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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, OCT. 20, 1908.

SIDE ISSUES, YET MAIN ISSUES.

One of the serious things in the contests of the present year is the apprehension that Governor Hughes, of New York, will be defeated. He is an uncommonly able man; he has unusually clear ideas and purposes, in civic affairs; he has shown a broad and courageous view or conception of the moral duties and responsibilities of men in high station. He is not a dreamer or extremist, either; but a very practical man. Simply by his own intellectual and moral force he has compelled abandonment or abatement of many abuses in his state, and has done more than any other man ever did to lift the moral public life of the state to a higher plane. Yet the indications are that the evils and abuses now in alliance with a partisanship that opposes him will defeat his re-election. It will be interesting to watch.

So excellent and able a man is Governor Hughes that Democrats everywhere have been holding him up as the man whom the Republicans ought to have nominated for the Presidency; and it has been remarked as one of the proofs of the degeneracy of the Republican party that it did not. But, so corrupted had the Republican party become, that it would not nominate so great a man—a man so imbued with great moral ideas—for the Presidency. It was a pity, indeed. Yet now this same opposition is doing its utmost to defeat his re-election in New York, and is marshalling for the purpose all the disreputable elements of both parties. It is "the game." Each state has its own game. All the people of Oregon are familiar with the Oregon game, which is played around "our George" as the centerpiece, under the humorous or comical legend, "The People Must Rule."

But Governor Hughes is not to be put down easily. He makes speeches; he addresses the people; he puts frequent questions. "I would ask my opponent," he says, 'are you in favor of the repeal of the Agnew-Hart bills? Are you in favor of the restoration of race-track gambling? Are you in favor of an amendment to the constitution allowing gambling? If that is what is meant, let us know it and try the issue on that basis. My desire was to wipe out these pest places of temptation.'" But of course he gets no response.

This is the one issue in New York. A subordinate one is the Governor's veto of the two-cent fare bill. This is urged against him chiefly for its supposed influence in the West. To this he answers: "Our railroads are the great highways of commerce, and all our business activity and thousands of workmen are dependent upon them. We want the best stations, the best equipment, and the best service, with no discriminations. I don't believe in arbitrary legislation. If thorough investigation shows the step is right, I take it. If not, I do not."

This is manly. What follows is admirable. "I take pride," says Governor Hughes, "in being Governor only as I can satisfy my conscience and my sense of duty. I will sign no bill for popularity—would not hold the office of Governor if I had to do what any one told me. Walk in the middle of the road and you will get bricks from both sides. But my one ambition is to serve the people with no special favors, but with fair treatment to all. It is not a personal question, but I am determined to maintain these principles and demonstrate that the forces opposed to them are not strong enough to carry New York State."

Here is a man who may not be able, in the face of the combination of disreputable interests and partisan fury against him to win the election. He may not be able now again to command success; but he'll deserve it. His triumph will consist in maintenance of the principles and reforms he has established; for Tammany's tool, running for Governor against him, dares not answer to pointed inquiry whether he is in favor of and will approve, if elected, the repeal of race-track gambling and other reform bills. He will dodge, of course; and Bryan, seeking his share of the usufruct, will counsel him to silence. A game very like this is going on in Indiana; where the object is to overthrow the county local option law and re-establish Tom Taggart's gambling hole at French Lick Springs, of which Brother Kern, Bryan's running mate, is attorney—Taggart, to whom Kern, at Denver gave the credit for his nomination.

These appear only as side issues of the campaign; yet they are main issues, after all. New York and Indiana, where the election will be decided, depend on them.

DEVELOPMENT NOT YET BEGUN.

As an illustration of the comparatively small amount of development that has taken place in many regions in Oregon, the summary of the Tillamook County tax roll as printed in yesterday's Oregonian is instructive and interesting. The Assessor's figures show 13,656 acres of tillable and 549,682 acres of non-tillable lands. The term "non-tillable," as applied to most Oregon lands, is a misnomer. The lands so classed will eventually all become tillable, and when cleared will produce enormous crops. They are "non-tillable" at this time because they have not yet been denuded of their wondrously rich growth of valuable timber, but wherever this timber is removed and the land is cleared, it immediately makes fully as satisfactory returns as are secured from any of the lands already in cultivation.

The Tillamook Assessor's returns reflect a condition which has always impressed visitors who have entered that rich region after a journey involving much hardship and discomfort. The amount of land already under cultivation seems so small that it is ever a source of surprise that it should turn off in the aggregate such amazing yields of butter and beef-making products. Beyond the dairying industry it has, of course, been impossible to make much progress in development so long as there were no transportation facilities for placing the products on the market. Early completion of the railroad will work a radical change in this isolated region. Clearing the land is expensive work, but it produces such wonderful crops after it is cleared that as soon as the railroad enables new settlers to reach Tillamook and make personal investigation of conditions there will be a pronounced change in the respective figures of tillable and non-tillable lands returned by the Assessor.

