The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

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

(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and Weekly, one year	3.50

(By Carrier.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16 to 28 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 44 pages, 3 cents; 46 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage double rates.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7, 1908.

UNSTABLE AS WATER.

Mr. Bryan's idea of the issue in the present campaign appears to be a good deal like the pea in the shell game. When you think you have it safe and sure, behold it isn't there. The New York Tribune presents a pretty little list of the various and elusive theses which Mr. Bryan has held aloft one after another as all-important issues. But once they were aloft the eloquent candidate thought he had had enough of them and incontinently dropped them. Like the gay butterfly, Mr. Bryan loves to flit from flower to flower. He began the campaign with a grand outburst of trumpets proclaiming that the issue of issues was the question, "Shall the people rule?" Where is it now? Has Mr. Bryan discovered that the people do rule or that they do not? If they do rule, why does he not soothe our perturbed spirits by telling us so? If they do not rule, why has he dropped the subject? Is it less important than it was a few weeks ago? Has the experience of the New York bosses with Mr. Hughes convinced the mellifluous Nebraskan that the rule of the people is a subject which they can dispose of without assistance?

As a matter of fact, the people always rule whenever they are willing to take the trouble to do it. When they are not willing to take the trouble then they are ruled by the bosses and the charlatans just as they deserve. The country realized this undeniable truth, and therefore it took little interest in Mr. Bryan's first glorious but evanescent issue. So he had to find another. Wandering vaguely up and down the earth in search of something to orate about, he lighted upon Mr. Gompers' injunction bugaboo which the Denver platform entertained with such deceptively tender courtesy. As long as it is the principal business of the courts to protect property the process of injunction will remain essentially as it is. No change that amounts to anything will be made. Mr. Bryan knows this and everybody else knows it. But by inserting a promise to interpose a jury trial between the court order and the penalty for violating it, Mr. Bryan hoped to persuade the workingmen that something would be done and thus reap the harvest of their votes. By the time they found out how they had been imposed upon, he fancied he would be firmly seated in the Presidential chair and could listen to their howls of disappointment with a complacent soul.

The trouble with this plan is that there is a respectable number of workingmen who understand the injunction situation thoroughly, and know exactly what is to be expected in the way of alteration. They know perfectly well that it makes not an iota of difference whether Bryan or Taft is President so far as injunctions are concerned. Thus the feigned attack on the power of the courts has measurably failed as a lure for the labor vote, and its failure will become more and more decisive as election day approaches. The American people will not permit the authority of the courts to be impaired by any party, and consequently workingmen will feel perfectly free to vote for the better man as between Taft and Bryan. Those who really wish to attack the courts will join some party which declares its purpose frankly. Not many of them can be misled by a simulated attack which is nothing more than a springe to catch woodcocks. So far as injunctions go, the Tribune says that Mr. Bryan seems to dodge "his own issue." To let the cat out of the bag, he is afraid of it for two good reasons. In the first place, he knows that no promise to wreck the authority of the courts could be kept were he ten times President. In the second place, he is aware that to parade such a promise would cost him many more votes among the prosperous classes than it would win for him among the indigent.

There are a number of other issues like the guaranty of bank deposits, the extirpation of the trusts, government ownership of railways, and so on, which Mr. Bryan has timidly thrust into the world and then heartlessly deserted. Forsaken and forlorn they wander up and down the land without a sponsor and in danger of perishing, while the Peerless One likewise wanders with nothing to talk about except himself. This brings us to the real issue of the campaign—the one which emerges above all others as paramount, while the feigned issues faint and fade away. That issue is Mr. Bryan himself, the elusive, unstable, fleeting Mr. Bryan; the man who blows hot today and cold tomorrow, who declares this week that the salvation of the country depends on government ownership or the guaranty of deposits, and next week on something entirely different; Mr. Bryan who has not the ability to formulate a statesmanlike programme or the courage to stand by it if he could formulate it; who hopes to win the Presidency by pandering to all tastes and placating all differences of opinion. He has so many principles and changes them so often that it is the same as if he had none at all.

To put the matter briefly, Mr. Bryan stands neither for the Roosevelt reform nor for the revolutionary ideas of the Socialists. He belongs to the past insofar as he belongs to anything. His thought is crude, his measures are childish, his standards are false. If he should be elected he would grope hopelessly bewildered in the thicket of his perplexed conceptions and accomplish nothing. What do we want of such a President?

GUARANTY.

Government requires guaranty of its own funds, wherever its funds may be. It does not require guaranty of private business transactions. That is not its function.

