

WILL STEEL CO. DO ANYTHING IN CAMPAIGN?

INDUSTRIES SHYING AT PRIMARIES

Calumet Region Plants Are Not In Politics This Spring
Thank You.

BY THE POLITICAL REPORTER
Tom Hamilton is out on a limb. The Illinois Steel Company has taken its hand out of politics, at least for the primary, and here is Hamilton all dressed up in a riding habit with no horse to ride. R. O. Johnson's pictures as well as Hamilton's are all over the mills. But the harder two Gary newspapers hammer away at Johnson the more the steel worker is convinced that Hamilton was entered in the republican primary for mayor to be the successor of W. F. Hedges and that he has been groomed by the "bosses" at the mills.

What is to do is a problem with the Hamiltonians. To attack the steel company wouldn't much hurt the steel company but might do a lot of harm to Hamilton. The steel company is not without friends. There are superintendents, assistant superintendents, first assistant superintendents, foreman and a whole army of dyed-in-the-wool steel company patriots who wouldn't have to be asked to do a little missionary work if necessary.

Looks as though Tom would have to go right ahead looking like the holy anointed. Being superintendent of the Gary & Indiana Company, he has traveled some pretty rough roads before and should be very well equipped.

The facts are, gentlemen, that the big industries in the Calumet region are not engaging in the city primaries in their respective battlements. Whereas heretofore they have shown preference they are now as neutral as the Queen of Holland. Even some of the representatives of these industries who have always been political captains are taking a well deserved rest. By reason of this retirement from the fold of some excellent players, J. K. Rappa can be seen pitching at East Chicago a brave game of baseball with a five man team. Like Hamilton in Gary, Rappa is said by his rivals to have the support of the industries.

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whereas he is even more destitute of swollen fortune than Hamilton, who it must be remembered has Captain Norton.

The Standard Oil company at Whiting has no part in politics this spring while in Hammond the Standard Steel Car Company, largest of the plants in the city was wise in its generation and never even got its feet wet.

Paying, as they do, a very considerable portion of the taxes and being vitally interested in proper distribution of these taxes, it is to be expected that the big industries such as the Illinois Steel Company, the Inland Steel Company, the Standard Oil Company and others would take part in politics especially when the corporation taxes such a pride in a city as the United States Steel Corporation does in Gary. And having taken part in politics in the interest of good government in the past they have made political enemies as well as friends.

There is a very good and sufficient reason, however, for their retirement from the political game. To be entirely frank, the durned game is too rough. The industries still bear the brunt of the last presidential primaries.

Gen. Leonard Wood was their candidate. He represented the type of stern, fair, militant Americans that appealed to a board of directors. The industries of the Calumet region—and elsewhere, as well—joined into one great vested choir and sang the praises of Gen. Leonard Wood. It was a booming chorus without a discord. But the soul of the voter was left unshamed and the vote he piled up for Hiram Johnson will be a constant reminder to heads of the corporations that they do well to control the vote of their own stockholders.

Let an official of one of the largest of the Lake county industries tell about it as he told it to the political reporter.

"No thanks," he said, "we don't want any. We just had some. I feel like the baseball fan who lost his roll on the world series and said that he never did like baseball anyway. It was such a rough game. Why, if all the Wood managers in Lake county had voted for the general he couldn't have been beaten so badly. We got hit on the nose and now we don't propose to get hit on our sore nose, eh?"

"It is like the story Mark Twain

told about the inebriate in the dance hall out west. This fellow got thrown out of the hall and down a flight of stairs to the street. He went back and was pitched out again. The third time he hit the road most of his pop gone. 'Well,' he said, 'I guess they don't want me on there.'

Yes, the industries are out of politics and Tom Hamilton is out on a limb. Exactly why Tom is supposed to be the steel company guy nobody takes time to explain, much less R. O. Johnson, who is enjoying the role of an apostle of the people.

The Gary campaign is chock full of paradox. Johnson is being boosted in certain quarters as a "liberal" who will "open up the town." Others are criticizing him for the same reason. And as a matter of fact the town has been wide open for months—almost as open as Indiana Harbor and far more lively than Hammond. Johnson's character in being assailed which is ill-advised and bad politics among the men voters but for some reason or other is considered good politics with the women. Similar tactics were used against Dwight Kinder last fall with the result that Kinder's friends redoubled their efforts and assured his election.

Both Hamilton and Johnson spoke at a meeting of the Plumbers Union League in the auditorium of the library at Gary Saturday night. A majority of those present were railroad switchmen and their wives. The sentiment was strongly in favor of Hamilton as expressed by the applause which was to be expected of the characters of the audience.

ST. ANDREWS WELCOMES ITS NEW PASTOR

St. Andrew's parish in West Hammond turned out in force yesterday to extend welcome to the new pastor, Rev. Anthony Haigas and his assistant Rev. Henry Plepenkotter. Rev. Haigas takes the place of Rev. B. Nowakowski, who was transferred to a Chicago parish. February 27.

The crowd gathered first at the

church and at 2:30 o'clock headed by the older parishioners marched to the rectory where they greeted the new priests, presenting them with a chin dinner set, silver service, many beautiful pieces and numerous other gifts.

Following the reception a parade was formed, headed by a band from East Chicago and the different Polish societies of West Hammond. City officials and members of the police and fire departments were in line of march. A string of automobiles several blocks long furnished transportation for the older folks and guests of honor. The parade then traversed the principal streets, ending at Kosciusko Hall. There the children of St. Andrew's school gave a very entertaining program.

In the evening supper was spread.

Some idea of the crowd may be gained from the fact that the tables had to be cleared three times before all had been served.

It was the largest turnout ever seen at an event of its kind in West Hammond.

After the banquet Andrew Stachowicz took charge as toastmaster and speeches were made by the leading citi-

LUCKY STRIKE cigarette



zens of the parish, the new pastor and visiting priests.

At 10:30 the floor was

cleared and the people danced for about an hour.

Because of the late hour at

which the festivities closed, the children were excused from school today.

Visiting priests were Father Chodnicki of Hegewisch, Father Hylewski and Father Godzak of East Chicago, Father Kozlowski of St. Stephen's church, of Chicago, and former assistant of St. Andrews, and Father Dobrowolski, chaplain of St. Mary's hospital, Chicago.

fused at first but he beat her until she agreed to the sale. He then took the money and deposited it in a loan association under his own name. He then put her on a daily allowance, never giving her more than \$5 at a time. They have two children, having been married since September, 1914. Sir

asks for Elsie Williams, daughter of the children and the one month for support.

PASTIME Today—Edgar Jones in CAUGHT IN THE RAPIDS. Also Sunshine Comedy.

BIJOU Today and Tomorrow—Upton Sinclair in "THE MONEY CHANGERS" Showing the Dangers of Chinatown. Also "The Son of Tarzan"

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MARION GIBNEY — Comedienne

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Lionel Barrymore in
"THE GREAT ADVENTURE"



Lionel Barrymore in
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