

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

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Political Announcements

FOR CONGRESS I hereby announce myself a candidate for Representative in Congress, Fourth Congressional District, Missouri, subject to the will of the Democratic voters at the primary election, First Tuesday in August, 1920. ROBERT L. YOUNG.

Lewis C. Gabbart announces as Democratic candidate for Congress, Fourth District of Missouri, subject to the primary, August 3rd, 1920.

FOR CORONER Dr. S. D. Reynolds, 218 South Tenth street, hereby announces himself as a candidate for coroner, subject to the primary, August 3, 1920.

THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESS UTER FAILURE

A republican congress closed its work Saturday—it was in complete control of both of the legislative houses—the entire session was an absolute, bald-faced, miserable failure.

Not one of the war-warred countries except this, have failed to draft a reconstruction programme—this republican congress failed.

With the possible exception of the important marine bill no measure of importance was passed. A great debate of futility was staged about the treaty of Versailles; internationally, the senate wandered through a wilderness of words to the point from which it started. As a lawyers' soviet congress ran true to form.

It failed to touch upon taxation legislation designed to offset the current deficit of more than three billions and the possibly larger deficit for the coming fiscal year; to enact laws dealing with the industrial situation, effecting at least the beginnings of a new relation between capital and labor on the lines that the war so clearly revealed as practicable and necessary laws designed to meet the greater aspects of profiteering, of post-war commercial brigandage, to stimulate production, and to bridge the transition period between government-organized industry for war purposes and the private enterprise of normal times.

The surface of these subjects has barely been touched. To strike at profiteering, congress provided an amendment to the Lever Food control act, providing for criminal prosecution of profiteers, and tardily passed a cold storage measure, by which branding of all articles held in cold storage for more than thirty days is made compulsory. Attorney General Palmer has clearly demonstrated that the measure is a device of jailing or fining profiteers instead of hitting at the general situation. Indeed, congress had failed to furnish any definition of profiteering for the guidance of the intrepid attorney general or to do anything except "pass the buck" to him.

Senator McNary became alarmed over the sugar situation and the profiteering in shoes. In both instances investigations were ordered, but have had no action in either. Senator Fringshausen looked over the haphazard aspects of the petroleum coal industry, and finally reported a measure providing for seasonal preferential rates on coal and coke, so as to stimulate production during the slack summer period. Senator Capper wanted patiently at the door of the judiciary committee, asking a report on his bill permitting farmers to combine for co-operative selling and distribution which would be of great benefit to the farmers of our great West.

Congress remained a citadel of reaction with respect to industrial relations. Throughout the session bitter industrial legislation was passed in a haze of ambiguous bills which had they been enacted into law, would have meant almost immediate conditions in the industry. A great report upon the causes and conditions of the steel strike made by a senate subcommittee was passed by unopposed.

The session has been barren of fiscal legislation. The income, excise profits and luxury taxes have not been touched. The work divided session of the supreme court cut off \$200,000,000 from the federal treasury which it otherwise would have received. Sweeping sales taxes have been discussed by the ways and means committee of the house in connection with the soldier bonus bill. They were discarded because of the opposition that developed. There was

no pending taxation proposal before congress at adjournment except a retroactive provision to the income law relating to stock dividends. There is a financial emergency before the country, and the way out was not found.

There is no excuse for such inaction and shameful disregard of the country's interests by the republicans. With a political campaign on hand the republican leaders fell back upon characteristic inaction. They found in the peace treaty debate the required "smoke screen." But the smoke was blown away before the end of the session. The republican congress is uncomfortably aware of the fact that it cannot stand upon its record. It must come back to hard work, even amidst the uncharted terrors of a dynamic presidential campaign and the "frightfulness" of a Washington summer.

HE OULHANN'D BANNA

Until William Cooper Proctor appeared on the scene Mark Hanna stood forth as the perfect embodiment of the principle of Big Business applied to politics. In the light of the testimony taken by the senate committee, Cleveland must forever hide its diminished head in the presence of Cincinnati.

