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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, OCT. 23, 1908.

AN UNHAPPY OBSESSION.

Mr. Bryan complains that "a man can't make an honest fight for the people without the danger of having the election bought away from him." This is Bryanesque.

It is a standing complaint of Mr. Bryan that things are bought away from him. He was just about to win on that superb issue of economics, the free coinage of silver, when the election was bought away from him. So that "honest fight for the people" failed. The people were not blessed by having their dollar cut to fifty cents. Again, in the year 1900 Mr. Bryan essayed "an honest fight for the people" on the same issue, but was defeated more signally than before. Once more he complained that the election had been "bought away from him."

By this time his party, tired of his quackeries, proposed to nominate another candidate. Judge Parker was selected, and many of the states instructed for him. But Bryan still hoped for the nomination himself. However, when Bryan saw he was to be left out, he made speeches in which he asserted that the nomination had been "bought away from him" by Belmont and others. He (Bryan) was the man to "make the fight for the people," and Parker was merely a "tool of the trusts." Yet once more the crown of thorns was pressed down on the brow of labor; once more the friend of the people was crucified on the cross of gold. The delegations to the Democratic National convention, he asserted, had been "bought," and the people's friend was to have four years more of weary waiting.

He is out now once more on a humbug platform, differing from his former ones, but as fallacious and preposterous. Men of property and business are naturally concerned, as they were before, and are using such influence as they can command to defeat him again. Now he finds once more that the election is to be "bought away from him."

His assumption that he is "making a fight for the people" is the hardihood of charlatanry. All his effort is to deceive the people, by a play on their supposed ignorance and prejudices. It is an effort to array class against class, on Sancho Panza's political classification of the Have-nots against the Haves—on the supposition that the former are the more numerous. Hitherto the people have not believed that the man who came to them with arguments in support of false and fallacious political and economic doctrines was "making a fight for the people." Are they more likely to believe it now?

For, though the fudge about silver has been abandoned for the present, the three capital ideas in the platform of this year, invented as substitutes for it, are equal rubbish: Namely, the 50 per cent restriction on "trust-made goods," insurance of bank deposits, and the demand that the protection of law shall be withdrawn from a man's business and property, when there is a labor strike against him and them. These demands are not an appeal to the intelligence of the people and to their sense of fairness and justice, but to a class prejudice which their author and promoter supposes to exist. To some extent doubtless it does exist; yet everywhere there are working men in large numbers, who see through these doctrines to their consequences, and reject them.

Though Mr. Bryan has become rich himself, it is a persistent quality of his mind to appeal to a prejudice against property and wealth and business, on the supposition or assumption that he thus is standing up for the poor and making a fight for the people. His persistent belief that he may be able to win by such appeal is the source of all the duperies and quackeries he has attempted to exploit, since his volcanic burst upon the world as a phrase-maker, in 1896. People see through these absurdities and reject them and then Mr. Bryan complains that "the election has been bought away from him;" the more sensible portion of his own party, tired of following him to defeat, nominates another, and then he sets up a roar that "if it hadn't been for bribery Parker could have had but few delegations." Noting now again a temper in the people that causes him to fear another defeat, the same old stuff is uttered, that his opponents are "buying the election against him." It is a most unhappy obsession, that probably can end only with his life; for it cannot be supposed that he ever will cease to be a candidate.

WAGES AFTER THE ELECTION.

It requires a stretch of the imagination on the part of Mr. Bryan to make the word bribery fit the act of the New York Central officials who are notifying their employes of what is actually to take place after election. Instead of bribery, it is a mere plain statement of a fact or condition, and, as well put by Mr. Taft, "it is a fact that workingmen ought to know as well as business men." Every voter who has taken the slightest interest in the matter knows by official figures printed from week to week that the banks throughout the country have been strengthening their reserves and withholding their loans in anticipation of trouble in the event of Bryan's election, which of course must be considered as a possibility, even though it be a faint one.

With capital frightened into hiding, there would be no money available for new enterprises and in the general retrenchment the railroads would suffer as much as, or more than, any other line of industry. Naturally, when they began to feel the effect of this inevitable falling off in business they would be obliged to retrench, and as usual the wages of the employes would be the first to suffer. On the other hand, with the banks bursting with money, which will be available the moment the country is assured that it will not become a prey to the wild theories and isms which have made Bryan dreaded wherever conservative, honest business principles are followed, it will be impossible to stay the splendid progress we are now making toward a return to normal conditions.