Tillamook, however, is not alone in its glory with returns of more than forty times as much non-tillable land, for in degree these figures make a fairly accurate reflection of conditions in nearly all the coast counties as well as some in other portions of Oregon. In these other counties, as in Tillamook, lack of railroad transportation has been the cause of this slow development, and, now that this most necessary factor in development is about to be supplied to Tillamook, the Wallowa country, Central Oregon and possibly Coos Bay, it is difficult to over-estimate the resultant benefits. So long as Oregon is obliged to import butter and eggs by the carload and trainload, there will always be a great opportunity for disposing of everything that can be produced in our coast dairy regions, and since the first settlers went into those regions the population and attendant demands of the cities have kept a proportionate distance ahead of the supplies. There will be a vast population west of the Coast Range when one-half of Tillamook's land is tillable, and incidentally Portland will then have more than 1,000,000 people.

EVEN SUPPOSING—

But if Taft should be elected, and the vote of Oregon shall go heavily for Taft, then the political prestidigitateur of Oregon, who declared the other day in his letter that he is a Democrat and a supporter of Bryan, yet looks to Republicans to elect him to the Senate, will find himself not a little embarrassed.

He has told why he is a supporter of Bryan, enumerating one thing after another. Bryan was for this policy or that, for this measure or that; yet if Bryan shall be defeated and Oregon shall go against him (as it will), then these great and vital principles will be left hanging in midair, and our Oregon acrobat with them.

Then the question, "Shall the people rule?" will become more pregnant than ever; and the tear then will fall from the slimy eye.

APPLE TREES, OLD AND NEW.

At this season of the year everybody grows enthusiastic over apples as a commercial product, just as many grow sentimental in May over the apple orchard as a beautifier of the landscape, a haunt for the honey bee and humming bird—its boughs conscrs swung by the Spring breezes dispensing fragrance through the open doors of the farmhouse and out upon the highways. Bryant's song, "The Planting of the Apple Tree," combines the poetical with the practical to a degree and, as is the wont of songs upon the lips of old men, is shadowed at the close with pathos. To the question, "What plant we in the apple tree?" the poet makes answer:

Sweets for a hundred flowery Springs
To load the May wind's restless wings;
When from the orchard row beyond
Its fragrance through our open doors;
Fruits that shall swell in sunny June
And redden in the August noon
And drop when gentle airs come by
That fan the blue September sky.

Growing practical and scenting the spirit of a coming commercial age the poet continues:

The fruitage of this apple tree
Winds and our flag of stripe and star
Shall bear to coasts that lie afar,
Where men shall wonder at the view
And ask in what fair grores they grew.

This prophecy is on the verge of a wider and more complete fulfillment than even the poet dreamed, not as regards New England orchards, or those of New York in one of which Bryant's tree was planted, but as it applies to the beauty and abundance and commercial value of the apple trees of Oregon. Eschewing or ignoring sentiment and imbued with the commercial spirit our applegrowers are planting and cultivating apple trees and displaying the fruits thereof to an admiring world. Spitzenbergs and Jonathans, Winter Bananas and Baldwins, Newtown Pippins and Arkansas Blacks vie with each other in rich and delicate coloring as well as in size, shapeliness, fragrance and flavor, and over them broods the commercial spirit and the spirit of friendly competition that called all this excellence into existence.

Hawthorne, writing in the early years of the last century, when apple trees, gnarled and wind-torn, but things of beauty and utility still, cast their cropped fruit on the hillsides of New England, has this to say of them: "Apple trees possess a domestic character and have grown humanized by receiving the care of man as well as by contributing to his wants. There is so much individuality of character, too, among apple trees that it gives them an additional claim to be objects of interest. One is hard and cropped in its manifestations, and another gives us fruit as mild as charity. One is churlish and illiberal, evidently grudging the few apples that it bears; another exhausts itself in free-hearted benevolence. The variety of grotesque shapes into which apple trees contort themselves has its effect on those who get accquainted with them. They stretch out their crooked branches and take such hold on the imagination that we remember them as humorous and odd fellows. And what is more melancholy than the old apple trees that linger about a spot where once stood an old homestead, but where is now only a ruined chimney rising out of a grassy, weed-grown cellar. They offer their fruit to every wayfarer—apples bitter-sweet with the moral of human vicissitude."