Even Mark Hanna did not underwrite the McKinley candidacy in the spring of 1896 to the extent of \$500,000, nor has any such sum ever been expended heretofore in the nomination of a candidate for president. Yet the Proctor guarantee of \$500,000 represents only a part of the money that has been used in behalf of General Wood. The only way to ascertain the total expenditures is to call in the Wood managers in all the states.

That eminent conservative republican, Sam Stephenson, who was long ago gathered to his fathers, used to say that there were two kinds of people in politics—those that spent their own money and those that spent somebody else's money. An excellent example of the former is Governor Lowden, who spent \$414,948.75, mostly out of his pocket, to promote his candidacy for the republican nomination. In the latter class General Wood is without successful competition. He has arrived at the distinction of being the beneficiary of the most staggering fund ever employed in a pre-convention campaign.

There is no evidence whatever that any of this money has been employed corruptly. On the contrary, it is fair to infer that it was all expended in accordance with the law as the law now stands. The evil lies in the very existence of such a campaign fund—in the paid propaganda, in the manufactured publicity, in the employment of professional workers and shouters, in the attempt to stifle every other candidacy by means of a money-bought organization, in the vicious precedents that are established by politics by purchase.

It was The New York World which first called public attention to the excessive expenditures of the Wood campaign and the effort of a group of very rich men to float a favorite candidate into the White House on a tide of money. It was apparent at that time that the country was in for a recurrence of Hannaism, wearing the familiar mask of a super-patriotism. The case is already sustained. Whether the senate committee gets to the bottom of the campaign expenses or not, enough facts have already developed to prove the necessity of most rigid corrupt practice laws unless the presidency is to be the plaything of men with money or men who can command money. When American politics has reached a stage in which one individual is willing to advance \$500,000 to nominate a candidate for the presidency, no further argument is required.

Most of the candidates have not had much money. Most of them have been unable to get much money. To say that all of them would have been willing to spend more if they had had it gets us nowhere; for this is not a question of men but of methods. The presidency of the United States is not an office to be bought by anybody or for anybody, no matter what the personal merits or qualifications of the candidate may be.

THAT GOP HEAVENLY HARMONY

Some months ago Gen. Wood discovered that there had been—and was—a divided "falling off" in republican unity and he at once set about to urge all good republicans from that day to "branch harmony." But haven't they the services of the greatest preacher of harmony ever known? Chairman Hays has long been flitting from state to state, and from legislature to congress—also from boss to boss—seeking to induce the lion and the lamb to lie down together. He has found the answer to the old puzzle: "How can two walk together except they be agreed?" That answer may be: ignore your differences and pool your sinisterness. Johnson and Lodge are to leave off glaring angrily at each other, in order to concentrate

their united fury upon President Wilson. Penrose and Perkins need not try to love each other better so long as they can intone in unison a hymn of hate against the democratic administration. Thus the recipe for republican harmony is simple. It was anticipated by Carlyle in his proposals for a heaven and hell amalgamation society.

There are, however, some things that cannot be mixed, and some personalities that refuse to be amalgamated. For example, one wing of republicans declares the soldiers' bonus to be only a debt due from a grateful country, while the other denounces it as an unblushing attempt to loot the treasury. How can these two wings be made to flap together? The answer from the distraught republican caucus in Washington is that they can't be. And what sort of harmonizer is Hiram Johnson just now? Like the founders of Massachusetts, he seeks peace with a sword in his hand. Mayor Thompson of Chicago is going after harmony with a club and a knife. It is not astonishing that even well-poised General Wood is worried. Neither he nor any other republican who keeps his eyes open is in the mood to burst into song over the heavenly harmony of his party.

GIVES PEOPLE THAT SICK FEELING

In the ranks of those who speed around over the country seeking who they may devour, may be found others than the sex monomaniacs—for there are found in these ranks, those who chase the chasers. They write books and pamphlets warning of dangers. They join the squads that scrutinize dance halls and public meeting places. They ally themselves with pious invocations with God to make other people better, because largely of their own fevered imaginings and longings they see sex wickedness rampant, and make themselves prominent and not infrequently obnoxious in a fanatical determination to put it down.