THE VOTE OF OREGON.

No 15,000 nor 10,000 Republicans of Oregon are going to vote for Bryan; nor any 5000, nor any 1000, nor any 100. But many, who registered falsely as Republicans, and with perjurious oath, for a political bunco game, will vote for Bryan. The game having been played out, they will now vote for Bryan, of course.

Since the year 1900 the Democrats of Oregon have not been voting except for Chamberlain. More than one-half of them refused to vote for Parker. Bryan will get nearly the vote of the party now. But it will fall far below the vote for Taft.

No Democrat of intelligence and knowledge expects the vote for Bryan to come within 10,000 of the vote for Taft, in Oregon. The total vote of the state will be about 115,000. Minor parties will throw 10,000 to 12,000 votes and something over 100,000 will be divided between Taft and Bryan. Of these Taft will receive more than 55,000, but probably not more than 60,000.

HOBSON AND LABOR.

Colonel Richmond Pearson Hobson coming from Alabama as a missionary to the laboring men of Oregon presents a fantastic spectacle. Alabama has always been a Democratic state of the true blue order. Perhaps a Republican vote is occasionally cast within its borders, but not often. Practically every white citizen of Alabama is a Democrat. That being the case it is interesting in connection with Colonel Hobson's missionary visit to peruse the anti-boycott law which the Alabama Legislature passed recently. It shows better than anything else could the real feeling of the Hobsonian party toward labor. This law makes boycotting a criminal offence and its essence will be better appreciated when we remember that the criminal offences of workingmen are in Alabama punished by the chain-gang. The chain-gang is Bryanism incarnate so far as labor is concerned.

The Governor of Alabama, in whose interest the anti-boycott law was passed, is part owner in the mines where there was a strike the other day. To coerce the striking miners the Democratic Governor ordered out his Democratic militia to expel them from their homes. The miners then erected tents to protect them from the weather and the Governor forthwith ordered the troops to tear down the tents. Ultimately the starving and broken miners were harried from the state, all of them who had not been condemned to the chain-gang, and to prevent any future strikes this Democratic anti-boycott law was passed which makes it a crime for a laboring man in Alabama to look cross-wise at his Democratic exploiter.

This is the species of sympathy with labor which Colonel Hobson comes to represent. This is the treatment labor has always received from the Democratic party and it is the treatment which every labor vote for Bryan invites. If the North were as completely Democratic as the South is labor would be subdued by the militia and chain-gang here just as it is in Alabama. A labor vote for Bryan is treason to the cause of human rights.

GETTING BACK TO THE SOIL.

It has become a habit with advisers of young men and no one can find fault with the habit to advise a return to the soil, both as a means of establishing a competency for old age and for fostering a spirit of independence among workers and their families. So far so good. But is it not true that on the farm, above all places, a man needs a helpmeet if he would succeed? And if young men are to go back to the soil equipped with knowledge that will make it productive, and working it a pleasure, is it not the part of wisdom to advise young women along the same lines and instruct them in the duties of farmers' wives? A house in the city, elegantly fitted up with wedding presents and other articles that cost the young people nothing, is the hope of thousands of young women of today who dream dreams of matrimony. If these young women, many of whom are the daughters of laboring men, trades-people or small capitalists, whose fortunes are generally at a low ebb, could be induced to forego the vapid thing they call society, quit taking music lessons and enter seriously upon a course in domestic science, going, if necessary for that purpose, to the Agricultural College, or to farmhouses of the better class and engaging as kitchen, chamber and garden helpers, they would in a year or two be fitted to take places as genuine helpmeets of the army of young men who are by sage advice "going back to the soil."

At the risk of being called old-fashioned and grumpy, The Oregonian here takes occasion to say that it is time that young women of the middle class in cities were being taught that they have a place in the world of work and of duty outside of that which provides them with money wherewith to buy clothing that is not suitable to their station in life. They are not fitted for farmer's wives, of course, since they know nothing of domestic duty; equally, of course, they are not fitted for country life (though they are frequently heard to say that they despise it), because they have never had opportunity or been taught to take interest in growing things, vegetable and animal. But if they will awake to the opportunity that will be presented if young men take the advice so earnestly given to go back to the soil, cultivate an interest in things of Nature, learn something of her ways, take practical lessons in housekeeping and cookery, and if possible take a short course in domestic science at the State Agricultural College, they will most likely find a sphere in life that is conducive to happiness and to the best interests of the race, by becoming helpmeets in the true sense of the word to vigorous, intelligent young farmers.

