

Indiana's Fight for Primary Law

BALLOU, THE BRAVE

Indiana voters of all parties will cheer for Senator O. L. Ballou of La-grange, and praise him for his brave fight in the Indiana senate on the primary bill. Standing free from caucus manacles, speaking the plain words of sound reason, calm logic, fairness, courtesy and truth, Ballou, in his gallant rally, made a splendid figure of a man. His sturdy purpose, his magnificent courage, his eloquent appeal, were inspiring. He won the respect of all and earned the admiration of foe and friend. Ballou has made some notable fights for the right in the present session. In his revolt against caucus repudiation of party pledges and in his consistent, compelling fight to induce the senate democrats to measure up to duty and opportunity, he surpassed all former heights and gained state-wide fame. Ballou's appeal, inherently strong because basically reasonable and just, gained tremendous additional force by reason of the breadth and stature of Ballou, the man. If a good fight develops nothing more than good leadership, then the fight has been worth while. Recent fighting has developed Ballou in a way to make him loom large on the political horizon. The rank and file has come to know and love Ballou, the brave. Hats off to Ballou.—Indiana Daily Times.

JOHN R. JONES

Two years ago, out of Marshall county, came Representative John R. Jones, a quiet, unassuming, modest personality. Of medium height, wiry, dark, with a good eye, rugged features, no great claim to beauty, but with firmness of character marked in all the lines of his intelligent face, Jones went about his business without noise and without bluster. At first he did not attract much attention.

Later the legislature heard from Jones.

In 1912 the democratic state platform pledged an honest primary law. Jones, elected representative on the democratic ticket, up home, stood on that party pledge. Jones believed in the primary principle. More than this, Jones believed the democratic party meant what it said when it promised to give the people an honest primary law. So in this belief Jones brought with him, in his grip, down from Marshall county, an honest primary bill. On this bill Jones had worked intelligently many months. It was a good bill, and it was drawn on intensely practical lines, for Jones is a practical politician of fine ideals and he combined idealism with practical working politics.

History tells what a misguided democratic state organization did to the Jones primary bill of two years ago. In defeating the primary bill, however, the democratic legislature gave Jones state-wide fame and won for him the honored title, "Honest Primary" Jones.

Jones was a good loser. He went home with the honest primary bill in his grip. He told the home folks the story and they renominated him for representative unanimously, and he was re-elected without trouble and back he came this year with the same grip and in the grip an honest primary bill.

The democrats had gone on record once more, in 1914, in favor of a primary law. Jones believed the democrats of the rank and file meant what they said when they put the primary question in the party platform. So he dropped the Jones primary bill once more in the legislative hopper.

It was not so easy to down Jones this year. He was backed by an or-

ganization of platform pledge keepers. President Wilson gave his aid. Secretary of State Bryan helped. Senator Kern made the primary fight his own fight. Other big democrats helped, and all the way the Jones forces kept up a press bombardment from all over the state. Jones made a magnificent fight in his quiet way, forcing his bill on the house democratic majority as a platform measure and getting the form and most of the substance of his measure through the senate and again through the house.

When the democratic party jewels are made up J. R. Jones ought to come in for something substantial in the way of praise and fair recognition. He has done large service on behalf of his party and on behalf of the rank and file voters of all parties. For he has made it possible for the voters to try out a primary law in Indiana.—Indiana Daily Times.

PEACE AND ARMAMENTS

Were anything ever needed to shatter the argument that heavy armaments make for peace, surely it is found in the spectacle of the greatest war in history, when millions of men in arms are drenching the world with human blood. It is generally agreed among fair-minded observers that the old doctrine of militarism being a preserver of peace has utterly collapsed. Yet with this "terrible example" before us, the jingoistic element of the United States would have us emulate the nations of Europe and build up, and forever build up, greater armies and navies.

The Citizen does not attempt to say that we should not have an adequate navy, and an army large enough to ensure proper defense in case of attack, but to undertake to build the "greatest navy the world has ever known," as some demand, would put us in the light of inviting attack from all quarters. And at this time, when no great power in the world can assail us, surely there is less need for increasing our armament. The powers of Europe have enough troubles of their own without looking for more, and who, then, can throw down the gauntlet to the United States? And whether or not this war shall end in ten days or in ten years, the nations now engaged will require many years wherein to recuperate before they can possibly become a menace to the United States. So why howl about war when no danger threatens?

Is it not reasonable to assume that the warring nations, all of them seeking to cultivate our friendship, look upon this country as the final arbiter, and may we not assume also that the first requirements which the United States as mediator will lay down will be a limitation of armaments? And in the event of the latter being acceptable to the peace conference, how foolish it would be for this government to plunge furiously into the reckless building of cruisers and dreadnoughts. It would be an investment of many millions of dollars from which there could be no return.—The Asheville (N.C.) Citizen.

WASN'T QUALIFIED

"I've been reading an article on electricity, John," said the wife as she laid down a copy of a technical magazine which she had been perusing. "And it appears before long we'll be able to get pretty nearly everything we want by just touching a button."

"It will never pay here," growled the husband. "You would never be able to get anything in that way."

"Why not, John?"

"Because nothing on earth would

ever make you touch a button. Look at my shirt!"—National Food Magazine.

TREASON IN THE CITADEL OF PROTECTION

"During the period [of the free-wool Underwood-Simmons tariff] the growers of wool in the United States have received higher prices than when there was a duty of 11 or 12 cents per pound, and the manufacturers have been put on a basis of equality with their European competitors as far as raw material has been concerned."—Annual report of President Wood of the American Woolen Company.

Here is treason within the very "citadel of protection." The facts, of course, are that the wool-growers have been ruined by the democratic free-wool tariff, as they said they would be, and that the wool manufacturers are selling their mills for old junk under an avalanche of pauper imports, as it was said they would be doing.

This defection of a whole army corps in the standpat camp calls for the most rigorous measures of suppression. A treason which breaks out at the very moment when the camp is rallying to recover the lost trenches of 1912 should bring the firing squad into immediate action.—New York World.

A SAFER WAY TO TURN

You've noticed that every time a party of joy riders comes to grief it is because the motor car "turned turtle." Now, if some of these speeding cars would only turn tortoise and

slow down, so called valuable lives might be saved.—Chicago Tribune.

LIFE INSURANCE

Is needed today, NOW. Nothing can take its place. It is needed

(1) If you have not enough wealth to make your family independent.

(2) If you have wealth you are well able to pay for it, and wealth may not always be yours.


(3) Since it will cost you less today than when you are a year or more older.

(4) For sickness or accident may place you in the uninsurable class, which is by no means a small one.

(5) Since it increases your assets and makes your credit better.

(6) You may suddenly be taken away and your obligations be shifted to those least able to bear them.

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