Perhaps it is because of the original sin in our hearts that when we see one of these become a cropper, or change from a hound to a hare, we are not entirely inconsolable. But, if he happens to be a man, and chooses to excuse his own fall from grace—as has recently been told in a tale coming from Los Angeles—by piously reconciling it with God's infinite plan and gently putting the blame onto his wife and the other woman, why then it brings on a sort of sick feeling in the pit of the stomach.

We know as a matter of fact that most of those who loudly proclaim themselves better than others are not any better. They protest too much. But it would be cheering, and infinitely more pleasing if, when the fact is proved on one of them, he would take his punishment and his proper classification with just ordinary humanity like a man.

THE 100 PER CENT CLOTHING PROFIT

If the practices of the American Woolen Company of Massachusetts, as set forth by a New York federal grand jury indictment against it, have been generally resorted to by manufacturers, an explanation of the high cost of living is at hand. Profits of 100 per cent or more are shown in various transactions, full details being given. In many instances such gains are three or four times greater than those formerly accepted as reasonable.

With prices inflated to that extent at the source of fabrication, gouging all along the line to the consumer becomes inevitable. It is not to be supposed that the middlemen with whom President Wood's double-headed company dealt were ignorant of its methods. The goods reached them at high cost, necessitating at each stage larger capital and involving greater risk, if the buying fever were ever to end. Naturally, therefore, they would follow an example so illustrious and so profitable, and by that chain of circumstances we may account for retail prices more than doubled.

In defense of such prices it has been urged that they were due to the increased cost of raw materials, labor and supplies—and to burdensome taxes. All these things have contributed to the expense of production, of course, but if 100 per cent has become the prevailing standard of profit the prices that the American people have been paying for "nothing" must be set down largely to extortion. Nothing but their amazing willingness and ability to pay has made such a situation possible.

THAT PROCTOR "SOAP"

The real soap made by Col. Proctor is guaranteed as 99.4 per cent pure; and perhaps that half million that he gave to promote Gen. Wood's chances for president was likewise pure—but we doubt it. It may be that none of it was corruptly expended. It may only have been spent wastefully, and foolishly,

and by absorption into the pockets of the Wood managers.

All of which, like the flowers that bloom in the spring, have little to do with the campaign as it concerns the American people.

The coin they want to keep their collective eyes on is the simple fact that one man, a soap manufacturer, spent that immense amount of money in the determined effort to help buy the presidential nomination for another man, an Army officer. And the collateral fact, that the beneficiary of this princely gift, or investment, Major General Wood, made no protest or objection, is no less important. He was anxious to become president and willing to pay the price of a half million dollar obligation to a multi-millionaire exponent and leader of big business.

Governor Lowden wanted the republican nomination himself, but not so desperately as Major General Wood wanted it. He was willing to invest nearly \$400,000 of his own money in the effort to procure it—but he drew the line at similar investments to be made by interested friends and backers.

It remains to be seen if the people of the United States will sanction such a method of disposing of the political destinies of the republic when they go to the voting booths next November.

KEEPING THE GHOSTS WALKING

A splendid new field has been opened of late for that class of persons who have a hobby—or rather mania—for resurrecting the dead—which for that matter has been a favorite diversion since the days of the flood.

In the past four years there have been shown several circumstantial proofs that the Czar of Russia is alive and well, if not happy, notwithstanding the world credited the circumstantial report that he had been murdered at Ekaterinberg and that the rest of the members of his family perished, and this was later officially acknowledged by the Russian revolutionists. The latest proof that he is alive comes from Geneva, the report having it that he and his family escaped from Siberia and are sojourning in comfort in Japan.

The natural age span of the czar will permit such reports for say thirty years yet, and they will continue to come. That is the way it was with John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Lincoln, who was seen, and recognized in various parts of the country at various times until the time came when he should be dead of old age.