SATISFACTORY EXPORT TRADE.

The prosperity of the farmers as reflected in large exports of domestic breadstuffs, meat and dairy products, cotton, etc., continues in spite of the political uncertainties that are hampering some other lines of trade. The Department of Commerce and Labor in its bulletin presenting a summary of the September exports of this class makes the best showing for any month since February, and incidentally establishes a new record for September. Wheat was credited with a considerable portion of the increase over former months, the value of the September exports of this cereal being more than $4,000,000 in excess of the total for September, 1907. Portland alone showed an increase of more than $1,000,000 over the same month last year.

The export value per bushel of the wheat was about the same as last year; but cotton, which also helped to swell the figures, was about 25 per cent lower in price this year than last and the increased total valuation of that staple was due to much larger exports. While the September statistics make an excellent showing for our exports of domestic products, the figures for the nine months ending with September are even more satisfactory. They show a total for this class of exports of $598,687,201, which, with the single exception of the corresponding nine months last year, has never before been equaled. The record established last year was $618,529,639, but with larger crops and higher prices in many lines this year it is quite probable that the exports for the remaining three months of the year will reach and possibly exceed the record figures of last year.

The figures for the first nine months this year are $27,000,000 in excess of those for the same period in 1906, and $81,000,000 greater than in 1905. Returns on the exports of manufactured products are not yet at hand, but it is believed that the showing will be much more favorable than that of August. Even should it fall in this respect, some improvement in our manufacturing industries is certain to follow the increased purchasing power of the producers of our record-breaking agricultural exports. Unfortunately the general trade situation in the country receives less benefit than usual from this big export trade. This is due to the fact that foreigners are paying for the products in American railroad and other industrial securities which are being dumped on the market through fear of Bryan's election.

The Americans who are buying up these securities, partly to support the market and partly because they see small chance for Bryan's election, are thus compelled to pay cash to the farmers and hold the securities until returning confidence again brings the foreigner into the market as a buyer of something besides domestic food products.

MR. BRYAN'S TRACTS.

In distributing his tracts to voters it seems that Mr. Bryan obeys the scriptural injunction to be all things to all men. He has one precious booklet reeking with unctuous piety which he bestows upon Protestants. This is his "Prince of Peace," discourse. He has another devoted to the political instruction of Catholics. It is an account of his visit to Pope Pius X. Everybody who has had the opportunity to peruse the latter tract admires its abundant discretion. It is not so strongly papal as to displease the intolerant Protestant nor so redolent of Protestantism as to put the Catholics out of countenance. It is in fact a very successful exhibition of Mr. Bryan's prowess in riding two horses at the same time. The fact that they are racing in opposite directions does not disturb his seat in the least.

These two tracts have come to light. There must be many others of similar purpose which are circulating quietly in the shade. One surmises that there must be a neat little document full of reassuring promises to Wall street and a companion booklet for the farmers in which Wall street is roundly abused for its wickedness. Another pair would naturally include a tract for Methodists enlarging on the heresies of Mr. Taft with a companion leaflet for Unitarians to demonstrate that he is fanatically orthodox. The tract designed for use at Mr. Taggart's gambling-house and roundabout would be interesting reading were it visible to the profane. The art of adaptation is an old one in politics and up to a certain point politicians are expected to practice it. But there is a line between adaptation and deception which honorable men do not cross whether they are in politics or not. That Mr. Bryan has ventured over this line in preparing his seductive tracklets it would be impolite to assert, but if he has not crossed he has strayed mighty close to the edge. Hitherto in all his perilous political flights Mr. Bryan has enjoyed and profited by the reputation of sincerity. Is he in danger of forfeiting that salutary repute for the lucre of office?

The careless hunter—always abroad—has usually confined his feats in hitting persons when shooting at game to the woods. Lately, however, he has extended the scope of his operations and taken in city suburbs and children's playgrounds. His latest feat was performed in Tacoma, where he shot at a covey of quail, heedless of the fact that two hundred school children were at play just beyond and in direct line with his aim. Reckless as was the shot, but one child of the number was wounded. Condign punishment should follow an act of this kind. There is absolutely no excuse for it, and none should be considered. The sooner an example is made by the infliction of severe penalty upon a man guilty of such rank carelessness as this the better for a menaced public.