This is the reason why government requires of every collector and custodian of its funds a guaranty or security for their safety. It doesn't require the man who buys wool or turnips to guaranty the payment. It is the business of the seller to do that. Government is simply taking care of its own business. It leaves each individual to take care of his own. It is the depositor's business to think about the safety of the bank in which he may deposit his money. It is the grocer's business to think about the financial standing of the person who buys his goods—whether he is "good pay," or not. Are the bills of grocers to be guaranteed by law?

Heretofore The Oregonian has spoken of the Oklahoma experiment. It treated the Oklahoma essay simply as an experiment, of which the results will not be known till some crisis shall occur. The demand for bank guaranty is now a mere partisan cry. It has reference solely to political partisanship, not to economic policy. After election nothing more will be heard of the great success of it, in or from the wonderful state of Oklahoma—even though the Standard Oil Governor of Oklahoma did write Bryan's platform.

But it is said that deposits in the banks of Oklahoma have greatly increased since this law went into effect. Is that any assurance that they will be paid, when a crisis comes? The opposite, rather. In Oklahoma now they are depositing money in any kind of thing they call a bank; and the banks that offer largest interest and therefore probably are least secure, are the favorites. Again, it is shown that the increase of deposits, of which boast is made, is due largely to deposit of public funds by officials of all kinds, who formerly kept the public money in the vaults provided for it.

One man takes a note from another. Is government to guaranty its payment, or to provide or require that its payment shall be guaranteed? Or is each person to look out for his own business? In the long run, all this nonsense will be abandoned, and each person will still look out for his own business, as heretofore.

PROSPERITY OF THE COUNTRY.

It doubtless is true that the radical or "agitator" section of labor will throw most of its votes against Taft. It will divide them between Bryan and Debs. Such course is natural to it.

But the steady part of the labor unions never is controlled by these radicals. It votes on deliberate judgment, and on large general principles, that include regard for the whole welfare of the country. Still, it may be expected that Taft will lose votes that Roosevelt received four years ago.

But the general condition of industry throughout the country is good. In our Pacific states labor never was in better demand, and it is well paid. Lumbermen, generally, are at work. The entire agricultural class of the country is very prosperous.

A correspondent, writing from Nebraska, says: "In the railroad centers Taft will lose votes. This means that the majorities in the cities will be cut down. But the farmers are peculiarly prosperous. They have had a long succession of bumper crops, with sky prices." Further: "The farmer class is living better, eating better, dressing better than ever before. The country postoffices are more active, and the rural delivery routes have been bringing in newspapers and magazines, and costly automobiles may be found at the front door of one prosperous farmhouse after another."

The same conditions are observable throughout the Pacific states. It would be strange indeed if the farming people were not satisfied with the prosperity that has been steadily theirs, these many years. Their main trouble is to obtain the assistant labor they require.

THE PANHANDLE PROBLEM.

The Spokane report that the joint agreement between the O. R. & N. and the Northern Pacific in the Lewiston territory had been abrogated will perhaps be denied, but sooner or later it will be confirmed. This confirmation may not take the form of an official circular to the public, but will more likely be manifest in lively construction work. The territory involved is rich in natural resources and a satisfactory division between two competing lines of the long haul on this traffic will always be a delicate matter. The Northern Pacific, through its activity about ten years ago, has become pretty firmly intrenched in the Clearwater country, and is marching on to Grangeville.

With the prestige of possession in no small portion of the Idaho Panhandle traffic, and a joint agreement by which it can use the water-level route from Lewiston to Riparia, where it again connects with its own tracks, it is quite apparent that the Hill road has an immense advantage over the Harriman lines. Unless the latter should break the joint agreement regarding the territory beyond Lewiston, it would be placed in the position of operating the Lewiston-Riparia line under a joint agreement and getting only a small portion of the traffic that yielded its greatest profit on the haul before it reached Lewiston and after it left Riparia. There is quite naturally a great economic waste where two lines of railroad are built close together in a territory where one line can handle all of the traffic. It was this fact that induced Mr. Harriman to offer the Hill lines a trackage agreement over the O. R. N., rather than have the opposition build a line down the north bank of the Columbia.

Not that Mr. Harriman was desirous of saving money for the Hill forces, but because it offered him an opportunity to trade his trackage rights for concessions elsewhere. The Northwest will eventually be the gainer by this failure of the two leading railroad systems to reach an agreement which would have deprived us of the North Bank Road. A similar satisfactory situation will probably develop when the inevitable split occurs in the Idaho territory. As a local proposition, one single-track line between Riparia and Lewiston can handle all of the traffic that can ever be developed along the road. But elimination of grades has been a Harriman hobby and the Harriman forces are already at work building a line down Snake River to Lewiston, where ultimately there will be a connection for Riparia.

