

ROOSEVELT AND BRYAN

MAY LEAD THE TWO BIG PARTIES IN THE NEXT PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

FRIENDS OF THE MASSES

Both Men Head and Shoulders Above The Rank and File—Two Notable Characters, with a Strong Following.

Washington, Dec. 10.—It is now generally conceded that Mr. Bryan is to be the nominee of his party next year. All opposition appears to have faded away, and it will be surprising if any of a formidable character springs up between now and the meeting of the National convention.

If Mr. Bryan is a prophet as well as a philosopher, Theodore Roosevelt would be a candidate for the Republicans.

"And I can beat him at the polls," added Mr. Bryan, with a self-confident smile. "I would just as soon run against Roosevelt as any one."

It is a curious fact that these two men, who may be the rival gladiators in next year's arena and who have such great followings among the American people, are very much alike in some of their chief characteristics. Both deal with the people with remarkable frankness. Both are almost continually talking. Both advocate a lot of things that never come to pass and that a majority of the people do not take kindly to, but that makes no difference. Their mistakes do not seem to hurt them. Blunders which would damn and ruin forevermore an ordinary public man only seem to make them the stronger in the affections of their followers. That is because they have risen so high—because they are in the popular hero class, in a class by themselves.

Both are "reformers," both "radicals," or, at least, Mr. Bryan was until Mr. Roosevelt put him in the conservative class by contrast. Both these men are preachers, most excellent and copious sermonizers, and always at it. Only accident took them into politics and deprived the pulpit of bright and shining lights. What a revivalist Mr. Bryan would have made. And what a controversialist Mr. Roosevelt!

But in the last analysis the two men hold their high place in the popular esteem because they have, in one way or another, convinced the masses they are sincere, earnest friends of the people, against wrong in all sorts of places, whether in government, finance or industrialism. The American people like a good preacher. Performance doesn't count for so much, so long as there are plenty of promises.

If Mr. Bryan is right, and it is to be Roosevelt against Bryan, we shall have a great campaign. Greek will meet Greek; idol against idol; preacher and promoter versus promoter and preacher; the masses warmed to feverish fervor of advocacy; the analytical mind looking on with cool disdain.

The moral certainty of Mr. Bryan's nomination has raised for the Republicans an interesting practical question: Who can beat him? Opinions differ, of course. Some think the Republicans would be stronger against Bryan with a conservative candidate, while others believe popularity, the fetchism of hero-worshiping, on one side must be matched against the same thing on the other, and the devil take the hindmost. That means Roosevelt against Bryan.

SETTLEMENT AGREED BY STEEL'S BONDSMEN

The bondsmen of Treasurer Steel have agreed to make good all losses. Terms of settlement: The American Surety Company agrees to pay the State of Oregon a total of \$409,388.88 to cover the deposits in the Title Guarantee & Trust Company and the Merchants' National bank. It pays at once the sum of \$122,478.20 in drafts on New York payable to the State Treasurer. It agrees to pay on or before December 31, 1909, the sum of \$295,910.68 with interest at 5 per cent dating from November 6, 1907, until the principal is paid.

In return for this the surety company is relieved from future liability on its bond of \$550,000 held to secure State Treasurer Steel, though the bond stands good for past acts and as security for the payment of all sums now due and mentioned in the agreement. The surety company receives also the securities given by the Title Guarantee & Trust company to secure the state's deposits in the bank.

State Treasurer Steel's bond of \$550,000 is canceled and he is ordered by the governor to file a new bond of \$600,000 within 20 days. He will furnish the bond within the time and continue in office.

SUNDAY PAPERS A NECESSITY.

Everything Else Prohibited From Sale By Topeka Blue Laws. Topeka, Kan., Dec. 10.—Mayor William Green has notified Chief of Police Eaton that nothing but the neces-

sities of life should be sold to Topeka hereafter on Sunday, beginning December 15. The single exception made is in favor of the Sunday newspapers sold on the streets.