All the manuscripts of the books written by Theodore Winthrop have been given to the Astor Library, New York, and will be preserved there. Two of these books are of special interest to "The Far West"—namely "John Brent" and "The Canoe and the Saddle." It is a pity Tacoma has not the manuscript of this last-named book. In it the name "Tacoma" was first written, and by it the name has been established forever. First copies, or copies of the first edition, of "The Canoe and the Saddle," are becoming extremely scarce, and presently will be worth more than their weight in gold. The book begins with the Columbia River, then takes the reader to Puget Sound, and in one of the most charming accounts ever written, carries the reader over the mountains from Nisqually to The Dalles. The time was toward the end of the Summer of 1853. Winthrop was killed in a skirmish at Great Bethel, Va., at the beginning of the Civil War.

"Japan is ready right now for war, and has 1,500,000 soldiers under arms," says Mr. Hobson, who is nearly as extravagant with his language as he formerly was with his kisses. "Japan," continued Hobson in his Oregon City speech, "has contracted for fifteen battleships of the Dreadnaught type, each one to cost $10,000,000." This is shocking extravagance on the part of Japan, which is so hopelessly involved in debt that liquidation and widespread bankruptcy seem almost unavoidable. Japan is not "ready right now for war," nor will she be ready for war until she has practiced rigid economy for many years. Hot air and bombast may be all right for political speeches, but it will not buy Dreadnaughts nor rations for an army of much less than 1,500,000 men. All Hobson needs to make him an excellent Don Quixote is a mule and a Sancho Panza. He already has an excellent mount in the shape of a big Navy hobby.

Mr. Hobson, of Alabama, denounces the Republican party as the party of "strong centralized government." He says it was founded by Hamilton, and has no sympathy with liberty. Let us admit that the Republican party has followed Hamilton, and stands for government that has power enough to enforce its authority. What then? It has prevented Mr. Hobson's state, with others, from breaking away from the Union and destroying the Government. And it has had sufficient sympathy with liberty to abolish slavery in Mr. Hobson's state. And yet the kind of slavery still exists there which prevents existence of more than one political party. Hence Mr. Hobson, sure of re-election because only one political party is tolerated, can get out over the country and lecture others on liberty and on ideals in government.

Landseekers to the number of 114,000 participated in the recent rush for farms in the Tripp County (Dakota) district, and it is estimated that their expenses aggregated more than $2,000,000. As there was only enough land for 6000 applicants, it seems that there are 108,000 disappointed individuals who wish to be landowners. There may be a few localities in Dakota that are as desirable for some purposes as Oregon, but in number and area they are not large. It would accordingly seem that here was an excellent opportunity for at least a portion of the 108,000 to secure better land than they could get in Dakota, and, if they have $2,000,000 to expend in the attempt, they are absolutely certain of success.

Southern Oregon has added another to the long list of hunting fatalities, Alex Frank, a Southern Pacific brakeman, falling before the trusty rifle of his untrustworthy companion, Carl Weber. While it is not so stated in the dispatches, Mr. Weber is undoubtedly awfully sorry over the results of his marksmanship but this will not deter other fools from blazing away at the first object they see moving in the bushes. If accurate statistics were available, it could undoubtedly be shown that the number of men killed by careless hunters was not strikingly less than the number of bears that are slaughtered. This may be comforting news to the bear family, but it reduces the census and causes needless expense and sorrow.

Woe is the family which cannot settle its domestic financial troubles outside of the courts. It utterly fails to receive sympathy from the public before which its grievances are aired, and it falls in the estimation of those who never speak of family matters before strangers. Wise people refuse to take sides in a family dispute, and the lawyer who takes such a case into court must be very hungry or else he sees in it a big fee not based upon a contingency.

Absolutely now it is settled, if we may believe the esteemed New York Sun, that Taft is to be elected in order to keep Roosevelt out of the job four years hence; since, after four years of Bryan, nobody could beat Roosevelt.

Do you know any reason why a President of the United States should not write a letter to a Senator on a matter of high public policy, and why such letter shouldn't be given to the public?

Not benefits to particular localities will be taken into acconut in locating new bridges, but to the whole city. Local clubs may not represent the sentiment of the whole municipality.

If United States authorities shall be as lenient with Banker Scriber as the state authorities have been with Banker Ross, Banker Scriber has no cause for nervous prostration.

With bank guarantee and injunction ban substituted for free silver and imperialism, where is the new Bryan, that was said to have changed from the old?

Salmon King Hume survived the tempest in the ocean. It was but a gusty wind compared with the tempests he has survived in the Oregon Legislature.

