

The Oregonian

Portland, Oregon, Pacific Coast Standard-Class Matter.

Entered Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter. Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.

(By Mail) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$5.00. Daily, Sunday included, six months, \$2.75.

(By Carrier) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$5.00.

How to Receive the Oregonian. Money order, express order or personal check on your local bank.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 15 to 22 pages, 2 cents; 23 to 24 pages, 3 cents; 25 to 30 pages, 4 cents.

Eastern Business Office—The R. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 45-47 Tribuna building.

Portland, Wednesday, Sept. 16, 1908.

STATE OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The vote of the State of Maine presents some noticeable results. Although the Republican majority is comparatively small, the Republican vote is very full, as compared with the general averages of past years, and is heavier than that thrown either for McKinley or Roosevelt.

Under the new regime of the Republican party of Oregon every man and every newspaper, that could do anything, have been ruled out. All men who have taken active part in politics, and all newspapers that have labored earnestly and supplied arguments, and urged men to action, are machine organs.

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Where's the Chairman? asks one. No matter who the Republican candidate is, the Republican party of Oregon to this body of death. "But here is Senator Bourne," says another. "He is a great leader."

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MR. BRYAN'S DEAD BELIEVES.

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dead. Besides there has been provocation. It is decidedly unpleasant, not to say impolite, for Mr. Bryan to keep insinuating, as he does, that the Republican candidate has to make his platform to go along. A good, flexible platform, not too difficult to discard after election, is one of the most convenient things in politics and the male siren from the Platte shows very poor judgment in deciding the one which his rival constructs so skillfully.

No power in New York, the old political bosses, the race-track gamblers, all who wanted only to be let alone in the vice they nourish, could contend against Governor Hughes for renomination. A lot of these people will go over to the Bryan party, for promotion and for reform.

But will they be able to beat Hughes? It is the supreme test, for our day, of decency and civic virtue. The Democratic candidate for Governor, of New York, supporting Bryan, will bid for and expect the support of all the members and associated gangsters that oppose Hughes.

It is a contest in the limelight. Nothing like it, nothing at least so clearly defined, on the issues thus presented, has been seen hitherto in our politics. Will Hughes be elected? Has he the necessary decency and order and for suppression of vice disappeared from our public and private life?

AN EMASCULATED PARTY.

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MORE CARS WORKING.

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that the railroad business more than doubled in the eight years prior to 1908. With a return to normal conditions we may expect a proportionate gain to be made in the near future, and with it will come a more pronounced car shortage than ever before. In their anxiety to keep the relative position of gross and net earnings as near as possible to that which existed before the slump, there has been a disposition on the part of many of the roads to refrain from repairing damaged cars, the amount of this temporarily useless equipment on hand being the largest on record.

It is doubtful whether all of development and progress of the last half century, as exemplified in the farm and home and industrial life at the State Fair this week, will represent greater joy in producing and larger pride of possession than did the simple, homely, substantial exhibits of the early fairs.

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CERTAIN PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

The memoir of Mrs. Anna B. Canfield, a pioneer of Oregon, who died at Hood River September 12, as published in The Oregonian of Monday last, contained an error which it is well to correct. It was stated that Mrs. Canfield's mother, in 1888, married "Colonel Zeba," who was murdered by Indians "shortly afterwards" on Whidbey Island, in Puget Sound.

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THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

"The Land of Opportunity" is the title of a series of Western sketches now running in Harper's Weekly. In the last issue the article is illustrated with a couple of well-known Southern Oregon fruit pictures. The captions over which they appear in Harper's are "The Grape of the Rogue River Valley" and "Picking Pears in the Rogue River Valley of Southern Oregon."

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THE STATE FAIR, PAST AND PRESENT.

The State Fair, past, intermediate and present, furnishes an epitome of our progress in all that goes to make up an industrial state. The difference between the old and the new in the agriculture, stockraising, dairying, manufactures and the general home life of the country is strikingly illustrated in the present roads made at the Fair Grounds this week as compared with the exhibit made at the same place thirty, forty and fifty years ago.

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THE SNAKE BATTLE IN HER CUPBOARD.

A din and clatter that was a cross between the noises of an in and a in a rush to her kitchen cupboard to investigate the reason for such a commotion among her pans and kettles.

well-named "crazy quilt" and the hand-made pillow slips, embellished above the hem with "drawwork"; the hickory split made for "father" by a little 12-year-old girl who drew a well-earned second prize for her work, and the baby's petticoat, ornamented with a hundred tiny hand-run tucks.

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W. BOURKE COCKRAN, DEMOCRAT.

Says Mr. Taft is Greatest and Best Nominee Ever Offered Anywhere.

"Will I support Mr. Bryan?" queried W. Bourke Cockran at the Touraine. "Yes, I shall support him; he is the best candidate the Democrats could put up. Taft is the greatest and best qualified nominee ever offered in any republic in the world. He is a greater man than Roosevelt, and when surrounded by the same environs that made Roosevelt great will prove a bigger man."

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WATERSON AND BRYAN.

Mr. Waterson is another inconvenient friend of the Democratic candidate. It is reported that he urges Mr. Bryan to coddle the colored vote, shapless his speeches "so as to draw the negroes from their alliance with the Republican party" to this the Chamberlain and Court, with a rude bluntness that we cannot sufficiently deplore, tells Colonel Waterson to he who does not "know anything about the negro question except in the most theoretical way."

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THESE BE GRAVE QUESTIONS.

What is the Republican Party in Oregon to Do—Who Will Do It?

Is the Republican party of Oregon to die dormant during the Presidential campaign and trust to providence to give the electoral vote to Taft? If that is to be the policy, if we have a repetition of the June election on United States Senator, it will be a second and deserved rebuke to a party that seems to have about reached the stage where it has not the ambition to get in out of the political web.

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RICHARD CROKER FOR BRYAN.

Ex-Taxman Chief Says America, with Hughes, Is a Free Country.

"I am out of politics," said Richard Croker to the correspondent of the New York Times, who saw him in his beautiful Irish home some miles out from this city. "I know nothing of what is going on, and, anyhow, there is too much water between here and America for me to do anything. Moreover, when I do say so is misrepresented. Why," exclaimed Mr. Croker, indignantly, "only the other day it was said that I hoped Taft would win!"

SEVERE WORDS ABOUT MR. BRYAN.

What Present Supporters, Past Enemies, Have to Say.

The average man of no particular prejudices in the matter might be pardoned if he found himself puzzled to determine which regarded Mr. Bryan as a menace to the country, his Republican opponents or his Democratic supporters. He finds no aid in his dilemma when he is confronted with an estimate of Governor Charles Hughes, Republican, opposing Mr. Bryan, and one by Roger C. Sullivan, Democrat, supporting Mr. Bryan.

THE HELD; THAT IS, THE CLAIMANT.

New York Times.

In the speech he delivered at his birthplace the other day (the Claimant) said that the treatment he has received certain reforms to the Republican candidate, but I am the next of blood in the reform business, and they come to me. For that reason, he said, "I have a right to expect a good many Republican votes this year."

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IMPORTANT LAWS ENACTED AT THE FIRST SESSION.

From the Bulletin of the National Republican Commission.

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