

DETROIT SPARED BY WREST FIRE

Portland Campers Have Narrow Escape.

FLEE BEFORE THE FLAMES

Others May Have Perished in North Santiam Canyon.

FATE STILL IN DOUBT

Conflagration Has Now Reached the Most Valuable Timber Belt in State, and is Entering the Cascades.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—

When all hope had about been abandoned, word was received here today that the town of Detroit had escaped destruction from the immense forest fire which is sweeping up the canyon of the North Santiam. The fire is raging in the dense, standing timber back in the mountains and great loss is ensuing. The Zan-Fletcher-Linn camping party, of Portland, had a narrow escape but managed to reach Detroit in safety.

The latest reports are that the fire is eating its way through one of the finest belts of timber in the Cascade Mountains. It extends for a mile and a half either side of the North Santiam River and has also turned up the Breitenbush Canyon.

Detroit, the largest town in the Santiam Canyon and terminus of the eastern division of the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad, escaped because of the cleared country surrounding it. The fire burned over the heavy timber on all sides of the town.

While no loss of life has been reported there are known to be parties of campers directly in the path of the flames. The campers on the Breitenbush River, or beyond Detroit, at any of the numerous camping grounds that mark the course of the Santiam River and its tributary streams, are within the possible path of the flames. The bridge across the Breitenbush River has been rendered useless.

Portland People in Peril. Dem J. Zan and wife and Fletcher Linn, of Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Homer A. Nelson and Mr. and Mrs. Perry A. Young, of Albany, all prominent society people, were camped on the North Santiam River about half a mile above its mouth.

Mr. Nelson joined the party Saturday morning and two hours after his arrival the fire was raging and in a very brief space of time reached their camping grounds.

Nothing was heard of the party until late this afternoon, when it was learned that the campers had reached Detroit just ahead of the flames. At times it looked as though they were lost and the atmosphere was so dense with smoke that it was impossible to see more than 20 feet ahead of them when they were making for Detroit.

Flames Surround Detroit.

The conditions at Detroit during the time the fire was passing were something terrible. With miles of forest burning on every side and within a short distance of the town, the heat was all but unbearable and the smoke almost suffocating. The distance from the mouth of the Breitenbush River to Detroit is about a mile. Heavy timber extends from Berry to the Breitenbush. The fire ran through this at a high rate of speed, extending over four miles within a little more than an hour from its inception. If campers at the Breitenbush learned of the approach of the flames early and started, they might have reached Detroit easily.

Another place where there are known to be a large number of campers is at a point some 15 miles up the Breitenbush River. Between 50 and 100 people are camped there and while they are several miles from the Santiam Canyon, they are in the Breitenbush Canyon and the wind is favorable to carry the smoke, and possibly the fire, to them. At best they are penned up, shut off from their only avenue of escape, via Detroit, and will have a disagreeable time until rain puts an end to the fire.

Excursion Train Blocked.

The regular excursion train which is sent to Detroit every Saturday night ready for the through trip to Newport Sunday morning, was unable to reach its destination last night. The night was spent at Mill City, 20 miles this side of Detroit. At that point the reflection of the great fire was plainly visible, and the smoke was quite dense, although the wind was blowing in from the north.

It reports from a reliable source that people on this morning's train may be relied upon, only the rain which seems to be approaching can prevent destruction of miles of valuable timber covering the mountain sides which are within the Cascade Mountain forest reserve. These people state that a brisk wind was blowing up the Santiam Canyon, sufficiently strong to carry the fire up the canyon at a terrific rate of speed, and over the mountains into the reserve. In fact, the report this morning is that the fire has already entered the reserve by way of the Breitenbush Canyon, and is eating its way into the heart of the timber in this valuable district.

One logging camp of the Curtis Lumber Company, with its equipment of engines,

etc., has been wiped out by the flames, and another due to go; the fire is reported to have got beyond Detroit to the Hoover Mills, and for miles on either side of the river at that point is a vast sea of flame.

The fire has severed communication with the burning district, and all territory beyond, and reports are at the moment meagre. Communication has always been maintained from Mill City, the end of the telegraph line, to Detroit and way points by means of a private telephone line. Now nothing will be known until it becomes possible for people to cross the burnt district.

The fire is now known to be the most destructive that has visited the North Santiam country since pioneer days. Numerous mountain homes and a great amount of valuable timber have been destroyed. The two mills at Detroit are thought to be near enough the timber to make it impossible to save them. Railroad tracks have been rendered impassable, and logging camps wiped out.