Now that the moral crusade against North End women has played out, the police may find time to drive out of town thugs and murderers.

What Hobson wants is an immense Navy, but "no centralized government." Hobson is silly. But, being Hobson, how can he help it?

When Henry Reed got that job two years ago, it surprised many that Seattle should engage the services of a Portland man.

Governor Chamberlain carried Oregon thrice for himself but is afraid to help Bryan.

Bryan would be the advance agent of prosperity if he were sure of defeat.

There is a land-fraud trial on in the Courthouse, but the people are tired.

TAFT'S CHANCES VERY BRIGHT

New York Herald's Estimate Indicates Strongly His Election.

That William H. Taft has now 204 electoral votes and on the surface is creeping nearer every day to the goal of 242 electoral votes by which he will win the Presidency of the United States; that William J. Bryan is only sure at the present time of 161 electoral votes, and that if he is to be swept into the Presidency it must be by a landslide or rather an avalanche in the Middle West and in New York—is the deliberate opinion of the New York Herald newspaper, expressed in its issue of October 18, and just to hand.

This opinion is all the more noteworthy when it is remembered that the New York Herald is a newspaper of independent views with leanings—in this campaign—toward Mr. Bryan. The figures given are based on the Herald's own independent canvass conducted by its personal representatives, founded "on polls, reports, opinions, straw votes in theaters at New York, Baltimore, Md.; St. Louis, Mo.; Cincinnati, O., and Wilmington, Del.; wagers and general evidences on which a newspaper must depend, outside of political committees, that are always biased."

This is the Herald's Presidential line-up, at present:

Total vote in Electoral College	483
Necessary to elect a President	242
Republican, reasonably sure	204
Democratic, reasonably sure	161
Doubtful, Republican leanings	68
Doubtful, Democratic leanings	20
In the balance	11
Taft to win must get, doubtful votes	38
Bryan to win must get, doubtful votes	81

Reasonably Sure Republicans.

California	10
Connecticut	7
Idaho	3
Illinois	27
Iowa	13
Maine	6
Massachusetts	16
Michigan	14
Minnesota	11
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	12
North Dakota	4
Oregon	4
Pennsylvania	34
Rhode Island	5
Utah	3
Vermont	4
Washington	5
West Virgina	7
Wisconsin	13
Wyoming	3
Total	204

Reasonably Sure Democratic.

Alabama	11
Arkansas	9
Florida	5
Georgia	13
Kentucky	13
Louisiana	9
Mississippi	10
Missouri	18
Nevada	3
North Carolina	12
Oklahoma	7
South Carolina	9
Tennessee	12
Texas	18
Virginia	12
Total	161

Doubtful, Republican Leanings.

Indiana	15
Kansas	10
New York	39
South Dakota	4
Total	68

Doubtful, Democratic Leanings.

Colorado	5
Montana	3
Nebraska	8
Ohio	23
Total	39

In the Balance.

Maryland	8
Delaware	3
Total	11

October 11, the Herald classed Delaware as Republican, and Maryland as Democratic. Now, both these states are marked "in the balance." Describing the shifting of states that has taken place in several days, the Herald has placed Idaho and Utah, with three electors each, and Wisconsin, with 13, to the Taft "string," and has lifted Maryland, with eight electors, out of the Bryan column but has added to it Nevada, with her three votes. It will be noticed that Indiana, Kansas, New York and South Dakota—with a total of 68 electors—are classed among the doubtful, with Republican leanings.

New York is stated to be the great center of the conflict at the very end of the campaign. "Mr. Bryan, it is said, now realizes that he must have the 39 electoral votes of New York or he cannot be elected to the Presidency. Judge Taft, it is understood, realizes that if he loses New York he will lose his own state of Ohio, a large number of states in the Middle West, Delaware, Maryland and perhaps New Jersey and Rhode Island in the East, and will be defeated. The betting in New York favors Mr. Taft."

It is significant that the Herald's polls in Maryland gave Mr. Taft a small majority, while the theater poll in Baltimore gave Mr. Bryan a small majority, negroes being almost excluded from this vote. The Baltimore negroes are almost solidly for Mr. Taft, and it is stated that 17,000 of these voters hold the balance of power in that city.

The Herald thinks that Mr. Taft will carry Ohio by 50,000.