This was written long before the commercial spirit touched the apple orchard, discovered its possibilities and bent its energies toward bringing it to perfection. He who plants apple trees today does not take the picturesque as presented by Hawthorne, nor the sentimental as presented by Bryant, into consideration.

Modern apple trees are not allowed "to contort themselves into grotesque shapes, stretch out their crooked branches and take hold on the imagination as humorous and odd fellows." They are planted for a purpose, made to grow symmetrically for a purpose, cultivated for a purpose, and that purpose has worked itself out, in Oregon at least, in apples, the beauty and abundance and size and shapeliness of which make for profit and perfection wherever the commercial orchard is found. Horticulture has come to be recognized among us as a science, the first fruits of which are the unsurpassed products of our commercial apple orchards. We may admire and even love the old apple trees of song and story. We may even admit that their blossoms were more delicately tinted and more fragrant than are those of the diligently sprayed, scientifically pruned apple trees that are planted for profit; but the old apples and the new are as dissimilar as were the New England apples of a century and more ago to the bitter-sour crabapples of the wildwood, from which they sprung.

JURIES ARE ALSO TO BLAME.

To a large extent the Saturday Evening Post is right in charging up against trial juries rather than trial judges a large per cent of the failures to convict guilty men who stand upon technicalities. Juries magnify the importance of nice points in evidence as often as judges do the nice points of law. Sometimes the juries let the points of law influence them, even after the judges have ruled against the defense.

As an instance in which juries frequently fail, the Post mentions cases in which emotional insanity is put up as a defense. It is undoubtedly true that emotional insanity is frequently displayed by juries. Lawyers understand the weakness of jurors in this respect, and miss no opportunity to appeal to their emotions rather than to their reason. The records show how frequently they succeed. But the many reversals of criminal cases upon unimportant technicalities show that courts as well as juries let something besides reason stand between a guilty man and justice.

MIND AND BODY.

At the present time there are perhaps a dozen men in Portland, outside the Christian Science connection, who earn a more or less precarious living by the practice of mental healing. Some call their art by one name, some by another. Of course it is to the advantage of each new healer when he comes to town to advertise something novel, since novelty is a great attraction to many of the habitual patrons of these practitioners. To them an old delusion under a new name presents much of the charm of a fresh discovery in therapeutics, and the joy of being cured of all their ills time after time by ingeniously varied incantations never palls upon them. To the healers these perennially hopeful people are a treasure forever.

But whatever name this healing process goes by makes no difference, all comes to the same thing and its results must be attributed to the therapeutic power of the mind over the body. Some practitioners get the results by the "laying on of hands" and prayer, others by anointing the patient with "holy oil"; some use a miraculous image or fountain, some a sacred bone and still others simply sit calmly and "demonstrate" until the illness betakes itself elsewhither. The methods of working and applying the healing power of the mind are numberless, and, so far as one can discern, they all seem to be about equally effective. All of them accomplish something, none perhaps does as much as its professors claim. But under all this smoke it is impossible to doubt that there is fire. Mental healing is a reality. It has already proved a boon to thousands of people and if the time ever comes when the art can be freed from superstition and imposture it may rank higher than the practice of material medicine. Heretofore it has only been studied in a haphazard, metaphysical, mystical way. Very often those who obtain the results are incompetent to observe their own processes accurately and sometimes considerations of profit lead them to obscure their art with purposive mystery.

To say that all the fugitive practitioners of mental healing who flit from city to city are dishonest and ignorant would not be true. Many of them are admirably candid. Some have mastered all that is known of the mind and the body. But there are also many who know nothing except a jargon which they do not understand and whose sole aim is to coin the faith of the unwary into money. Perhaps these "healers" cure diseases now and then, but it stands to reason that their main business is imposture. The good they do is accidental, the evil is systematic. To the injury of their profession, educated physicians have been too reluctant to acknowledge the facts of mental healing. When the facts can no longer be disputed or ignored, they still neglect to study and apply them. Thus, so far as the doctors are concerned, this enormously beneficial art would probably have been left forever to be exploited by quacks and charlatans. The Christian Scientists have done better. They have reduced the facts of mental healing under a comprehensive theory and restricted its practice to persons who comply with certain requirements. The theory may be erroneous and the requirements insufficient, but for all that their move is in the right direction.

The "Emanuel Movement," which the Rev. W. G. Eliot has been explaining in a scholarly way to his congregation, is an effort to unite what is good in mental therapeutics with what is good in material medicine. It originated among some clergymen who perhaps saw in it a way of returning toward primitive Christianity. In the early church every minister was a healer of bodies as well as souls, after the manner of the Master himself, and it is curious, if not important, to remark that in proportion as the clergy have renounced their power over disease they have lost prestige among the masses. Religion and medicine were united in the beginning. They have since been widely sundered, but the separation and semi-hostility have been good for neither.