Over this water-level line will be carried the vast tonnage that will be developed in the entire Coast regions between the California line and British Columbia. This traffic is growing into such enormous proportions that it cannot fail to excite great competition between the roads, and, as this competition increases, there will come increasing difficulties in maintaining an amicable joint agreement over the short connecting link between Lewiston and Riparia. The logical and natural solution of the problem is construction of a line down the south bank of the Snake River and abrogation of all agreements regarding the Panhandle territory. This solution may not be reached immediately, but it is one of the certainties of the future.

THE TREND OF HISTORY.

The Bulgars, a people of Turanian stock, kin to the Huns and to the later Turks, first made their appearance in the region of the Lower Danube in the sixth century, A. D. Late in the seventh century the first Bulgarian Kingdom was established between the Danube and the Balkans. Not numerically strong, they were very warlike; and they gradually extended their influence and conquests, and became a powerful factor in narrowing the boundaries of the Eastern Roman or Byzantine Empire. Most of the original stock became Mahometan; but Bulgaria, south of the Danube, became Christian, and Slavonian. The modern Bulgarians bear the Bulgarian name only in the way in which the Romanized Celts of Gaul bear the name of their Frankish masters from Germany; in the way in which the Slavs of Kief and of Moscow bear the name of their Russian masters of Scandinavia. Analagous also were changes produced by the Norman conquest of England.

The Bulgarian Kingdom spread within few centuries over a large territory, extending from the Danube to the Aegean, and from the Euxine to the Adriatic. But revival of the power of the Byzantine Emperors in the eleventh century reduced Bulgaria again to narrow limits, for a time; and about the middle of the fourteenth century the western parts of Bulgaria were absorbed in the Empire of Servia. Again, Bulgaria made good its claim against the Byzantine Empire, and gained an ascendancy over Servia; and by the year 1440 it had taken in nearly the whole remnant in Europe of the once great empire of the East. Even before this date the Ottoman Turks had entered Europe, and in 1453 they took Constantinople. From this time the Turks pushed their dominion rapidly over the whole of Southwestern Europe, and even reduced the greater part of Hungary; till finally their progress was stopped in Europe by the valor of the Poles.

This was the final deliverance of Europe from the danger and dread of Moslem power; which, at intervals, had been a menace for nearly a thousand years.

But the Turks had finally destroyed the old East Roman power and had completely absorbed the old Kingdoms of Bulgaria and of Servia, as well as large territories north of the Danube. The whole scene since has been but a history of misrule, accentuated by innumerable revolts in the various principalities, bringing new and increasingly horrible cruelties and oppressions. The "Bulgarian atrocities" have repeatedly shocked the civilized world, and have been the occasion or excuse for intervention by other nations; notably by Russia, which has seldom been at any long interval at peace with the Turk. Her own aggrandizement undoubtedly has been Russia's chief aim. Western Europe never has been willing to see in the hands of Russia the enormous power which the possession of Constantinople would give her. Napoleon, even in the height of his power, refused it, declaring that he could not permit Russia to become so dangerously powerful. Division of Europe between himself and the Czar, Napoleon knew could be no more than a temporary arrangement or truce; for each would always be jealous of the other.

England, latterly, is the power that has stood in Russia's path. In 1878 Russia, having broken the military power of Turkey, forced from the latter the Treaty of San Stefano, which parcelled out the territory of the Ottoman Empire in Europe among the various states of the Southeast, all to be virtually under Russian protectorate. Then it was that the rest of Europe, under the lead of England, took alarm, and forced Russia to cancel the Treaty of San Stefano, and take the Treaty of Berlin as a substitute for it. This, however, could be nothing more than a makeshift. The situation is not agreeable to the people of the principalities, who insist on paying tribute to Turkey no longer. Hence, their present proclamation of independence.

It would be an easy matter, but for the fear of Russia entertained by the rest of Europe. Fear of Russia at Constantinople is the nightmare, not only of England, but of France, Austria and Germany. This is "the providence that's watchful in a state." These powers fear that an independent Bulgaria, if they had no bonds upon her, might gravitate to Russia, through the affinities of the Slavonic population. Affinities of blood reach back over the ages. They are the most wonderful of the phenomena of biology and history. That they should be most wonderful in the human race is not surprising; for mind has affinities even more subtle than matter, and of greater potentiality.