Straw votes in Maryland, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, New York City and New York, Cincinnati, Baltimore and St. Louis theaters gave Mr. Taft 17,397 votes, and Mr. Bryan 14,114 votes. The polls also showed that New York's theater-going public prefers Mr. Taft to Mr. Bryan, and Mr. Chanler to Mr. Hughes.

LINCOLN AND DOUGLAS

Campaign Methods and Journalism 50 Years Ago.

New York World.

As a feature of the semi-centennial celebration of the Lincoln-Douglas debate at Quincy, Ill., the Herald of that city reproduces in facsimile from its files the "Great Speech of Senator Douglas in Reply to Abe Lincoln" on October 13, 1858.

The speech is interesting for the sidelights it throws on party oratory of the period. The reference by Douglas to the "gross personalities and base insinuations" indulged in by Lincoln has a familiar ring. Lincoln, said the speaker, "has a fertile genius in devising language to conceal his thoughts." "Infamy," "false charges," "monstrous doctrine," "corrupt gang," show the free use of epithets at a time when Senatorial precedents in the matter of personalities were strong. The shorter and uglier word appears to be absent from the Douglas speech, though there is an approach to it in the speaker's significant harping on "honesty."

But the campaign amenities of the time are perhaps best illustrated by the neglect of the Democratic Herald to print any part of Lincoln's speech or to refer in any way to his presence in the city. "On the other side the Whig was filled with enthusiasm over Lincoln." It printed the Lincoln address, but "not a syllable concerning Douglas." Not until ten days afterward, and then as the result of a challenge growing out of a controversy, did the rival party papers print the speeches of the other candidate.

Aberdeen's Tax Levy Lower.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—A 26-mill tax on an assessed valuation of $2,883,065 has been levied by the City Council. This, with the county's levy, will make a total of 37½ mills. This year's levy is a decrease of 1.95 mills, compared to last year. With the county's lower levy this year the percentage of tax will be about 3.75 per cent, as against 4.6 per cent a year ago.

Forged Express Money Orders.

OREGON CITY, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—John M. Rottenstein this afternoon waived examination before Justice of the Peace Samson, and in default of $1000 bail was committed to the County Jail. He is charged with forging Wells-Fargo money orders and admitted his guilt last night when arrested by Constable Miles at the Union Station in Portland.

TAFT, TRUE FRIEND OF LABOR

Examination of His Admirable Record on the Bench.

PORTLAND, Oct. 22.—(To the Editor.)—In my last article I showed that the Republican party was the real and best friend of the workingman.

I now call on intelligent union men to witness that the record of its candidate, Judge Taft, is sound and true.

There has been but little abuse of injunction by the Federal Courts ever, and for a number of years not at all, and absolutely none ever by Judge Taft. No instance has been, or can be, successfully specified. Only general denunciation and the calling of "names."

While some of his decisions didn't please at the time some interested labor agitators, never accused of saintliness, yet the decisions were sound law, have been affirmed and followed, and will always stand.

In some of his labor cases Judge Taft ran up against corporate employers, yet fearlessly upheld the workingman's right to organize and power to strike.

In the famous Wabash Railroad strike, on the principles he outlined an injunction against strikers was raised. He laid down law both for union organizations and for the people, and these decisions are landmarks today. Those that were carried up to the highest Federal Courts had the same principles affirmed by the able Democratic Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Frederick R. Judson, the strikers' attorney in the Wabash case, says: "There is no foundation for the suggestion that the decisions of Judge Taft are in any sense unfriendly to labor."

As to the law of injunction, whatever change in its application can be made to insure each his day in court, and to speedy hearing, or to rectify any wrong if done, Judge Taft will gladly favor and support. The truth is that the principles of his decisions are approved by the level-headed union men themselves.

Theodore Roosevelt, than whom no truer friend of labor ever lived, says: "No responsible organization would now hesitate to condemn the abuses against which Judge Taft's injunction were aimed."

The law principles which he therein so wisely and fearlessly laid down serve as a charter of liberty for all of us, for wageworkers, for employers, and for the general public, because they rest on fair dealing and even-handed justice. They set forth and stand for the rights of the wageworker to organize and strike as unequivocally as they set forth and stand for the doctrine that no conduct will be tolerated that will spell "destruction for the Nation as a whole."

In the Cincinnati & Louisville Railroad case, and long before our National law on the subject was enacted, Judge Taft decided the true principle of employers' liability for injuries done to workingmen.

As President Roosevelt well said, "Judge Taft will protect the just rights of both rich and poor, and will war relentlessly against lawlessness and injustice, whether exercised on behalf of property or labor." All judges must do that—they cannot do otherwise and follow the law.