It is the purpose of the Emanuel Movement to confine mental healing to the domain where it strictly belongs, leaving a wide field to material medicine. To accomplish this the practitioners are to work in consultation with regular physicians. Some lack of harmony may result for the boundary line is obscure and difficult. Mr. Eliot's rule that functional disorders are to be left to the mind to cure and organic ones to the doctors is more or less illusory. All functional ailments are organic and all organic ailments are functional. The distinction is one of degree, not of kind. "A nervous disease which did not involve "a change in the nerve cells" would be inconceivable to many scientists, though the change might not be perceptible in the laboratory. Very likely there is a line which limits the therapeutic power of the mind, but candor compels us to acknowledge that it has not yet been traced out.

The combined efforts of the Argentine and the United States and Canada are making it very difficult to keep the wheat market up to the dollar mark. For the week ending October 10 the Argentine shipments dropped down to about 500,000 bushels, but the American shipments were so large that the total was held at depressing proportions. Last week American shipments were more than 1,000,000 bushels smaller than those of the preceding week, but the Argentine, which by all previous records should have long ere this ceased shipping for the season, showed up with shipments of nearly 1,200,000 bushels, and Russia figured to the extent of nearly 3,000,000 bushels. An increase of nearly 5,000,000 in the American visible brought the amount up to nearly 42,495,000 bushels, which, with the single exception of last year, is the highest point reached at a corresponding date since 1900. With all of the weekly statistics so strongly favoring the bears, it was not surprising that there should be a sagging market, but whether the weakness will continue is still a problem.

The Oregonian hastens to apologize to the Government for an unwarranted prediction made a few weeks ago. When the Norwegian steamship Guernsey entered the river and was fined $5000 for failing to present a bill of health from the port of departure, The Oregonian ventured the prediction that in due season there would be a remission of $4995 of the fine. For some unknown reason, however, Uncle Sam has seen fit to inflict drastic punishment on the unfortunate steamer, and her agents have been notified that the fine must stand as levied, with the exception of a trifling reduction of $4975. This is the most serious fine that has yet been inflicted on careless shipmasters and will no doubt serve as a warning.

In the central portion of the Willamette Valley evidences of oil deposits have been found in wells and springs, and attempts have been made to sink wells deep enough to find oil if it is there in paying quantities. Unfortunately the well-boring operations have not been successful, owing to accidents to the machinery, and no satisfactory conclusion has ever been reached. Now test wells are to be sunk near Pratum, in Marion County. While Oregonians, as is usually the case, will have no faith in the enterprise until they see it succeed, yet it is quite possible that oil will be found. At any rate, the test is worth while.

"Of all the Presidential candidates within the memory of this generation, Taft is unquestionably the best equipped, in training and experience and in wide and close contact with large affairs." Thus declared the Philadelphia Public Ledger, an Independent Democratic paper. It spoke truthfully. While Taft may not accomplish as much as Roosevelt has done and is not as well equipped as a fighter as Roosevelt was, yet it is true that Taft surpasses even Roosevelt in experience at the beginning of a Presidential campaign.

After all, then, it isn't so bad. "Calamity," we learn from Bryan sources, "is a false alarm." On the contrary, there is "splendid prosperity." Bryan's candidacy "doesn't alarm anybody." Oh! then, the tune is changed about the "Roosevelt panic" and "Roosevelt hard times." Yet we hear from a mighty lot of people, "Wait till after the election."

It is not probable that Congress will ever consider seriously the project of making the sound banking business of the country insure against loss from all the various kinds of crooks that want to go into the banking business. Beyond this very brief statement, argument against Bryan's bank insurance plan is scarcely necessary.

Finest of all the receptions that the American fleet has met was that at Tokio, where 10,000 Japanese school children sang, in English, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," as the officers passed by in review. It was a tribute both to America and to the all-conquering language of the English-speaking world.

Since we are to go into the insurance business—insuring depositors in banks against loss—why shouldn't we have a law to insure sheep against scab and crops against frost? And many of our best men against delirium tremens? And more of them against the silly notions of Bryanism?

The latest argument for Taft and against Bryan is, "Elect Taft now, and defeat Bryan; for if you elect Bryan now you will have Roosevelt four years hence, and nothing can beat him." It is the argument of the esteemed New York Sun.

President Roosevelt gave Mr. Taft three square meals at the White House, Sunday, and then accompanied him to the Unitarian Church. But it is our understanding that Taft is perfectly orthodox, all the same, for he eats like a Methodist.

One Eastern Oregon bank wrecker went unprosecuted; why should not another? Isn't it reasonable for all bankers to assume that since one goes unpunished the same policy will be pursued as to others?