Lives May Be Lost. Whether there has been loss of life is as yet unknown. If knowledge of the approaching fire was gained by campers soon enough to enable them to reach Detroit, they are believed to be safe, although a terrible ordeal confronted them in the way of enduring heat and dense smoke.

The fire is the topic of conversation in Albany today, and people familiar with the burning district are speculating as to the possible avenue of escape for campers and residents of the neighborhood. It is impossible for human agency to render any assistance at the present time, the fire being between the valley and the settlement at the terminus of the railroad.

With rain almost surely approaching, it seems the fire may be extinguished within the next day or so.

FIGHT DUEL WITH RIFLES

VETERAN WASHINGTON PROSPECTOR KILLS ENEMY.

William Dougan Fires Six Shots After Mike McKale's Bullet Slays Him Low Near Chewelah.

CHEWELAH, Wash., Aug. 12.—After the most desperate gun fight in the annals of Stevens County, Mike McKale slew William Dougan today at Brown Lake. The men were veteran prospectors, both over half a century mark in years, and of violent dispositions. They quarreled today over permitting a party of Chewelah men to fish in the lake. Both rushed for their rifles. Six shots were exchanged, Dougan firing six shots after McKale's first bullet had stretched him dying on the ground.

McKale is under arrest here. No charge has been placed against him. The matter of an arrest is in the hands of the county authorities. Six Chewelah men were present when the altercation commenced and witnessed the duel. When the fight became assured the victors bolted for cover, and the terrible drama was enacted before their eyes. Their testimony is that Dougan was the aggressor when it came to shooting, and that he was in the act of aiming his rifle when McKale fired the fatal shot.

JOHN D. IN JOKING MOOD

OIL KING POKES FUN AT A GIANT REPORTER.

Says He Admires Big Men and Newspaper Writers — Attends Baptist Sunday School.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 12.—(Special.)—John D. Rockefeller, the oil king, is light-hearted as a schoolboy today. He greeted his friends at the Euclid-Avenue Baptist Sunday school this morning with a cordial and freedom never before shown by him. Some of the members stood almost aghast; others, more familiar with him, were simply surprised. McKale is under arrest here. No charge has been placed against him. The matter of an arrest is in the hands of the county authorities.

"To his surprise he faced the world's richest man, who said: "Why, how do you do?" "I believe you have grown taller since last year. Now I have to look up to you."

The oil magnate's joke is readily seen when it is explained that the reporter stands 5 feet 6 inches and weighs 210 pounds.

"But, in all seriousness, I like big men, such as you are," he continued. "I have often wished I was that large. Then I could see danger ahead and avoid it. In that respect you big men have the advantage, or, as the latest slang expression is, 'you have it all over the rest of us.'"

"Now, don't think that I have become addicted to the use of slang; I have not. I heard that expression the other day, and I tried to explain its meaning, and I must confess that I fumbled it."

"As I said, I like big men. Wouldn't this be a grand country if all the men were as big as you are?"

Showing his appreciation for the giant scribe, Mr. Rockefeller invited him out to his Forest Hill home. "Come out and pay me a visit," he said. "Come with some definite object in view—to play golf, for instance. I am not a crack player, by any means."

Rockefeller spoke of the press in general when he referred to the visit the American press humorists made him last year. He had an excellent time at that meeting. He had a pleasant lot of men. I had a new idea of newspaper men—and even magazine writers—a charming class personally. I met a number of them in New York when I returned from abroad. They impressed me as being a really sincere type of men. I think newspaper training fits a man for making acquaintances quickly and fits him to judge the worth of them in the same short time."

FIVE BROWN IN SPKAKE RIVER

Two Women and Three Men Drawn Down in Great Whirlpool.

TRAGEDY NEAR DAVENPORT

All Victims Prominent Citizens of That Town—Vain Heroism Responsible for Loss of Four Lives.

DAVENPORT, Wash., Aug. 12.—Five well-known citizens of Davenport, who had been enjoying an outing on the banks of the Spokane River about 12 miles northeast of Davenport, were drowned, and up to 9 o'clock tonight only one body had been recovered. The victims are: MISS WINNIE JONES, aged 19 years; A. L. BERGETT, aged about 40; MRS. A. L. BERGETT, aged about 35; ROY HOWARD, aged 28; A. L. INMAN, aged 34.