Grocery stores, news stands and confectionery stores must close. No hotels may sell cigars or tobacco. Drug stores will be allowed to remain open; nothing, however, but medicine necessary for sickness shall be dispensed. Sunday theaters will not be effected, as the city has now a test case before the Supreme Court.

Yeggmens Getting Bold.

Three holdups in the west end of Pendleton Wednesday night leads to the belief that a gang of yeggmens are operating in that vicinity. The police are taking measures to drag-net them, and all suspicious characters will be put under arrest.

HARRIMAN MADE TO BOW DOWN

Negotiations are under way between the Attorney-General and E. H. Harriman looking to an agreement by which the Union Pacific will abandon all its direct control of the Southern Pacific, in return for which the Government will agree not to prosecute Mr. Harriman for violation of the anti-trust law and of the competitive clauses in the interstate commerce law. The negotiations have not actually been concluded, but they have reached a stage where it is believed an agreement will be entered into.

The Southern Pacific is to be organized as a separate corporation and the Union Pacific will either take over the old Central Pacific line from Ogden to San Francisco or else will operate over it as a through line, as it is permitted to do by law.

The holding company organized by Mr. Harriman and his friends to take over the stock of the Santa Fe and Northern Pacific will probably continue, but the direct community of interest between the Union Pacific and its competing lines will be stopped.

Whether this agreement not to prosecute Mr. Harriman and Mr. Harriman's agreement to keep up at least a semblance of open competition between the transcontinental lines he controls will result in any benefit to the public is doubtful, but technically the triumph of the Government is assured.

SENATOR TILLMAN AND HIS PITCHFORK

WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT BONDS AND TREASURY CERTIFICATES—THE LEGALITY QUESTIONED

Washington, Dec. 9.—Senator Tillman today introduced a resolution directing the committee on Finance to investigate the recent proceedings of the Secretary of the Treasury, in connection with the financial crisis, and also to make inquiry concerning clearing house certificates. The resolution was presented in two series, the first dealing with the operations of the Treasury Department and the second with clearing house certificates, both being divided into three sub-divisions.

The first of the resolutions directs the committee on finance to investigate the report to the Senate, as follows:

"First, whether the issue of certificates of indebtedness bearing 3 per cent interest, bids for which were invited by the Secretary of the Treasury November 18, 1907, were for the purpose of borrowing money to meet expenditures, as provided by section 32, of the act approved June 15, 1899, and if not whether there is any warrant of law for the issue of the certificates.

"The second, whether the issue of \$50,000,000 of bonds of the Panama canal loan, bids for which were called for by the Secretary of the Treasury on November 18, 1907, was required to defray the expenditures on the canal, there being a time when both these loans were made upward of \$200,000,000 in the treasury for current expenditures.

"Third, whether any legislation was necessary to protect the people and the business interests of the country, if clearing house certificates are lawful money, and to prevent the illegal increase of the public debt in time of peace."

The second series of the resolution directs the finance committee to investigate and report to the Senate as soon as practicable:

"First, whether clearing house certificates with which the country is now flooded are being issued under authority of law, or contrary to same.

"Second, whether the issuing of such certificates by an association of banks, both state and National, and the use of the same as money subjects, such as the tax of 10 per cent provided for in section 3142, U. S. Revised Statutes.

"Whether it would be possible, under the law as it is, for an association of banks, warehouses and elevators to issue certificates based on cotton, wheat and tobacco, stored in such warehouses or elevators, and fully insured to be used as money in marketing said crops in the same way as clearing house certificates are now used."

FOR RENT.

The Selling residence, on Fourth street. Inquire at house.

PEOPLE TO DECIDE

ON ENACTMENT OF LAWS PROPOSED BY PEOPLE'S POWER LEAGUE, NEXT JUNE.

PARTY REPRESENTATIVE

In the Legislature According to Vote Cast—Woman Suffrage Amendment is to Be Passed On Also.