It is said there are still people in England who do not accept the report that Kitchener went down with the cruiser Hampshire, but imagine him in a German dungeon, and some such story as this is sure to be repeated until Kitchener would have become a very old man.

Thus history repeats itself, and the constancy of human nature in its appetite for the strange and sensational is again demonstrated.

WHY NOT OFFER BETTER?

The stock argument of those who oppose the league of nations, and who imagine by so doing that they are showing a superior devotion to their country, is, that the league would be a supra-government to which the government of the United States would become subordinate, and that the league will usurp our own powers and functions of government.

Such pretense is most easily and successfully controverted, for the league of nations shows on its face that it is merely a set of promises given between nations of the earth that they will work jointly to preserve peace in the future. That is all the covenant is—nothing more. Those promises are definitely outlined in the treaty, and may be read and confirmed by those who doubt.

The league covenant provides the only practical way ever proposed to bring world peace—the only plan ever agreed to by so many nations, and the only plan that ever had an opportunity to be worked out by the nations for the abolishment of war. Yet the men who are fighting the league for one petty reason and another—fully 98 per cent of them because they want to discredit Woodrow Wilson—propose nothing in its place. Doesn't it seem reasonable that such men should cease being obstructionists and try to become constructionists before they endeavor to shape our country's policy on such important matters?

TIME TO DROP SUCH STUFF

There have been two foreign wars fought since the civil war of 1861-1865; one of them, the last, the greatest in the history of the world, in both of those foreign wars southern soldiers fought as bravely for a unified country as northern soldiers. Wouldn't it be supposed that the time had long since passed when congressmen would vindictively poke the ashes of the old civil war passions? Yet, when a southern representative

in the house the other day protested against the omission of the names of distinguished confederate generals from the roster of fame in the Arlington cemetery amphitheater, Mr. Madden of Illinois aroused cheers on his side by denouncing Lee and Jackson as "traitors to their country."

If we want to have a real nation, in these days of hyphens and Americanization movements, calling men like Lee and Jackson traitors will get us nowhere. The civil war was ended fifty-two years ago, and it would now promote animosity between the sections to remember that Lee and Jackson, erring as they were in their course, were anything but traitors, according to their sincere view of the constitution and the inherent power of the states to withdraw from the union.

TALKS BACK TO MR. BRYAN

The New York Tribune evidently does not propose that William Jennings Bryan shall have his own sweet way about all things, and therefore sarcastically remarks:

"Dear Mr. Bryan wants the double standard of morality abolished by constitutional amendment and predicts speedy success for his proposal. Every one will agree with his moral argument, should be regulated by the simple, why did nobody think of doing it before? Why have we struggled all these years through religion and family training to purify man's mind when a plain constitutional amendment would have turned the trick at any moment?"

"We hope that Mr. Bryan will develop his ingenious idea to his logical conclusion. Why pause with this relatively small item of reform? Let the whole Ten Commandments be incorporated in the Constitution, with concurrent power in the states and the nation to fix the minimum percentage of coyness, theft, etc., permissible, and punish all who exceed this speed limit."

"And the Ten Commandments are, after all, very general and incomplete. They were well enough for Sinai, but Lincoln, Neb., has a new wisdom and a higher morality. Every element of conduct should be regulated by these new standards. Surely it is monstrous that a man need not attend a single chautauqua lecture in a lifetime if he is not minded to. Compulsory attendance on chautauqua should be one of the earliest amendments after tobacco has been abolished, the single standard established and kissing rationed."

NOW IS THE TIME TO SAVE

You have \$500 in the bank. You exchange it for a piece of furniture that a few years ago used to sell for \$250. In a few years it will again sell for \$250. You have really lost \$250 on the transaction. Suppose, instead, you invest \$500 in a good bond. A few years ago it would have cost you, say \$750. In a few years the bond will again be worth \$750. You make \$250 on the transaction. Therefore, if instead of spending you save, the total difference to you in a few years will be \$500 or a gain of 100 per cent. Do you see why it pays to save now?