Give Lives for Others. Four of the drowned heroically sacrificed their lives in attempting to save others. One after another they plunged into the river, only to be seized by the whirlpool or the undertow, which at that point is particularly dangerous.

L. F. Moore returned to Davenport tonight with the body of Mrs. Bergett, the only one recovered. News of the accident reached Davenport shortly after noon. In less than two hours every available vehicle in the city was on the way to the scene. Dynamite was taken along in the hope of bringing the bodies to the surface. After the afternoon the rescuers worked and late tonight few of them had returned.

Davenport is shaken to the very center by the calamity. Every one of the victims was well known and prominent in the life of the town. The women were bathing and wading at a point near Laughlin's place, close to the scene of the big slide last year in the Spokane River. Miss Jones ventured out too far, not beyond her depth and Mrs. Bergett immediately waded out to assist her. Mrs. Bergett was soon in the same danger as Miss Jones. Both women were struggling in the river when Al Bergett, husband of Mrs. Bergett, rushed out to save them. He also was made helpless by the swirling waters.

The screams of Miss Irene Danson and Miss Daisy Hutchinson, who were on the bank, reached the ears of the rescuers, brought A. L. Inman, Roy Howard and Mark Pauline, who were a considerable distance away, and the three men attempted to reach those in distress. Mr. Inman ventured out too far and he also was drawn under.

Horses Prove Useless. Finding he could not hope to save the others by swimming out to them, Mr. Pauline and Mr. Howard rushed for their horses, hoping the animals could find footing on the bed of the river far enough out to reach the victims. Mr. Pauline's horse refused to venture out. Mr. Howard's horse went as far as the animal found it could stand up, and, upon being spurred by the rider, threw Mr. Howard into the stream. Mr. Howard was swimming to shore, but suddenly was sucked under by the whirlpool and he also was drowned. Mr. Pauline saw his friend sink but was unable to reach him.

Mr. Pauline then went for assistance and found Mr. Moore. They recovered the body of Mrs. Bergett, which floated on the top of the whirlpool, but the other bodies had disappeared.

SEVERE STORM IN IDAHO

RUINS MUCH WHEAT IN CENTRAL PART OF STATE.

Lightning and Downpour of Water Combined Do \$10,000 Damage in Lewiston.

LEWISTON, Ida., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—Thousands of dollars worth of damage was done to wheat in this section of the state this evening by a severe electrical storm, which was accompanied by high wind and a heavy downpour of rain. The extent of the damage to grain fields within a radius of 15 miles of Lewiston cannot be ascertained this evening, as all the long-distance telephone wires are either down or working so badly that communication is impossible.

Latest reports from all directions were to the effect that the storm was severe all over this section of the state. In Lewiston the damage will aggregate about \$10,000. The Morning Tribune is the largest sufferer. The sewers in the business section were not large enough to carry off the downpour of water and flooded many cellars and basements. The paper storage and press room of the Tribune were flooded and \$4000 worth of paper ruined. Eighteen inches of water in the press room will have to be bailed out before the morning edition can be run off.

Most of the telephones in the city are out of commission owing to lightning striking the wires. Several operators were partially stunned while seated at switchboards.

Alfonso and Bride at Cowes.

COWES, Isle of Wight, Aug. 12.—King Alfonso and Queen Victoria arrived at Cowes today for a visit to Lord Leith, of Fyvie, where King Alfonso will inaugurate some religious. King Leith was Miss Marie-Jeanette, of St. Louis.

EVENTS OF COMING WEEK

National Encampment of G. A. R. Thousands of veterans of the Civil War will gather at Minneapolis Monday to attend the annual National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The encampment will extend through the entire week and comprises an elaborate programme of social functions in addition to the many business affairs which will receive attention.

Political Conventions. The National convention of the American Women's Press Association also will be held in Minneapolis beginning Monday and the Union Veterans' National Encampment will begin at St. Paul the same day. This encampment will continue until Wednesday.

Numerous National Gatherings. Among other important conventions scheduled for the week are the following: Monday—Omaha, National Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen; Colorado Springs, International Typographical Union; American Congress; Poughkeepsie, N. Y., L. O. H. M. Grand Council; Ridgeway, Pa., Scandinavian Businessmen's Association; New York, American Firemen's Association; Put-in-Bay, Metropolitan Philatelic Association.

Wednesday—New Haven, Municipal Electricians' Association; Montreal, National Fraternal Congress; New York, Universal Craftsmen's Council; Elmira, Yacht Races Off Marblehead.