So long as the Democrats claim Oregon as "doubtful" or "debatable," everybody will be able to place a correct valuation on their other claims about "doubtful" states.

By reason of the car service maintained by the Oregon Electric, a Multnomah County member of the Legislature can live at home and attend the daily session at Salem.

The only time the average property-owner feels his own possessions worth less than his neighbor's is during the session of the Board of Equalization.

Salem has a saloonkeeper running for Mayor. Unfortunately for a large class of voters, the corrupt practices act prohibits candidates from treating.

When children rebel at school it is a pretty sure sign that they have been permitted to make a success of rebellion at home.

Is the moral crusade to wane just because the offenders have moved to other places?

WHAT OF TARIFF REVISION?

A Calm and Fair Discussion of the Present Situation.

New York Evening Post, Ind.

Both candidates for the Presidency have bound themselves, if elected, to call Congress in extra session for the express purpose of revising the tariff. This state of things by itself ought to be a source of much cheer to tariff-reformers. To have the force of their arguments admitted, and their position sustained, by both parties is really a great triumph for the little band of "doctrinaires," as Roosevelt called them four years ago. Far from being despondent they should look forward with high expectancy to the near fruition of their long-deferred but unconquerable hopes. Believing as they must in their ability to meet the protectionist enemy in the gate with the irresistible economic and political argument, they should hail the certainty that, whoever is elected President, the Dingley tariff is to be thrown into the melting pot. Whether the measure that comes out is likely to be better is Mr. Bryan feeds the fire, rather than Mr. Taft, is a question regarding which we need to seek calmly all the light which we can get from political history and human nature.

* * *

Consider what happened after the great tariff-reform victory of 1892. There was then a Democratic Senate; yet tariff revision was wounded in the house of its friends. Even President Cleveland, with all his conviction and great determination, was unable to get from a Congress which his party controlled a tariff measuring up to the demands of the most moderate reformers. What chance is there that Bryan would have any better success with a Senate sure to be hostile to him? Will he be able to wrest from enemies what Grover Cleveland could not secure from friends? There is but one answer. When to Bryan's studied indifference though many years to the iniquities of the tariff, you add the powerful partisan motives which would induce the Senate to place itself athwart his path, a reasonable man cannot come to any other conclusion than that tariff reform would have an exceedingly hard road to travel with Bryan in the Presidency. Indeed, if we really were the sworn champions and beneficiaries of high tariff and monopoly, we should feel much less in danger of being disturbed by Mr. Bryan than by Mr. Taft. It is credibly reported that many protected manufactureres are taking that view and are, to say the least, not working themselves to death to elect Mr. Taft.

* * *

On the latter's side, if President, there would be the advantage of a party not only with a majority in both houses of Congress, but solemnly bound to use that majority for the revision of the tariff. Moreover, Mr. Taft has taken, on the whole, a more advanced position than any prominent Republican. He has steadily fought for free trade for the Filipinos. He has repeatedly stated that he considers many of the rates in the Dingley tariff too high. He was for "immediate revision" when Mr. Bryan was saying nothing about the tariff. True, Mr. Taft's campaigning has betrayed him into praise of protection and absurdities about the Wilson bill. Yet even in the midst of these vagaries, which we have condemned as sharply as the next, the fact remains that he is convinced of the unfairness of the Dingley law and fully intends to bring about its thorough modification. On that, he has spoken and can be quoted, again and again. Now, we are confident enough of the justice of the case for a lower tariff, and of the way in which people's eyes have been opened to the inequalities and wrongs embodied in the Dingley bill, to believe that any revision honestly undertaken is certain to eliminate a great deal of favoritism and a great deal of fraud. The old way of purchasing tariff privileges cannot be repeated under the jealous scrutiny with which the public is certain to watch the framing of the next tariff. So that the prospect of getting, if not a perfect bill, at least a vastly better measure than the present law, we must believe to be excellent in case Mr. Taft is elected President.

* * *

Nor can one, finally, overlook that strange but verified law of political action, according to which it is the conservative party which catches up and enacts liberal proposals. The radical party spends itself in agitation; thereupon the conservatives come into power and pass the desired law. And the country which would have been convulsed at the sight of radicals putting through the same legislation, accepts it from the conservatives as a necessary and healing measure. It was the chief of the protectionist party who gave England free trade; and Mr. Taft might well be proud if he could follow in the footsteps of Sir Robert Peel, and could say with that statesman that he had made the bread of laboring men "sweeter because it is no longer leavened by a sense of injustice."

FOR BRYAN AND HARD TIMES

How Would Mr. Bryan Himself Regard This Argument?