It seems that no race, no people, is conceded the right to control or direct its own destiny, in its own way, without regard to others. Jefferson's idea of local-state-sovereignty democracy, is small, infinitesely small! Its last kick in America was at Appomattox. Democracy will prevail. But it is great; it isn't small. Bryan is an exponent merely of its small local views.

The grand jury has thoroughly investigated the Kelly Butte scandal and other phases of the prolonged fight which the County Court has been waging against Sheriff Stevens, and among other comment in its report appears the statement that "the wishes of any man or set of men must not be allowed to thwart the will of the people, and the custody and control of prisoners at Kelly Butte should be placed in the hands of the Sheriff." Now that the Oregon Legislature, by a bill passed at the last session; the people by a two-to-one referendum vote affirming the act, and the grand jury by its report, have all agreed on this point, roadbuilding by prisoners ought to proceed without any more whisky and opium smuggling or general grafting at Kelly Butte. There is no good reason why a few ablebodied convicts should be immune from road work and permitted to smoke opium and drink whisky, while others, through lack of money for the purchase of such luxuries, are made to work. In the future there will be no difficulty in fixing the responsibility for the handling of the county prisoners.

The remarkable possibilities for development in the coast counties are strikingly shown in the assessors' reports. For example, the Clatsop County Assessor reports 5379 acres of tillable land, and 478,997 acres of non-tillable land in Clatsop County. The term "non-tillable" is somewhat misleading, for it includes vast areas of fine timber land, which, after the timber is removed, will produce enormous crops, or which can be transformed into the finest dairy ranches in the world. Dense forests of wonderful timber now make the greater part of Clatsop as well as other coast county lands "non-tillable," but the farmer and stockman, who will some day follow the logger through that country, will make those acres turn off sustenance for thousands, and large cities and towns will spring up throughout the entire "non-tillable" region of the Coast.

The French submarine Emeraude arrived at Cherbourg, Monday, after a run of 81 hours, in which she covered a distance of 693 miles under water. This beats the record made by the Nautilus, which that eminent Frenchman Jules Verne set afloat more than a generation ago under command of Captain Nemo. The Emeraude's points of superiority over the Nautilus are further disclosed, when it is remembered that the Jules Verne submarine was a fictitious production, leaving no official log to corroborate the story of her voyages, while the Emeraude is a real tangible craft. The French are a great people. Jules Verne gave them the record for the first submarine, and the Emeraude now shows up with the longest submarine cruise on record.

The steamships Magdala and Nederland, each drawing 25 feet, crossed out of the Columbia together. The Magdala in the channel found plenty of water, but the Nederland, deviating slightly from the deepest water, touched lightly on the sands and started a few rivets. The accident was a trivial affair, and was liable to happen in any port where ships fail to keep in the channel. It is fortunate for the Columbia River that the two vessels passed out at the same time. When one ship crosses out without touching, and another of equal draft at the same stage of tide takes the ground, it is unmistakably clear that the condition of the channel is in no way responsible for any slight accident. If, in the face of the evidence, our Puget Sound friends can derive any comfort from this matter, they are welcome to it.

Multnomah County is giving ample proof of its right to be known as an agricultural and horticultural section of the state in the fair now in progress at Gresham. The products of field, garden, orchard and dairy, now on display there, are of the very best in their several lines. The exhibit is worth going far to see. The attendance upon the opening day was good and the weather fine. For the rest, the farmers are proud of the display, as, indeed, they have good right to be.

The American Federation of Woman's Clubs has given added proof of its usefulness as an organization, and of the scope and intelligence of its effort, in the announcement that it will give active support to the campaign of education against tuberculosis. With a membership numbering 800,000, this body will certainly be able to advance the interests of science and humanity in the cause to which it has just been pledged.

All the big deals and all the big profits are not made in town lots and business property in the Oregon Country. For example, there is the case of Rev. H. M. Bartlett, of Kenewick, who has just sold his 33-acre orchard for $29,700, at the rate of $900 an acre. In the Spring of 1904 he bought the land for $250 an acre, and the balance of $21,450 is pay for his acumen and four years' labor.

Bryan telegraphs to the Fresno (Cal.) Tribune: "Our platform entitles us to the support of the Pacific Coast states." Probably because he thinks the Pacific Coast states don't want a Pacific naval force, desire abandonment of the Philippines and other Pacific islands, and don't care for development of Pacific Coast commerce.

Wex Jones writes that "a simple letter acknowledging the receipt of money from, say, Standard Oil, is sure to be twisted into some sinister meaning by unscrupulous political enemies." Therefore, don't write letters. That boy, Wex Jones, when in Oregon, gave proof of much sagacity.