Yet partisan labor agitators are showing their kind of appreciation and gratitude to Judge Taft by calling him "Injunction Bill," though labor never had a truer friend. Even Mr. Bryan joins in terming Judge Taft as the "Father of Injunctions," well knowing that as a judge administering the law, he simply did his duty, and that injunctions in labor disputes had been issued by courts for over 30 years before Taft was ever a judge.

Judge Taft can run on his own record. There are some candidates that run from theirs.

Not a single line, not a sentiment, not a word penned or uttered by William H. Taft, that is not true to the very best interests, welfare and happiness of anyone who toils with hand or brain. Over all he believes is the supremacy of fundamental law—over the rich and the poor—the employer and the wage-earner—and in justice to all, with special rights to none.

M. C. GEORGE.

AS SEEN IN JOSEPHINE COUNTY

The Buzzards Are Returning Home to Roost.

Oregon Observer (Grants Pass)

It is a fact that some 200 pretended Republicans of Josephine County are closing in on the Democratic ranks from which they never parted. These are the Democrats who just before the late primary election fraudulently registered as Republicans. Perhaps the Journal correspondent was one of them, and in returning to his rightful camp imagined he was a whole "flock" himself. Of course these Democrats are getting behind the Democratic fence. They have nothing further to gain in this campaign by misrepresenting their colors. They have played the Jesuit for all there is in it, did their best to mislead others, and now the game is up, till another state election comes around.

In this Presidential election there is no unfavorable note from the Republicans of Josephine County. They know Taft will have a big majority and are resting easy on their oars. There is lots of shouting for Bryan by Democrats whenever occasion offers, but this sort of noise is as impotent as the firecrackers set off by Chinamen to scare away the dragon. It is just noise. The candidate who was most enthusiastically received in Grants Pass was Eugene Debs, Socialist, but he does not imagine that is an indication of election. He has better sense. By the way, a week or so ago a Democrat went to the county clerk and registered as a Republican. Meeting a friend after the deed was done, he said:

"Of course, I'm a Democrat, but I thought I would register as a Republican. But this time I intend to vote for Debs."

How many more Democrats will vote for Debs? And Debs says he wouldn't run if there was any chance of being elected, because he does not think himself fitted for the office.

Business everywhere is at a standstill; no new investments are thought of. Everything is waiting for the election of Taft, when the wheels of industry will fly. Should the uncertain radical vote of the under population of the cities prove solid enough to count seriously against the agricultural vote, and Bryan thus be elected, the immediate result will be a crash that will bring suffering to all classes. Every intelligent voter knows this. Outside of the Democratic party, every man who has a home is afraid of Bryan.

The "flocking" in Josephine County in 1908 will be much the same as it was in 1904, and that was this way:

Republican	841
Democrat	298
Prohibition	45
Socialist	180

And the Independents will cut some hole in the Democratic ranks.

State Land Sale $479,970.33.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—Sales of state lands this month aggregate $479,970.33, according to reports made by the several county auditors to Land Comisioner E. W. Ross. In all there were 23,085.71 acres of upland sold for an aggregate of $412,324.64. Platted school lands brought $23,437.60, timber was sold for $13,826.50, and sales of tide lands, shore lands, etc., brought an aggregate of $24,372.59.

ONE DEATH, TWO INJURIES

Chapter of Accidents at Melrose in Southern Oregon.

ROSEBURG, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—The little community of Melrose, six miles south of here, was the scene of one death and two accidents yesterday. L. S. Toothacre, an old and highly respected resident, died after a lingering illness. Mrs. Edward Henry was summoned as one of the death watch at the Toothacre home and, during the evening, had occasion to descend the steps of the residence, when she slipped and fell, sustaining a broken leg and other injuries which may prove fatal.

The same day and in the same community Mrs. Howard Ward came near meeting death by being thrown from a horse she was riding. The spirited animal ran away with her and threw her, causing internal injuries, but it is thought she will recover.

URGES PERSONAL CAMPAIGN

Bryan Sends Letter to Democratic Club of Spokane.

SPOKANE, Oct. 22.—In a letter to the Young Men's Democratic Club of this city William Jennings Bryan states:

"The reports encourage us to believe that we are on the eve of a National victory for our party, our politics and our principles. I urge you to continue your efforts with renewed zeal.

"No doubt each member of your club has talked with some Republican who might be influenced by you to vote with us.