Oregon voters will legislate on a number of subjects next June, under the initiative and referendum, which enables them to make laws the same as do their representatives in the Legislature. Petitions for initiating four bills will be circulated in Multnomah county this week, by the People's Power League, for signature of electors, and then will be circulated in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Linn, Lane, Benton, Clackamas, Marion, Union, Umatilla, Washington, Yamhill, Columbia and Clatsop counties. The petitions need 7500 signatures, but \$500 will be obtained.

The bills will be voted on in the state election next June, and will become laws in each case, if approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon. At the same time electors will vote on four acts of the last session of the Legislature, on which acts, the referendum was called. They are:

Sheriff of Multnomah county to have custody of county prisoners at Kelly's Butte. Annual appropriation of \$125,000 for State University. Appropriation of \$100,000 for armories for National Guard. Compulsory railroad passes for state and county officials.

The four bills offered for the initiative by the People's Power League are as follows:

People to have power to discharge incompetent or unworthy officials, after an election, called by 25 per cent of voters, at any time during their term of office; known as recall amendment to constitution. Political parties and organizations to be represented in Legislative bodies in proportion to their voting strength in elections; proportional representation. Limiting campaign expenses of candidates for office, publishing statements of candidates for state nominations and of state central committees by the state, and punishing corrupt practices in primaries and election. (Statutory act.)

Instructing candidates for Legislature to subscribe statement No. 1, as to election of United States Senator, and to vote for candidates receiving highest popular vote. (Statutory act.)

These bills, for two constitutional amendments and two statutory enactments will be circulated all together, and electors can sign the initiative petitions for any one or all of them. The most important is that for proportional representation. W. S. U'ren, secretary of the People's Power League, and head of the movement, said that proportional representation is even more potent in eliminating boss and machine rule than the initiative and referendum and direct primary. He remarked that had one choice been given him between initiative and proportional representation, he would have selected proportional representation. But because the initiative and referendum and direct primary could be easily adopted by the people and approval of the other was doubtful, he said he followed the lines of least resistance, and advocated initiative and referendum and direct primary first.

Enactment of the new reforms as now proposed, said Mr. U'ren, would complete the work of transferring to the people the control of government. Even under the initiative and referendum, and the direct primary, there is some chance of boss rule, he remarked, because they do not make complete the power of the people in government, without the new measures now offered.

Electors will also vote on a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution and a bill to create the Port of Columbia, for Multnomah, Columbia and Clatsop counties, following the model of a legislative act declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

The bill for the Port of Columbia will be initiated by Portland interests. The Legislative act was declared invalid because the Legislature has no power to create a municipal association and the port district was such a corporation. Creation of such a corporation can be accomplished only under the initiative by vote of the people in the affected district. The act will give control of pilotage and towage at the mouth of the Columbia river to a commission, representing three counties and will transfer control of bar pilotage from Astoria to Portland.

The plan of proportional representation will cut down the majority of the Republicans in the Legislature, give more seats to the Democrats and give several seats to the Socialists and Prohibitionists. At the last session the Democrats had only one member in the House out of 60, and in the Senate, six out of 30. Republicans had 59 members in the House and 24 in the Senate.

The 50,000 votes cast by Republicans in the state election would have entitled Republicans, under proportional representation, to about 33 members in the House and 17 in the Senate. Democrats would have had for their 30,000 votes 20 members in the House and ten in the Senate. Socialists would have had for their 6800 votes the state four seats in the House and two in the Senate. Prohibitionists would have had for their 4600 votes, three members in the House and one in the Senate. This is a simple illustration of the new plan and the results would be approximately as indicated in the foregoing.

The bill also provides for marking the ballot of all challenged voters, and that in case of successful contest, and proof of fraud, the votes may be cast out of the count. At present there is no way of casting out fraudulent ballots, because they cannot be identified in the ballot box and there is no telling how the fraudulent voter marked his ballot. Contests of election can now benefit an injured candidate only to the extent of securing a correct count of all the ballots, the fraudulent ones included, and in gaining evidence for prosecution of perpetrators of fraud.