The French have made a record voyage with a submarine, 693 miles in 81 hours. They are just a century too late. One hundred years ago that submarine would have enabled Napoleon to humble Great Britain.

Roosevelt's refusal to take the stump for Taft lessens the need of Governor Chamberlain's taking the stump for Bryan. "Our George" always was lucky.

Some left, of the so-called newspapers, which, if they couldn't bark and snarl and carp at The Oregonian, would have no function in life.

Promoters of the Ananias Club ought to find many recruits among the 52,000 excess of Republicans over Democrats in Oregon.

The baseball magnates have decided that New York-Chicago tie game to be a tie game. That ought to simplify things.

How many labor union men who are now so loudly for Bryan were ever for any one else for President?

CLEVELAND LETTER GENUINE?

Best Opinion Seems Now to Be That It Is.

After all, opinion is settling down to the conviction that the Cleveland letter was genuine. The Philadelphia Ledger, strictly and absolutely independent, which was among the newspapers that originally published the article, yet for a time, after the question of its authenticity was raised, was in a state of uncertainty, now reviews the whole matter, and gives these conclusions, viz:

Though the late Grover Cleveland had never prepared a document more recognizably characteristic, more thoroughly saturated with his individuality, there was a partisan effort to discredit the authenticity of the article published by the Public Ledger and other papers after his death. Mr. Hastings, executor of the Cleveland estate, now comes forward with a statement which leaves no doubt of the Cleveland authorship. The article takes its place with the recorded public utterances of the only Democratic President since the war.

Except in minds so besotted with party prejudice that they could not comprehend the working of an independent, detached intelligence, it was natural that Cleveland should consider that the issues of "high ideals, of honesty and relative justice, of great capacity for severe labor and humorous wisdom in the face of the severe problem," better qualified for the Presidency than "sympathy, mad leader, trumpeting false calls to reform."

That unshakable mental honesty with which Cleveland forced his way through cunning sham and blustering error during his public life bore down the pretenses of later politics in the message written just before his death. The doubts of authenticity, unwisely projected, in the campaign by hasty supporters of Mr. Bryan, have compelled Mr. Hastings to confirm the regularity of publication. The doubters have both extended and intensified the impression made by the published reflections of Mr. Cleveland on the present situation of National parties.

Strong at first, the Cleveland paper has now a double strength and usefulness in arousing to action the sobef conscience of the American people. It will be read again by the voters who read it August 20, and will be sought by many who did not see it when it first appeared. The re-readings and new readings will come at a crucial period of the campaign. The Cleveland spirit will be a tangible influence on the Presidential election.

Brooklyn Eagle.

Broughton Brandenburg, who sold to the New York Times a letter purporting to have been written by the late Grover Cleveland, the authenticity of which has been called in question, in a statement to the press this afternoon charged that he was the victim of a Democratic conspiracy.

Shortly after the publication of the Cleveland letter in the Times, Mr. Brandenburg alleges that he heard of a plot hatched within the secret councils of the Democratic party to discredit its authenticity. And in a formal statement he submitted to District Attorney Jerome, in whose hands has been placed the investigation of the entire affair, this charge is fully elaborated.

"I was engaged last Spring," began Mr. Brandenburg this afternoon in a statement to the Eagle, "by F. C. Drakem, Sunday editor of the New York Herald. He commissioned me to secure an article from Mr. Cleveland upon the subject of personal liberty versus public policy. This article was to have a bearing upon the Hughes race track legislation.

"I visited Mr. Cleveland at his home in Princeton and secured the desired interview. In the course of it the ex-President complained that he had generally been misquoted in the newspapers and was very anxious to correct certain erroneous impressions as to his ideas that had gained wide publicity.

"I could do no better than suggest to him that he intrust me with the task. I suggested a number of subjects on which the public would like to have an authoritative opinion from him. I said that I should like him to write a series of three articles and offered to pay him therefor the sum of $2000, which he accepted.

"On March 5 I saw Mr. Cleveland again in regard to the matter, and he submitted to me a number of small white and yellow leaves upon which he had written his views on such subjects as the tariff, etc. I glanced them through and discovered two paragraphs which he had devoted to Mr. Bryan, and I endeavored to persuade him to leave these out.

"I then took these sheets of paper home with me and put them into a connected story, which I submitted to Mr. Cleveland for his correction. He kept the copy for some time, made numerous corrections and many interlinear additions. These were then given back to me for a final draft, and while they were in my possession many of my friends saw them. They saw the signature of the ex-President appended to the 'copy' and his handwriting between many of the typewritten lines. These can be called in as witnesses to back up my assertion that the letter as published in the Times was not a fake.