The boats also will witness an interesting series of races off Marblehead, Mass., August 15-16, the 1906 regatta of having the honor of representing the United States against the German yachts which will contest for the Roosevelt cup. The German-American races will open September 8. Three of the 19 boats entered for the preliminary competition will be selected to take part in the international races.

The boats are greatly diverse as are also the crews. The largest is 21 1/2 feet over all and the largest 40 feet over all. The boats entered represent the work of nine yacht designers. The regatta will be held at 11 o'clock Monday and probably will continue through the week.

John Brown's Birthdays. The Niagara Movement, an organization composed of members of the negro race in the United States, will commemorate, at Harper's Ferry, W. Va., August 15-16, the 1906 anniversary of the birth of John Brown and the jubilee of the battle of Ossawatimie. The Niagara Movement, which was organized in 1892, is composed of prominent negroes of 18 states. The exercises will be held at Storrs College and will include a number of addresses relating to the purposes of the Niagara Movement. The exercises will be held at Storrs College and will include a number of addresses relating to the purposes of the Niagara Movement.

King Edward to Visit Kaiser. King Edward is to visit Emperor William this week, the official announcement having been made that the meeting will occur at Friedrichsruh, near Danzig, August 15. Much importance is attached to the meeting between the two monarchs.

British Motor Boat Races. The British Motor Boat Club is arranging a sweepstakes for cruisers from Southampton to Dover on August 14. The boats will be taken to Dover after racing at Southampton, to be in readiness for the start of the Dover-Ostend races August 20.

YAMHILL CROP REDUCED.

Output Estimated Now at 9000 to 10,000 Bales, but May Be Less. YAMHILL, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—The amount of the hop crop in Yamhill County at the present time is generally estimated at between 9000 and 10,000 bales. The crop is being reduced by the continued warm weather, and some who are carefully watching the hops now forming are of the opinion that the dry weather has already reduced the yield from 10 to 15 per cent, and if the warm weather continues for a week or more, the yield will be further reduced. It is believed that if the crop is to be saved, the yield will be about 9000 bales.

Contracting has been carried on with much persistency, and within the past few days buyers have been very active in the field. Contracts have been recorded for nearly 6000 bales, and it is known that Mr. Vall, of Carlton, has written contracts for over a hundred bales, most of which has been placed on record. It is understood that these contracts were sent to Harry Hart, of Portland, W. C. Miller, of Salem, and J. C. Hart, of Astoria, 60 to 500 bales, none of which has been placed on record. It is believed that a portion of Miller's contracts were for a week or more of Silverton, and the remainder for Schwarz & Son. Reports from various portions of the county indicate that buyers are active, and that of late days buyers have been very active. Those best posted venture to say that fully 6000 bales of hops in this county have been contracted, which they consider for two-thirds of what the county will produce.

RAIN NEEDED IN LANE COUNTY

Hop Output Is Estimated at \$500 to \$500 Bales. EUGENE, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—The continued hot dry weather has begun to affect the hoppers on the higher land, but those on the river bottoms are not injured as yet. A rain within a week would do great good in the yards that have begun to show the effects of the dry weather.

Lane County will have from 500 to 2500 bales of hops this year, about one-third of which are contracted for at 10 to 10 1/2 cents. These contracts were made in June and July or earlier. Buyers are active here now, and good hops can be sold at from 16 to 17 cents. It is not likely that much contracting will be done just at this time, as the growers of Lane County usually hold out until later in the season if the market appears good.

Up to this time the prospects for a heavy crop have been good, but some of the growers have begun to worry. In the lower lands rain is not absolutely needed, although it would be acceptable there. It looks now as if pickers might be scarce as there is so much to do and good wages for all who can work. The fact that many working people make hoppers their vacation will help out an estimate of the quantity of hops in this section.

GROWTH OF CROP RETARDED

Hop Men of Salem Believe Yield Will Be Larger Than Last Year. SALEM, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—Although the continued hot weather is retarding the growth of the hops, it is generally agreed among hopmen in this locality that conditions indicate a larger yield than last year. The most reliable estimates are that the crop of the state will be 15,000 bales, but no one ventures an estimate of the quantity of hops in this county to keep statistics by counties.

Growers here report that pickers are regaining rapidly, and they anticipate

BROUGHT WILL CUT

This and Poor Cultivation Will Put Yield Below 120,000 Bales.

LAST YEAR WAS 112,000

Two-Thirds of Yield Is Sold on Contract, Mostly at Low Prices, Causing Growers to Be Neglectful of Their Yards.