WOULD BUY WATER SITE

The people of Willamette Monday night held a mass meeting to listen to two propositions for the sale of the Willamette water system by the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company. Mr. Griffith stated that the company would sell the plant for \$5000 to a joint stock company, to be formed by the Willamette property-owners and residents, the price to cover four acres of land where the spring is located and the lot on which the tank is placed. The company agreed to take one-fourth of the stock, providing the three-fourths to be subscribed by the people is paid in cash. This proposition was received most favorably.

The company's second proposition is to sell the plant for \$5000, accepting a payment of one-third cash, the remainder to be made in easy payments. In this second proposition no stock is to be taken by the Portland company.

Robert W. Baker, E. P. Berdine and G. G. Graves was appointed a committee to draw up plans for the purchase of the system and to solicit the sale of stock, and they will report at a later meeting.

STAGE WRECKED BY BIG TIDAL WAVE

Fourteen passengers had a miraculous escape from death and several were injured in a most unusual accident on the Drain stage line Monday. The coach was lost in a tidal wave, but the passengers, after being carried 100 feet out from shore, were dashed back on land and all saved.

For a distance of about 25 miles from a point opposite Marshfield to the mouth of the Umpqua River the stage runs along the coast at low tide on the wet sand between the sea wall and the water. That morning while the stage was about two miles out, without warning an enormous wall of water enveloped the conveyance. It came so quickly that there was no escape.

Almost at the same moment a log struck the stage and dashed it to pieces. Ten men were carried out to deep water by the receding wave, and the three women and a child who were among the passengers were pinned under a part of the wrecked stage.

S. Witkowski, a traveling man, suffered a sprained ankle and is laid up at a local hotel. Mr. Bowman was badly bruised and the women are all suffering severe bruises. It was thought for an hour that the Thornton baby was dead, but the child was finally revived.

The driver saved himself by holding to the lines and was dragged out by the horses, but the coach and all the baggage was lost. The women in the party were put on the horses and the men walked back to Coos Bay, and all were brought to Marshfield in a gasoline launch and cared for.

J. L. Bowman, of Portland, who has been in the city visiting his father-in-law, Anson Rogers, and who is interested in the erection of the Rogers business block in this city, in speaking of the accident said:

"I never expected to come out of the accident alive. I am sure that I was carried out 100 feet from shore, and I was washed in three times before I could get on my feet. The only thing that saved us was a log striking the stage, and for a few seconds retarding the outward force of the receding wave; otherwise we would have been carried out to sea so far that we could never have reached shore.

"All that saved the women was that they were held under a part of the stage long enough to enable us to rescue them. Mrs. Noble had a very narrow escape. A few moments after we had her in safety the last of the stage disappeared.

"It would take my chances any time in a shipwreck rather than in this stage accident, as there was no chance for escape. I have made the round trip 40 times in the last 14 years, and it is the first accident, and I am going out for Portland tomorrow over the same line in another stage."

BLOWS OFF HIS HEAD

FARM HAND SUICIDES NEAR MOLLALA—DESPONDENT OVER LOSS OF ARM.

DEATH COMES QUICK

Top of Head Blown Off—No Friends in the West—The Coroner Holds An Inquest.

Despondent over the loss of his left hand, John Nixan, a laborer on the farm of Hans Larsen, one and a half miles northwest of Mollala, Friday night blew his head off with a shotgun. His body was found at 11 o'clock Saturday morning in chicken house a short distance from the Larsen residence.

He was 52 years of age, unmarried, and had no relatives in the West, but is survived by a sister and three brothers in Massachusetts. He came to Clackamas county from La Grande, where about one year ago he lost his left arm. For a time he worked for his board at the Moshberger place, and after the hopping season was over he went to Mr. Larsen's farm. The testimony at the inquest disclosed the fact that the loss of his arm made Nixan despondent.