"Mr. Cleveland told me in the next two articles he would write as per our agreement, he would outline in a more radical fashion what he thought would be for the welfare of the Democratic party.

"With the completed manuscript in my possession, to which was appended a signature of Mr. Cleveland, I went to the office of the Herald and submitted it. They hesitated and haggled over it for weeks. They claimed that they did not want to publish anything that would be a detriment to Mr. Bryan's chances of election. There was some disagreement, too, over the price I demanded.

"Next I submitted the manuscript to Pomeroy Burton of the London Daily Mail. Mr. Burton refused it, although he said it was good stuff. He did not think it was of enough importance to readers across the pond to warrant paying my price. I tried the Broadway Magazine, and it turned me down. I then went to the World, but Mr. Pulitzer thought I wanted too much for it, and I finally went to the Times. It grabbed it up in a jiffy and agreed to pay me $650 cash for the rights of it and a royalty on all subsequent sales.

"Shortly after the letter came out, I heard that a plot was brewing among the influential Democrats to discredit it. I am alone in this fight, but will stick it out and wholly vindicate myself.

"It was unfortunate that Mr. Cleveland died. He did not get to the other two articles. I returned the interlinear copy of the letter to him before his death, and his executor ought to have it."

Vandals Steal Bismarck's Sword.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

Dashing wildly along a dark road on a two-mile auto sprint to capture three autoists whose particular brand of humor showed itself in the confiscation of the great steel sword from the statue of Bismarck, located near Wissahickon mansion, policeman Wilde finally lost out in the race when the machine in which he was riding broke down.

He saw a machine driven up to the statue and three young men got out. Before he realized what was going on they had climbed the statue, taken the sword from the hands of the immobile Bismarck, and jumped into their automobile again, he blew his whistle, and, stopping a passing machine, jumped in and started the chase. Realizing they were pursued, the occupants of the first automobile put on full power and dashed out Hermit Lane toward Wissahickon Creek. For a mile the chase was kept up, and then a tire was punctured on the rear machine and the men with the sword escaped.

Three Hours With Dislocated Neck.

Baltimore News.

John D. Cole, of Woodstown, N. J., whose neck was supposed to have been broken by a fall from an apple tree, after three hours of unconsciousness, revived, and when the dislocated bones were put in place by physicians, there was a sharp report like that from a revolver.

PRIMARY LAW MAY BE INVOLVED

Keen Argument Against Constitutionality of Washington Statute.

Puyallup Valley Tribune.

There is talk of testing the constitutionality of the primary election law. Let no one be surprised if it shall fail to stand the test. That it is seriously defective none can deny. Let us hope that its defects shall be passed on by the Supreme Court before the convening of the next legislature, so that they may then be remedied. It may be interesting to note some of the provisions that are, apparently, out of square with the organic law.

First—Under the constitution, every qualified elector is "entitled to vote at all elections." There are in this state four or five political parties other than the Republican and Democratic parties. Not a member of any of these parties had a right to participate—that is, vote—in the recent primary election, having failed "to cast 10 per cent of the total vote at the last regular election." Now, the question naturally arises—"What is an election?" It is "the power of choosing; free choice; preference; selection. The act or the public ceremony of choosing officers of government." If the recent primary was "an act or public ceremony of choosing officers of government," it follows as an illative sequence that the law is void.

Second—The constitution provides that all elections shall be by ballot, "free and equal," and that "the legislature shall provide for such method of voting as will secure to every elector absolute secrecy in preparing and depositing his ballot." Is the direct primary an election within the purview of the constitution? If so, it is void in every particular. No election is "free and equal" from which Socialists, Prohibitionists, Independents, and all, except Democrats and Republicans are barred. And no ballot is "secret" where the voter must declare his politics in calling for it.

Third—If the primary election is not an election, how can the expenses of holding it be charged, in part, to those who are denied the privilege of participating in it?

Fourth—The constitution provides that elections for state and county officers shall be held in November. Under the primary law, our Supreme and Superior Court judges are virtually elected in September—and not by all the people, but only by such part of them as have "earned" the right to vote by reason of their party's numerical strength at the last regular election. Is that "free and equal?"

Fifth—Where there are more than three candidates to be voted on for state and congressional offices, the elector is compelled to vote for a second choice or lose his first. Let us illustrate: There are four candidates for a certain office. Three of them in the voter's judgment may be utterly objectionable and unqualified. Yet in order to make his vote effective for the candidate who, he thinks, is fit and worthy, he must vote for one who he believes is neither fit nor worthy. And, even then, his vote may not be effective, for that his second choice may nullify his first. Nay, more; it may defeat the candidate whom he prefers and elect a candidate whom he distrusts.