The long-continued growth and the poor cultivation in many sections are beginning to tell on the Oregon hop crop. Last year the state produced about 112,000 bales. It is beginning to look now as if this figure would not be exceeded this year, notwithstanding an increase in acreage of about 10 per cent. Estimates by reliable dealers of the coming crop range all the way from 100,000 to 120,000 bales. At one time in the Spring it was thought about 140,000 bales would be produced, but two months with practically no rainfall anywhere in the hop belt has had a telling effect on the young crop. The early arrival of the season has caused even more damage than the dry spell. Prices were so low last year that some of the growers lost heart and neglected to cultivate their properties. They will be rewarded this year with less than half the production of their neighbors, who have been diligent in their work. An immense quantity of hops was sold on contract in the Spring at the bare cost of production, and these sellers almost without exception, failed to cultivate their yards.

It is estimated that up to the present time about 9000 bales of the coming crop are held up by contracts. Although the crop will fall short of early expectations, it will still furnish employment for all the pickers that can be secured. It will be what the growers call a "top crop" and will be easy to pick.

SHORTAGE IN LINN COUNTY

Unbroken Hot Weather Has Caused Much Damage. ALBANY, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—Unbroken hot weather for the past several weeks has done much damage to the hop crop of Linn County. People familiar with the conditions of the hop crop in Linn County state that the crop will be light because of the hot weather; that the arms and tendrils that have produced so many hops in the past are dried on the vines this year, and will make any contribution to the output.

Harry Schlosser, a member of the hop-growers' firm of which John Nels is the head, states today that after visiting most of the yards in Linn County he is convinced the output of the county this year will be much less than last year.

The amount of this year's hop crop in Linn County that is already contracted is variously estimated by those familiar with the conditions of the hop crop. Probably the conservative estimate would place it at one-half. Of course there are those who insist that a much greater amount of hops is already contracted, but this is probably not the case. Contract prices range from 9 cents early in the season to 12 cents in the last few days of the season. The hop-growers' contracts were at 10 cents, or a little better, but later the other contracts have been at a much better figure, the top price being 17 cents.

It will be safe to put this year's output of hops in Linn County at four-fifths of the normal crop, and to place one-half of the entire output in the column marked "sold."

CLACKAMAS CROP AVERAGE

Yield of 10,000 Bales Is Now Expected. CLACKAMAS CITY, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—Clackamas County hop-growers are longing for one good rain shower as the only element lacking to insure one of the best crops in the history of the county. Otherwise the continued warm weather will result in drying up the long arms on the vines and thereby diminish the yield. Present weather conditions, however, have had a beneficial effect in that no lice have appeared in any of the yards.

The prospects are favorable for more than an average crop, and it is contended that the yield will amount to 10,000 bales. Not to exceed one-tenth of the estimated crop has been contracted for, and the hop-growers are active in the field. Contracts that have been recorded at the Courthouse. In addition to these contracts, however, a small portion of the crop is involved in bills of sale, to exceed a few thousand pounds in the aggregate.

NEW ACREAGE IN BENTON

May Make Up Shortage in the Old Yards. CORVALLIS, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—A shortage of 10 to 15 per cent in the hop yield, as compared with last season, is expected by growers as a result of the hot weather of the past week. It is probable that new acreage will make up the difference and that the output will be in volume about the same as last year. It is estimated that the hop-growers in Benton county have had a beneficial effect in that no lice have appeared in any of the yards.

Less than 10 per cent of the crop in this vicinity is contracted. The Lilly yard is the only one in this section that seems to have as good a crop as last year.

CROP PLACED AT 6000 BALES

Early Indications Were Somewhat Better in Washington County. HILLSBORO, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—A careful review of the hop situation in Washington County discloses the fact that the crop will probably be about 6000 bales, or less than the early prospects indicated. The continued drought having dried many arms from 15 inches to three feet in length. Many yards show brown leaves here and there in proportion, this being notably the case with the older vines. Some yards, however, are free from light because of the dry spell, but these are only isolated cases.

Never in the history of crop conditions were prospects so favorable for a bumper crop as early in July, or perhaps up to July 24. From that time on the vines commenced to show the bad results of the heat and drought. It is estimated that the crop will now furnish about 6000 bales, although some

PICKERS AT INDEPENDENCE

Polk County Crop Will Fall 15 to 20 Per Cent Short of Expectations. INDEPENDENCE, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.)—The vanguard of hop-pickers coming in to Independence already, though it will be three to four weeks before picking begins. It is those from a distance that come early. One family that had driven all the way from Pendleton arrived this week, and another came from Sacramento. A few Indians are also on hand. The early arrival select their yards, set their tents and enjoy an outing before the picking season opens.