The St. Joseph house profiteers are riding to a swift and merited fall. Already prices are beginning to fall, and in a month from now the bottom will be out. Home owning prices which are now being manipulated to a height all out of reason are also ready for the toboggan. It is to be devoutly hoped that when the crash does come the present profiteer gets all that is coming to him.

John Albus as usual "got the bacon" when the ticket distribution came on at the Chicago massacre—and as he was state committeeman he was entitled to them. As to what he did with them is a secondary consideration—but he surely took care of his friends—and they were not alleged Square Dealers, either.

The way the god delegates at Chicago enthused over the Star Spangled Banner would lead an outsider to unwittingly think that all of the patriotism of the country rested in the bosoms of those gops—who showed their "patriotism" by assassinating the peace covenant and League of Nations. Oh, consistency!

It is said that when Frank Walker of Bigelow peeked into the ticket distribution room at Chicago, and saw John Albus inside, that when he communicated that fact to Charley Morris, Clarence Philley and Cain Rankin, the air in their immediate vicinity would have heated up a whole Sunday school room.

A cleaner and better field of Democrats from which to select a candidate for each of the various offices in Buchanan county this fall, was never placed before the voters. Each candidate has the necessary qualifications to give the service to the people which they need.

As usual Kansas was at Chicago with all of its noise and yellow sunflowers—and with the evident—but unfortunate idea that they could put one over with Bill Allen.

A year from now the farmer who has been able to secure help now only under great difficulties, will

have no trouble in getting all that he may want—and at lower prices—for the cities cannot long afford to pay these fancy prices for labor unless the farms produce the needed food to sustain the city worker—which they are not now doing.

The fact that a whole lot of fellows who are now out of office and who would like to get in should not influence you as to whether Missouri should have a new constitution or not. Look into the matter first, before you are swept off your feet.

Senator Lodge started out his "keynote" speech with the assertion that "this is a solemn moment"—which it was for the gop—for that was the beginning of a speech which effectively destroyed what little chance that party might have stood to win.

If required Senator Lodge who talked one way in 1916 and the other in 1920—and now—one hour and eighteen minutes to deliver that "scathing denunciation" of President Wilson at the Chicago slaughter, Tuesday—and then when through, he had really said nothing.

There is now an insistent demand from some of the "righteous" gops of the state that in view of the corruption exposed in the state in the past few weeks over the gop use of money—that there should be a "housecleaning"—but it will never come.

If you cannot find what you want in that field of democrats that are now before you in this county, you had better step over to some other party—or no better than those offered by the Democracy can be found.

Mayor Marshall is certainly some sleuth when it comes to finding bad places in St. Joseph streets. Now if he will repair them as easily as he finds them, all St. Joseph will rise up and call him blessed.

Those campaign contribution checks to those gops who were out to "buy a presidency" seem to have cut quite a figure in the Chicago convention—for the leaders could find no way to sidestep their baleful influence.

Little Willie Hays was so excited when he called the gop convention to order on Tuesday that he knocked a glass of water from the reporters' table, and thus committed the party to the dry movement.

Charley Hay has challenged Judge Henry S. Priest to debate the senatorial question with him—for which nomination both are candidates. Why does not Hay take on the rest of the candidates?

A whole raft of Northwest Missouri people who went to the gop convention returned home without seeing even the color scheme of the inside of the big hall—for they were not Albus friends.

If the St. Joseph board of health will clean up the firms who are careless or dirty in handling stuffs sold to the public, they will be doing a long suffering public a great service.

The supreme court decision in the prohibition cases seems to have swept away the props from under those who believe in a certain amount of liberty of action.

Those Chicago hotel men took what little the gop delegates had left after paying their railroad fare. The extortion practiced was simply past comprehension.

The press reports state that W. J. Bryan "thoughtfully stroked his chin" when Senator Lodge was lambasting Wilson. What do you suppose W. J. was thinking about?

Of course you picked out the winner, before the Chicago convention. Was it the same man after the nomination was made?

If you were John Albus' friend you got into the Chicago convention—if not—you did not.