"I ask each one of you to pledge yourselves to pick out a Republican and go with him to the polls on election day and have him vote with you to carry out the principles to which the Democratic party is pledged.

PROVIDENCE IS TO BLAME

No Excuse for Man Who Killed His Friend for Bear.

ROSEBURG, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—At the inquest over the body of Alexander A. Frank, who was mistaken for a bear and killed by his companion, Oscar Weber, no blame was attached to any one for the tragedy.

It developed at the inquest that Weber shot Frank three times, in fact shooting four times, three bullets taking effect. The men were about 100 yards apart, and at the first shot Frank fell, but the shot was not the fatal one, so Weber fired three times more, two of the shots taking effect. Seeing that all was still Weber went to where he supposed a bear was lying, and found Frank barely alive. He said a few words and expired.

Little Hope for Prisoner.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 22.—An appeal has been issued to the sympathizers of Nicholas Tschaikovsky in England and America, particularly those who signed the petitions for his release to Premier Stolypin, asking them to assist in raising the bail of $25,000 demanded by the authorities, and which the family has been unable to furnish unassisted. Tschaikovsky has been in confinement in this city for nearly one year, and he will be returned to the fortress tomorrow unless this bail is deposited.

Almost Unanimous for Saloon.

OREGON CITY, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—Some comment has been aroused over a peculiar condition existing in the precinct of Macksburg in the southern part of Clackamas County. Last June 113 voters registered, and now there is a petition presented to the County Court, signed by 98 voters, asking that a license to retail liquor be granted to Williams & Williams. The people are evidently almost a unit for the establishment of a saloon in a hitherto dry precinct.

Bonds for Tide Flat Filling.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—Mayor France and the Council are working hard in the interest of a project to fill the tide flats of the city which was a scheme last year that did not go through on account of opposition of property owners. It is now proposed to bond the city to carry on the work and the matter will be put up to the courts for action. Under the bonding scheme the property-owners will have five or ten years to pay for the improvements.

Candidate Run Down by Train.

EVERETT, Wash., Oct. 22.—F. B. Hawes, of Everett, Prohibition candidate for the Legislature from this county, was run down by a Great Northern passenger train early this morning at Startup, where he took part in a Prohibition meeting last night and was seriously, if not fatally, injured. He was running down the track ahead of the train and apparently did not know it was so close. He was brought to an Everett hospital.

Heart Disease Takes Off Tramp.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—Heart disease, according to the diagnosis of Dr. Chamberlain, caused the death of John Matson, aged 40 years, whose body was found yesterday afternoon in a shack on the county road near Junction City. Matson is supposed to have been a tramp. In a diary he had written, "In case of accident or death, write to John Matson, 920 Fulton street, Warren, O."

Additional Teacher Secured.

OREGON CITY, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—Miss Jeanie Gray, of Oak Grove, has been elected as an additional grade teacher, made necessary by the unusually large enrollment. Miss Gray is a graduate of the University of Oregon, '07, and a member of the Tau Pi Sorority.

Wheeler County Taft's by 125.

FOSSIL, Or., Oct. 22.—(Special.)—Wheeler County will give Taft 125 plurality. The normal vote is between 750 and 800, but it is not expected that over 700 voters will be out, and of that number a few will be Socialists and there will be quite a sprinkling of Prohibition voters.

The Methodists and "Uncle Joe."

PORTLAND, Oct. 22.—(To the Editor.)—The croak in this morning's issue about the Methodists opposing Congressman Cannon is clearly a departure from The Oregonian's accustomed discrimination and spirit of fairness.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, as The Oregonian knows right well, is out after the lawbreaking, murderous liquor traffic, and though Mr. Cannon represents a party with which a majority of these people in his district are identified he has placed himself in the way by opposing arbitrarily legislation in Congress essential to the great purpose in hand. If the Roman Catholic Church in Mr. Cannon's district opposed him on the same ground, and doubtless many of them do, they would have the hearty sympathy of all Protestantism.

Uncle Joe Cannon has been a useful man and a patriot, but is now like some of the rest of us—old and grouchy and in need of the Osler treatment.

Furthermore, the number of hidebound "Orthodox" Protestants opposed to Mr. Taft's election on the ground of his religion is not worth speaking about.

The paragraph in question it seems to me is illtimed and out of good taste.

C. E. CLINE.

Whenever the church, in any of its branches, has felt itself able to interpose in politics or rule the state, it never has been at a loss for reasons.