. In one precinct there are but two voters. Both men are Republicans and one has been named as judge and the other as inspector. One precinct had no voters registered, hence will have no election.

SOUTH PARK SETTLEMENT LECTURE.—A stereopticon lecture on London life will be given to-night before the South Park settlement, at 86 South Park, by Mrs. K. E. Whitaker.

CHICAGO WELCOME To Candidate Fairbanks

A RECORD-BREAKER

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Completing a day of speech-making throughout Illinois Charles W. Fairbanks, the Republican candidate for Vice President, to-night addressed an audience that filled the First Regiment Armory to overflowing. This was the first time that since he received the nomination, and so much enthusiasm was manifested by his listeners that the meeting resembled to a great extent the vigorous rallies of 1896 and 1900.

To add to the enthusiasm of the gathering Joseph G. Cannon, Speaker of the House of Representatives, addressed the audience in his characteristic manner.

Senator Fairbanks said in part:

Standing here to-night where William McKinley, our martyred President, once addressed you, the best greeting I can extend to you is that Theodore Roosevelt, the leader of the Republican party to-day stands exactly for the same principles as President McKinley, and those principles will not be changed one iota when President Roosevelt is returned to the White House on November 8.

Our opponents say that the money question has been irrevocably settled. This is not exactly the fact, as Congress may reverse and undo it to-morrow if it sees fit, but such a thing will never happen as long as the Republican party is in power. To insure the future of the money question it is necessary for the Republican party to have a majority in Congress, and this fact should not be lost sight of during the campaign.

From my observations during my trip to the Pacific Coast I can assure you in good faith that if the conditions throughout the West were taken as a criterion of the sentiment throughout the country, then the Republican party will record a greater victory this year than it did four years ago. But the people must not become apathetic. To avoid a repetition of the conditions which existed during the four years between 1892 and 1896, when the United States, under the administration of the Democratic party, was plunged into almost total demoralization, every Republican must stand by his party this year and roll up such a majority for the Republican principles in the Congressional districts that when Congress opens for the next session such an overwhelming Republican majority will be found in their seats that it will be useless for our opponents to endeavor to enact visionary legislation.

Senator Fairbanks was followed by Speaker Cannon. Cannon compared the conditions existing under a Republican administration with those which existed during President Cleveland's administration, and said that all he asked for was that the people choose for themselves and it was easy to prophesy what the result would be.

BRYAN IN FORT WAYNE.

Large Gathering of Hoosier Voters Hears the Nebraskan.
FORT WAYNE, Ind., Oct. 13.—A great crowd greeted William J. Bryan at the political meeting in Princeton' rink to-night, which concluded the second day of the speaker's tour of Indiana.

An hour before the torchlight procession, which escorted the speaker and his party to the hall, arrived the doors were closed, so great was the pressure for admittance.

Bryan's argument followed closely the addresses which he has delivered since the tour began.

HILL TRIES NEW ARGUMENT.

Makes "Government by Injunction" an Issue of Campaign.
WHEELING, W. Va., Oct. 13.—David B. Hill injected a new argument into the Democratic campaign here to-night—a condemnation of "Government by injunction" and the demand for a law granting a jury trial to persons held in contempt of court for the violation of a restraining order of a Federal Judge. The Democratic national platform sustains this position, although in guarded terms.

Wheeling was selected by the New York politician as the place to em-

phasize and make a national issue of this point because of its varied industries giving employment to artisans of many vocations and also because the injunction has been used here in labor disputes in a number of instances.

Another new point as a Democratic argument was also made by Mr. Hill—the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

Wheeling's reception to Davis and party made it necessary to hold two meetings to-night. A large circus tent was not adequate to accommodate the gathering and Carroll Club Hall was hastily secured and as quickly filled, leaving many persons still unable to get in.

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Sketched from life

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or Serviceable.
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