Well how do you like that Chicago choice? Speak right out.

What the Missouri Editors Are Saying

And Needs Them Badly What this country needs is more overalls and fewer cuff protectors.—Worth County Times.

Sharing Our Luxuries With potatoes at \$14 a barrel, the bugs and beetles are going to live high this summer.—Macon Times.

Those Famous Baseball Bats If the investigating committee will look further into the Lowden campaign fund it may find that a part of it was used to reimburse the Hon. Liv Morse for the purchase of the baseball bats with which he carried

the Third district primaries against Roosevelt in 1912.—Kansas City Times.

And Show Great Leg Movement There are lots of fellows that will hit some one that is down, or some one that is getting up, that will run like a greyhound from the same one when he is on his feet.—Dade County Advocate.

Look at Uncle Joe! Outram Bangs, curator of birds at Harvard, tells us that the American bald eagles are not dying out. There's Uncle Joe Cannon, for instance, as young as ever and as live as a cricket.—Princeton Post.

And Pays the Bills, Beside We would like to have some one who is posted advise us the market price on "political influence" in the third district. We presume the standard of weights and measures is set by "Liv."—Bethany Democrat.

Yet—Wot Will It Be? With whisky quoted at \$50 a pint; cokes at ten cents each; ice at a dollar a hundred and hard to get; wood alcohol handed out in medicine droppers, wotwill are we going to drink this summer?—Clinton County Democrat.

Trying to Soap Wood Mr. Proctor, the Chicago soap manufacturer, acknowledges he gave one-half million dollars to General Wood's campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. Trying to soap the general, it seems.—Howell County Gazette.

And Get Off Quick Some of the leading Republican leaders in Missouri are getting undeviable publicity before the Senate investigating committee. The chairman and several committeemen should resign from the state committee.—Tarkio Avalanche.

Please Tell Us! That Hungarian fortune teller who is understood to have "startled" Europe by predicting the return of the Hohenzollerns and other interesting events, would she mind letting us in on the result of the next presidential election?—Kansas City Times.

Come to a Wetter Climate What has gone with all the people? There has been a decrease in nearly every county in Missouri in the last ten years. It's the same in other states as well as Missouri. Only now and then is there an increase in the population of a county or town. What has gone with them?—Boonville Advocate.

Will Make Patrons Pay It It can be said to Gov. Lowden's credit, that he spent only his wife's money in buying up the Missouri delegation. Mrs. Lowden is a Pullman. We may confidently expect the Pullman's to soon even up by increasing rates. That's a habit this gigantic and soulless corporation has.—Boonville Advertiser.

Reed Making Them Take Notice About the only investigation that has got real and immediate results is the one investigating presidential campaign expenditures. When Senator Reed turns lawyer there is always something doing and facts are forthcoming. Let us have all the pitiless publicity we can have on this question so all may know what influences are behind the several candidates.—Moberly Democrat.

Not This Campaign! Westboro citizens were permitted to meet and shake hands with our next governor, E. E. E. McJinnsey, Wednesday afternoon. He is touring this part of the state by auto and was en route from Magville to Rock Port. McJinnsey has a strong following in Northwest Missouri, and while he is opposed for the nomination by a very able man, we are confident McJinnsey will be Missouri's next governor.—Westboro Enterprise.

Women Should Take Notice The editor of the Standard is neither a moralist or a crank, but if some of the society women of the country are so devoid of modesty and common sense as to wear their dresses nearly up to their knees, showing their legs in silk hose to the entire community, there should be a law passed compelling them to wear clothes which are more respectable. When a married woman, or young girl (it makes no difference which) walks the streets of any town or city with their legs on exhibition it tends to do but one thing—to incite the basely passion in man—and no one knows this better than the women who wear their dresses short. A modest and quiet woman is the greatest gift of God and the sooner the women get back to modest styles and fashions in their clothes the sooner this country will be a better and nobler place in which to live—and if this silk-stocking article fits you, you may wear it.—Miss Standard.