C. S. Morrison, manager of the Horst yard of upwards of 400 acres, has listed all the pickers he will need. Other growers have their lists only partially made up. There is no doubt that the pickers are the growers of a shortage of pickers, but there is room for a multitude of pickers in the Independence yard.

The yards are clear and picking will be good, but the continued hot weather is cutting down the yield every day. The laterals are not filling out as expected, and there will be what is known as a top crop this year. The top of the main crop of foliage that shades the yard is supplied with hop burrs, but underneath the vines there is a lack of hops.

The estimates on the output of a month ago will not apply now. Of course, there will be some heavy crops in the rich loam bottoms around Independence, as there will be in the bottom of the yard, but falling off from what has been expected. Interviews with all the larger growers this week shows that, according to the consensus of opinion, a shortage of yield is to be expected. J. E. Hubbard, a buyer, after returning from a trip through the yards today, stated that there for, out of 1000 bales of hops, only 700 will be 15 to 20 per cent short of what was promised a few weeks ago.

No sales are being made, but 50 to 60 tons of hops in this district have been contracted.

Growers here report that pickers are regaining rapidly, and they anticipate

CAN BRYAN WIN ON ANY PLATFORM?

Silver Issue Fatal to Him Either Way.

LOSES WEST IF HE DROPS IT

Bound to Lose East and North If He Adheres to It.

ON HORNS OF DILEMMA

Eastern Papers Analyze His Chances of Success in 1908—Fidelity to Silver Means Defeat by Any Republican.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash.

ington, Aug. 12.—During the past few days a great many of the leading papers of the East have expressed the opinion that William J. Bryan is certain to be the Democratic nominee for President in 1908; some have said that he is as good as nominated. This opinion comes from Republican, Democratic and Independent papers; those that oppose as well as those that support the peerless leader. It is a remarkable thing, however, that practically every paper that predicts Bryan's nomination expresses grave doubt of his ability to carry his ticket to success, especially if Roosevelt is forced to accept another nomination at the hands of the Republican party.

The wave that sweeps our Democratic State Convention after another and secures endorsements for Bryan and Bryanism appears to be a form of mania. Bryan's old friends have again rallied under his banner and are forcing the adoption of all manner of resolutions demanding his renomination in 1908. As long as he endorses the Chicago platform and reiterates his faith in the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the "sacred ratio" of 16 to 1. In other words, Bryan will not be a formidable candidate unless he allows himself to be reconstructed and, judging from his recent utterances, he is not in a mood to change his mind on policies which he once so heartily indorsed.

Bryan says he still believes in free silver and bimetallicism. He may consider other questions more important at the present time and, if nominated, may endeavor to relate the money question to the rear during the campaign, but just as surely as Bryan is nominated and declares his belief in his old free silver views, just so surely will the money question be forced to the front by the Republicans and be made the paramount issue of the campaign. In 1896, Bryan may believe he stands a better chance of being elected as a tariff reformer than as a free silver advocate, but unless he changes his attitude and so declares himself publicly, the people will be justified in concluding that he will use his endeavors, if elected, to secure an amendment of a free silver tariff. There has always been his pet scheme; the tariff has been of little interest to him and it would take a good deal of argument to convince the business interests of the country that Bryan would let the silver question sleep, even if he should be elected as a tariff reformer.

Silver Means Defeat in the East. In these days of prosperity it would be difficult, if not absolutely impossible, for Bryan to carry the manufacturing and commercial states of the North and East if he should publicly adhere to his old views on the currency question. New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and all the other big states have no use for a debased currency. With the money question entirely eliminated, Bryan might carry some of these big states, especially New England states, if he made his race on the tariff. But how would Bryan fare in the great West, where he was so strong in 1896? That year he carried Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada and South Dakota, and in 1900 he carried only Idaho, Colorado, Montana and Nevada. When Judge Parker made the race he did not get a single one of these states, but on the contrary all rolled up hand-some majorities for Roosevelt. These states have 45 electoral votes and Bryan would need them to win. Of course he could count on the "solid South" or most of it, but that is not sufficient. He needs the votes that he received in the West and a good many that he failed to

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