The deed was committed Friday night. Hearing the discharge of a gun, and Nixan not returning, search was made but the body was not found until Saturday. It later developed that he had entered the chicken house, placed the muzzle of the gun in his mouth, and fired the fatal shot by means of a corkscrew tied to a stick. The piece had a gruesome appearance, splattered with blood of the suicide, who, evidently nervous in his haste, had exploded the gun the first time before he was prepared, the shots tearing a hole through the roof of the house.

Coroner Holman was promptly notified, and went to Mollala and held an inquest. Nixan was a single man, 52 years of age, and had three bro-

thers and a sister in Massachusetts, but no relatives in the West. His body will be held pending instructions from his Eastern relatives.

Grange Officers Elected.

The annual election of officers of Maple Lane Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, was held Saturday. The meeting was well attended, about 50 Grangers being present. An attractive program was given. Last year Maple Lane took second prize in the contest for initiatory work, and next year it is likely that this Grange will also enter the contest for literary work. The officers elected were:

A. J. Lewis, master; Louise Beard, overseer; Blanch Mautz, steward; Mrs. Anna J. Lewis, lady assistant steward; Mrs. J. E. Seeley, lecturer; Mrs. R. Mautz, chaplain; Lyman Derrick, assistant steward; S. T. Roman, secretary; A. J. Hobbie, treasurer; Emma Roman, Cress; Pearl Darling, Flora; Bessie Crawford, Pomona; Harry Shelley, gatekeeper; Mrs. T. E. Beard, organist.

Good for Chehalis County.

Olympia, Wash., Dec. 12.—Chehalis county has decided to expend the \$200,000 cash in its road and bridge fund in new road work this fall, to give employment to several hundred men of families who have been thrown out of work there by the closing down of the mills. The above statement was made here by President Finck, of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce.

HOP GROWERS WILL ORGANIZE

Hop growers in several sections of Oregon are taking steps to organize for mutual protection. The ruinous market prices that now prevail make it evident that something must be done to save the industry. Meetings have been called to discuss the proper measures. The California growers have completed an organization and will send delegates to Oregon and Washington to get the farmers of these states in line.

Calls have been issued for growers' meetings this week at Independence, Dallas and North Yamhill, and it is likely that meetings will be held in other sections. S. H. Petre, who has issued a call for the meeting at Dallas next Saturday, says it is not proposed to form an independent organization but to discuss plans for a general organization of the entire Pacific Coast, and he would be glad to have M. H. Durst or any of the California representatives on hand.

HOLIDAY ADVICE

We are like other business men in the world, we want more trade. That is why we advertise. It isn't to be supposed that you will come here to buy simply because we ask it. Common sense indicates that we must do better by you than other dealers or you will do your buying of them. That's just what we're going to do. We have marked our Holiday stock

Just One-Third Less Than Usual

and are going to give you the benefit. Our assortment is larger and more complete than ever before, and it not being our policy to carry over any Xmas stock if we can avoid it, we don't intend to do so this year if low prices will sell it. We advise you to come early and see what we have to offer you.

A Few Ideas for Ladies' and Gents' Presents

Gold Pen, Finger Purse, Hand Bag, Jewel Box, Handkerchief Box, Glove Box, Framed Picture, Fancy Bottle Perfume, Calendar, Work Box, Photo Album, Autograph Album, Music Roll, Card Case, Toilet Set, Manicuring Set, etc.

Something you Might Buy for the Men and Boys

Box Cigars, Cigar Case, Smoking Set, Shaving Set, Gillette Ever-ready or Yankee Shaving Set, Bill Book, Card Case, Fountain Pen, Ink Well, Necktie Box, Ash Tray, Paper Knife, Pocket Knife, Toilet Set, Traveling Set, Fancy Pack Cards, Bridge Set, Collar and Cuff Box, Match Box, Stamp Box, etc.

Howell & Jones

Reliable Druggists