The law is obviously defective and should be amended—but not repealed.

PROHIBITION IN CONDON.

Juries Will Not Convict; So Liquor Is Freely Sold.

Condon Times.

The crusade against the sale of liquor in the City of Condon has ended in a lamentable failure. Three cases were tried before a jury of about as upright, honorable and respresentative men as could be found in the county, and in two of these the jurors found a verdict for the defendants, and in the other the counsel for the prosecution asked for an instructed verdict of acquittal. All the rest of the cases were dismissed and abandoned altogether, except that against Meador, and that may be tried when he is found. Is Prohibition a failure? It most certainly looks like it in Condon. When this law was passed by a majority of the people, we thought the sale of liquor and whisky-drinking would cease in a great measure in this town, but has it ceased? Most certainly not. We are not blind, and can safely say we have seen about as much drunkenness on the streets since the local option law, or Prohibition, call it which you will, went into effect last July, as we did before it.

Field III to Enter Harvard.

American Register (London).

Mrs. Marshall Field, whose romantic marriage was one of the sensations last week, only recently returned from Washington, D. C. She was accompanied by her elder son, and it is understood that Mrs. Marshall Field has decided that as soon as he finishes his course of studies at Eton he shall enter Harvard and prepare for the political arena. The boy will go to Washington, D. C., each year until his education is complete and will spend two months in the capital seeing and learning as much as possible of the political life of America.

He is heir to the millions accumulated by his grandfather, the great Chicago storekeeper, whose son only survived him by a couple of years. Young Marshall Field has a little brother, Harry, and a small sister, whose portrait was recently painted by Shannon and now hangs in the drawing-room of their flat in Berkeley Square.

A Turtle That Weighs Over a Ton.

Newport (R. I.) Dispatch to the New York World.

There was great consternation among a hundred or more soldiers at Fort Adams who thought they saw a capsized boat in the outer harbor near Dyers Island, two miles away. Just then a Government boat in charge of Captain Willis C. Metcalf, passed, and they hailed him and pointed out to him the big object.

Captain Metcalf later said that, having visions of Carnegie medals in his mind, he headed for the "wreck." To his surprise, instead of an upturned boat, he found a leatherback turtle dead, choked in the meshes of a big seine. He said that the turtle was ten feet long, seven feet in width, and it weighed more than a ton. He was anxious to tow it to port for a show at one of the wharves, but he did not dare to hitch on a hawser, as decomposition had set in.

A Sound Suggestion.

PORTLAND, Oct. 5.—(To the Editor.)—Can't we have West Portland High School and East Portland High School, instead of West Side High School and East Side High School? The latter seems to me to be a little silly. We have a good name for our city. Why not attach it to things that belong to us instead of tacking on "sides," etc.? H. TURNER.

Eastern Babies for Homes in West.

Baltimore News.

A carload of 67 babies, accompanied by nurses, passed through Milwaukee, Wis., the other day bound for childless families in the West. The babies are from two to five years old, and were sent out by the Home Finding Society of New York.

New Life-Size Roosevelt Portrait.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Artist Charles A. Whipple, of New York, is painting a life-size oil portrait of the President to be hung in the Republican Club of New York.

ROOSEVELT IN THE CAMPAIGN

Varied Views on the Propriety of His Recent Activity.

Buffalo Times, Dem.

Roosevelt has misjudged the American people. Now they are judging him. His recent course has been a deliberate, repeated, monumental violation of the most cherished American traditions.

Charleston News and Courier, Dem.

But Mr. Roosevelt is really not doing anything more in his partisan work than his Republican predecessors have done or attempted to do. He has gone about the business in a little different way, and is attempting by proclamation and work out in the open what Republican presidents have been doing all along. At any rate, he is making old Taft take notice, and has introduced into the campaign a fat streak of what the newspaper people call "human interest."

Philadelphia Ledger, Ind. Rep.

Mr. Roosevelt has again demonstrated his effectiveness in politics. It is not worth while to argue over his ability to inject vitality in a campaign. Forraker, Haskell, and Mr. Bryan himself are able to bear witness to the President's skill in selecting time and place; to the weight of the metal he throws in a broadside and the effect he produces. The critical may talk of a riot of egotism; may ask whether Roosevelt or Taft is running for the Presidency. Roosevelt still, is, or is able to make himself, the man recognized by the masses as the central, commanding, compeling figure of politics.