SOUTH ORANGE, Oct. 10.—(To the Editor of the New York Times.)—A large number of voters believe that the election of Mr. Bryan would bring about four or five years of very hard times—speaking of such a lean season as if it might be the devil's own doing. In fact several years of healthy contraction would be a blessing to us just at present.

In the first place it would stop immigration and compel emigration. Would this be a hardship to us who stick?

It would stop the writing and publishing of many books and prevent the painting of many pictures and decorations. Bad? Not that we can see.

It would stop the booming and exploiting of land and the flotation of fake corporations. Would this be a serious matter?

It would bring to a halt the tremendous expenditures of moneys by the City of New York for vast schemes that are only vast—schemes for the everlasting wonderment of the country bumpkin, but which advance the citizens not one inch in morality or happiness. The taxpayers could not lose in this, and maybe a person in ordinary circumstances might be able to own a house within the town limits. We know that taxes cannot go on increasing forever. Just think of the sudden termination of the financial exploitation of all our suburban communities that to date have been placed on the level that will not be overtopped for 20 years to come. The suburban villages and towns have been watered sewered, grave-yarded, cement-walked, fancy-pavemented, city-policed, overclerked and over-contracted. The people want to catch up in the vacation days to come. They want a respite from the taskmasters—from the high-moral teachings of the corporation trustees. Boom times have meant thinner goods for the money. Every one has been preaching inflation, and no one economy. The election of Mr. Bryan, if it did bring about hard times, would bring about some joy to the people who like to walk.

C. J. TAYLOR.

In the Streets of Canby.

Canby Tribune.

Grant White shot a wild duck in a puddle of water in front of his livery stable Tuesday.

"THE QUADRENNIAL FIT."

Democrats Assert Country Is "Fast Tending to Despotism."

Pendleton Tribune.

Says the Bryan organ in Portland:

"The Pendleton Tribune quotes the Democratic platform of 1868. This is quite modern—only 40 years back."

But in doing so The Tribune had in mind only a sincere desire to comfort the troubled brethren.

If this paper can demonstrate to the apprehensive Bryan followers that the dangers their chief thinks he sees on the Governmental horizon, and which are reflected by themselves in their daily lamentations, are not real, but fanciful—that is, if it is a matter of history that they have always been the victims of quadrennial nightmares for campaign purposes, invented every four years by designing leaders who know better—in that case it is the duty of a Republican paper to do all within its power to soothe the troubled breast of the innocent Democratic follower who may actually be fooled by the aforesaid leaders.

Hence, the republication of the Democratic platform of 1868, which shows that 40 years ago, and every four years since, the brethern threw practically the same sort of a fit based entirely on the exigencies of a pending campaign which desires to get votes at any cost.

Mr. Bryan says he believes the country is fast tending to "empire." He sees some sort of warning handwriting on some sort of imaginary wall. He needs to alarm somebody in order to frighten people to his support. The Democracy has always needed to see some hideous handwriting on some convenient wall which bodes nobody good unless it is placed in power.

Jefferson had the same complaint when Washington was President, and it has supplied the groundwork for a perpetual series of hysterics ever since when the Democratic party has been "out."

All of Bryan's assaults upon the Republican party in this campaign, as well as in his former ones, are conjured grievances for campaign purposes, as every thinking man understands.

The condition of our people, collectively and individually, was never so satisfactory as it is today.

There is no cause for alarm which troubles the Democratic soul. Nobody now believes the election of General Grant to the Presidency in 1868 threatened the "pillars of our Government." Few people believed it then. It was only a scare attempted by the Democratic leaders—the same trick that Bryan is trying now.

So, The Tribune now, by recalling some of the Democracy's former specters of "grave dangers" which had no existence whatever, may succeed in showing the rank and file of the brethren that they are merely the victims of hereditary and chronic fear transmitted from past Democratic sires for political effect, and that, therefore, it is as well to pass the matter by as a vagary without foundation, a plea without sense.

It should serve to compose the brethren—a hope and purpose which The Tribune cherishes when it recalls that plank in the National Democratic platform in 1868, anticipating the election to the Presidency of the hero of Vicksburg and of Appomattox—think of it!—which said, speaking of the Republican party:

Under its repeated assaults the pillars of the Government are rocking on their base, and should it succeed next November and inaugurate its President, we will meet as a subjected and conquered people, amid the ruins of our liberty and the scattered fragments of the Constitution.

And now, looking back dispassionately, wouldn't that jar you?

Wouldn't it jar you you even if you are a Democrat?

POINTED QUERIES FOR CHANLER

Governor Hughes Puts His Opponent on the Grill.

Utica Special to New York Times, Oct. 18.