Boston Herald, Rep.

But even satisfaction at partisan advantage must be tinged with regret that the President has deemed it necessary to follow Mr. Bryan to the edge of the bog. He has dragged the presidential office into the range of the mud firing. The traditional dignity which surrounded his position was well worth preserving. Had Mr. Taft been left to defend his cause the party interests would not have been less secure. And the ideals of the American people who recognize in the presidential office an honor which is not to be recklessly assailed or subjected to assault would not have been sacrificed.

Lewiston (Me.) Journal, Rep.

Nothing provokes the average reactionary or the average radical more than the freedom with which Theodore Roosevelt stays off the perch of dignity and mixes with men to see that good government in the present is followed by good government in the future. The things for which Roosevelt is criticised are intimately associated with the popularity of "the man of the hour." The most powerful factor in American politics in the past four years is such because of his splendid fracture of precedent. Precedent as now invoked has naught behind it but starch, reaction, and the real bad thing.

Chicago Daily News, Ind.

The Daily News believes that Taft, in point of intellect and courage, is entirely capable of fighting his own battles. It believes that President Roosevelt does Taft a distinct injustice in making such a clamor in the candidate's behalf. The people of the United States know their way about when it comes to making a choice for president. They do not choose one chief executive with the intention of delegating to him the task of telling them who of all possible and impossible men must succeed him in office. Doubtless the President's intentions are good. Doubtless he has been greatly exasperated by the lethargy which marked the Republican campaign until the other day. Still, he ought to remember that he is the President of all the people of this nation and he ought to leave to them the task of choosing his successor.

St. Paul Pioneer Press, Rep.

The appearance of Theodore Roosevelt upon the battlefield as an active figure in the fray has changed, in an instant, the whole aspect of the campaign. While once there was apathy the most profound ever known at only a distance of six weeks from election, there is now eager interest. Eighty millions of people sit up and take notice that there is something going on. True, Mr. Roosevelt has for months been seen in the background, counselling, advising, encouraging, and sometimes even driving Republican leaders. But now in the fore the big stick swings merrily. The Rough Rider fights side by side with Taft, and the two beat a lively tune on armor of a dazed and confounded enemy. Let the critics find what fault they may with Roosevelt's entrance in the fray! True men applaud each well-aimed shaft he speeds against the foes of Taft.

Uproots Farm for Hidden Gold.

Baltimore Sun.

A story of hidden gold was told to the orphans' court of Baltimore county at Towson, when Daniel Hare asked that $4500 in gold, found upon the farm of Louis Calph, in the Sixth district, be declared a part of the estate of the late Joseph Hare, his father.

Recently Ella Hare, a relative of Mr. Calph, was astonished to pick up a $10 gold piece near an old stump. She told Mr. Calph, who went gold hunting in the stump and brought to light $4500 in gold coins of various denominations.

After putting the money in a safe place, Mr. Calph spoke of his find and the news soon reached Daniel Hare, who concluded that the money must have been owned by his father. Mr. Calph agreed that this was possible.

The relatives have had a falling out as to who owns the money, and the farm is being rooted up in search of gold.

Taft Picture Worries Indiana Horse.

Hammond (Ind.) Dispatch to Chicago Inter Ocean.

Mayor Lawrence Becker, who is a Democrat, will be compelled to take his family horse out of a local livery barn here because the animal goes frantic when it sees the pictures of Taft and Sherman, in the shape of lithographs, hung in the livery stable.

Before the pictures were hung the horse was as gentle as a lamb, but when he is hitched up in the barn he paws and kicks at the sight of the pictures, and the barn men can scarcely control him.

The liveryman complained to Mayor Becker that he was unable to handle the horse, and Mayor Becker told the liveryman to take down the pictures of Taft and Sherman and the animal would be pacified.

Girl's Kiss Earns Pair of Shoes.

Indianapolis (Ind.) Dispatch.

A pair of shoes was offered to any person who would make a representative of a shoe company at Mitchell, Ind., smile; but all efforts failed until Miss Bessie Jones, a pretty telephone girl, kissed him, when his face limbered up.

Truant Officer Earns $14 Daily.

Camden (N. J.) Dispatch.

Henry Truax, truant officer at Tuckerton, N. J., who gets 50 cents for rounding up each child found playing truant, is making $14 a day, and the school board thinks he is earning his money.

Concrete Walk Enriches Beach Front.

Washington (D. C.) Dispatch.

The new concrete boardwalk at Atlantic City, N. J., which costs $50,000 and is just thrown open to the public, will enrich beachfront owners to the extent of $1,500,000.