In the same city in which he made his famous appeals to the people on the race-track gambling and public service commission bills, Governor Hughes tonight added a third appeal direct to the citizens for the policies he represents. It was aimed specifically at the arguments raised by Lieutenant-Governor Chanler on the issues of "government by commission" and "personal liberty." While an audience of 2500 people that packed the Majestic Theater to the roof shouted and cheered its approval, the Governor repeated the question he asked his opponent in a recent speech, and added that he should continue to ask them until Mr. Chanler replied or his silence became more eloquent than words.

These are the questions:

Are you in favor of the repeal of the Public Commission laws?

Would you transfer the powers of the Commission to any state officer, and if so, to what officer?

Would you deprive the Commission of any of its powers, and if so of what power?

Are you in favor of the repeal of the Agnew-Hart bill?

Are you in favor of the restoration of race-track gambling?

Do you desire the amendment of the constitution of the state so as to strike out the prohibition against public gambling?

"Let my opponent cease to hide behind phrases," declared the Governor. "This is serious business. It is an important political campaign, not a masked ball. An effort has been made to capitalize the points of resentment against me. Opposition, honest opposition, is a good thing. But we want this opposition to come to the stage, where we can know what it really is."

What Bryan's Election Will Do.

Tillamook Headlight.

The dairymen who want butter fat at 12 cents a pound, the price paid under the Cleveland administration, will vote for Bryan next month. And the dairymen who want the price to remain the same as the last few years will vote for Taft.

Woodburn Independent.

Oregon needs more railroads, and it takes money to build railroads, and there must be a feeling of confidence in the country before the people can be induced to let go of their money. How much confidence would the election of Bryan give? None.

Skamania's Apple Exhibit.

CARSON, Wash., Oct. 19.—(To the Editor.)—Reading in this morning's Oregonian that Carson gets credit for furnishing the entire exhibit from Skamania County, I beg to say that I put in the display, which was done in the name of Skamania County, as the painted sign which I bought and paid for plainly read as follows: "Skamania County Exhibit." I stood there as the exhibitor, being indorsed by the president of our County Horticultural Society, displaying exhibits from different portions of the county, some of which could not have been shown from Carson. ROSWELL SHELLEY.

Sad Days for the Pheasants.

Woodburn Independent.

In the cars on the Southern Pacific have been hanging big strings of China pheasants that Portland sports took home with them. They never miss, and judging from the size of the majority of the birds on the strings, they even slaughter the little bits of hens that could crawl through a two-inch knothole. This may be sportsmanship in their eyes, but it looks as if they were determined to exterminate the pheasants. They will be getting to sparrows next.

Lost: Part of an Upper Lip.

Hillsboro Argus.

Peter Jacobson, of Lenox, met with a singular accident last Tuesday. While petting one of his workhorses, the animal playfully bit out a portion of his upper lip, which was anything but fun for Mr. Jacobson, who immediately came to Hillsboro and had the wound dressed by Dr. F. A. Bailey. Search was made by Mr. Jacobson for the missing piece of lip, btu it could not be found.

BRYAN AND SILVER.

With Something About a "Fundamental Defect of Mind."

ROSEBURG, Or., Oct. 18.—(To the Editor.)—In an editorial on "Bryan's Past" The Oregonian says that "Mr. Bryan's adventures with free silver betray a fundamental defect in his mind which unfits him for high administrative office." Then William McKinley was unfitted for high administrative office, for was he not among that very respectable portion of the Republican party who, in 1896, considered bimetallism good gospel? And was not Arthur J. Balfour, some time Prime Minister of England, also unfitted for high administrative office? For if I remember rightly he was one of the many distinguished advocates of the double-standard at that time. Mr. Bryan does not stand "unique and lonely" in his responsibility for the free silver heresy. I verily thought with myself that bimetalism was a good thing. But upon Mr. Bryan has been laid the iniquity of us all. Of course I concede that Mr. Bryan has made mistakes. The man who doesn't make mistakes doesn't usually make anything. Mr. Gladstone reversed himself on great political questions as completely as Mr. Bryan has done, and no one questions his statesmanship in that account. And it is to be observed that even Mr. Bryan's failings lean to the people's side. It may be said that his sympathies outrun his statesmanship. For my part I prefer to have a man in the White House whose sympathy for the people would occasionally lead him into error in their behalf than to have a man there who would pursue an unerring policy in the interest of the corporations.

Mr. Bryan has abandoned the free silver question. That indicates "a defect in his capacity for high administrative office." The leaders of the Republican party are being compelled to abandon their pet high protective policy. Does that indicate that the leaders of the Republican party have shown a fundamental defect that unfits them for high administrative offices? Instead of being an indication of vacillation and weakness I think Mr. Bryan's change of mind shows the development of maturity. His political genius has been building more stately mansions. He has been growing and leaving his "outgrown shell by life's unresting sea." He must ever up and onward who would keep abreast of truth.

Only such inveterate "standpatters" as Uncle Joe Cannon never change their minds. They are so thoroughly committed to the "interests" that they are without variableness or shadow of turning. They will probably never be accused of espousing any cause in behalf of the people or of abandoning any policy in the interests of the corporations. But some day the people's love of progress will gently and sorrowfully chloroform these fellows into private life. Sometimes it is the better part of statesmanship to change one's mind. Even the ponderous Mr. Taft may find it expedient to change his attitude in regard to the Roosevelt "policies." I am not a political prophet, but I will hazard the opinion that if Taft is elected he will repudiate, or at least not go forward with the Roosevelt policies. It is quite plain that Taft's sympathies with the Roosevelt policies are considerably less marked than his subjection to the domineering personality of the President, and with the shadow of the "big stick" withdrawn and the predatory tendencies of his party bringing powerful influences to bear upon him it may turn out that Mr. Taft will reverse himself as completely in regard to Roosevelt's policies as Mr. Bryan has done in regard to free silver.

ANDREW R. MARKER.

But has Mr. Bryan changed his mind or purpose in regard to silver? Not a word from him to that effect. He has dropped the subject, in order to get votes, for this election. McKinley did vote for free silver coinage in 1878, but before 1896 he came to understand the subject, and then became candidate on the gold-standard platform. Why didn't Bryan change, too? Because of a "fundamental defect of mind," which was supported, we may allow, by partisan ambition. The term "bimetallism" is used again. The notion never had any support except among shallow thinkers and foolish partisans. Difference of opinion about the tariff furnishes no parallel; for that is a question upon which men always will differ, as their local interests dictate. Hence, though the Democratic party pretends to oppose protection, it never will deprive the Southern and Democratic States of protection for their products. But money, measure of all values, stands on a very different basis, and its laws are inexorable as those of mathematics. Of these things Bryan has no knowledge. Therefore—though he professes to "espouse the cause of the people"—he merely misleads them, so far as his influence goes. Hitherto they have had enough judgment to turn him down. They may again; for his present "agitations" are no more rational than his former ones, though, perhaps, not so portentous of injury to the country. Yet it is patent as ever that "a fundamental defect in his mind unfits him for high administrative office."

J. W. KERN, AND WHO HE IS

He Is Tom Taggart's Man, and a Vanderbilt Attorney.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.

If elected Vice-President, John W. Kern would preside over the United States Senate. Mr. Bryan has said that he will ask Mr. Kern to occupy with him the White House. In the event of the death of Mr. Bryan, or his removal, or incapacity, Kern would become President, a possibility which demands thoughtful consideration in view of the historical fact that since the Civil War three of our Presidents have been called to the Presidential office from the Vice-Presidency.

What manner of man is this who has been chosen by Mr. Bryan as his running-mate? Kern has publicly proclaimed that he owes his nomination to Tom Taggart, of Indiana, the discredited politician who is now before the courts of Indiana as a lawbreaker and a keeper of one of the worst gambling resorts in the United States. He is professedly, and in fact, the creature of Taggart. As political boss of the City of Indianapolis, Taggart gave him appointment as City Attorney. The two men have been hand-in-glove for many years, and Kern is attorney of record defending Taggart and his disreputable resort before the courts.

Taggart has been the master mind of the two. He has dealt with the law-defying corporations on a footing of equality, and both have patronized Kern.

Even as he goes over the country asking for votes for himself and Bryan, Kern is on the payroll of the Big Four lines of the Vanderbilt system, a lawbreaking corporation which has been fined $116,000 for paying illegal rebates to the trusts, and paid the fine. He admits this railroad connection. He had to admit it when his lost railroad passes were found in order to bring himself and his employer within the pale of the United States law, which forbids, under heavy penalties, the giving of a pass, but authorizes passes to railroad attorneys.

Mr. Bryan cannot deny the disreputable history and affiliations of his running-mate, for they are matters of official record.

The One Straight Question.

Baltimore News, Ind.

As for Mr. Taft, nothing can rob him of a record in the service of his country and a training such as no President in a generation has had. The voter who is in doubt as to how he should cast his ballot can do no better than to hold fast to this one thought: Do the achievements in public life, the experience, the long record of Mr. Taft or the professions and the shifting ideas of Mr. Bryan promise better for sane consideration of the various problems that confront us and for a prompter and more permanent rehabilitation of public confidence and return of prosperity?