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PORTLAND, MONDAY, OCT. 26, 1908.

ONE PANIC, AND ANOTHER.

Taft, in a recent speech, said the panic of last year was "a result of too rapid growth and expansion." He added: "But you never heard of a Democratic panic that was a result of prosperity."

To this Bryan answers: "Every person who feels that he has had too much prosperity and deserves the punishment of a panic should vote the Republican ticket. The rest can vote with us."

As quips go, this will do for a retort. However, it leaves unanswered the remark that the panic of last year was a result of too rapid growth and expansion;—in other words, of a spirit of speculation that had too heavily discounted the future; of too high an estimate of values and of power to realize quickly on them; of too much prosperity, in short—prospective prosperity, however, not yet realized, but just in reach of the speculator and plunger, as he supposed.

The country, in fact, was very prosperous, and the general prosperity was little interrupted. But on this prosperity speculators had formed mighty expectations, surpassing all realities. They capitalized their projects, drew great banks into their service, used and abused credit, to extremes. Finally their projects collapsed, their banks failed, the alarm spread and there was a general rush for money on all the banks of the country. The immediate cause of the breakdown was an enormous and desperate speculative effort in copper, between rival syndicates. Exploitation, in many other directions, had gone too far. The panic that ensued was, as Mr. Taft has said, the result simply of "too rapid growth and expansion."

A panic of this kind has no relation whatever to such an one as that which grew out of the silver craze and plagued the country for many years. The panic of last year was not general; it did not affect the vital or productive forces of the country; it was soon over. In contrast with it the panic produced by the silver craze was general, pervasive, and all pervading. It produced universal stagnation in business and cut wages of labor and all prices. Wheat sold below 30 cents a bushel. Then Bryan came forward with his direct demand for free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, and made everything worse still. Hundreds of thousands are now going to vote against Bryan mainly because they remember that panic (which was a panic), his agency in producing and continuing it, the hard times of many years that attended it, and the immediate relief that followed his defeat. They believe still, as they knew then, that the man lacks the judgment and balance necessary for the Presidency, and have fears of the consequences should he be elected. This is what the present distrust and slackness in business means. It is why you hear the general remark, "Wait till after the election."

GOOD ROADS PROBLEMS.

Increasing interest in both wagon roads and railroads is shown in the enthusiastic meeting of the Oregon-Idaho Development Congress at Roseburg last week. A statement in one of the resolutions adopted at the meeting, that "the time has arrived for development of the State of Oregon when the needs of business in all productive and distributive lines require the improvement of the wagon roads throughout the state," will not be questioned. It would not be overstating the facts if the resolution had said that the time for such improvement arrived several years ago. It was stated by one of the speakers that it was the purpose of the people of the Siuslaw country to secure permission from the next Legislature to issue bonds to the amount of 10 per cent of the taxable property in order to provide funds for the improvement of the harbor.

This method of securing funds for harbor improvement has proven quite effective in Multnomah County, where the people residing in the district have taxed themselves for the purpose of maintaining a deep river channel through which the products of the entire Columbia basin find easy access to the sea. It is perhaps unfair to Portland that all of this burden should be carried by Portland, and there may be territory in the Siuslaw country that will not be included in the proposed taxable district that will profit by the improvements that will be made.

In either road improvement or harbor improvement, however, it seems a difficult matter to distribute the burden where it will fall equitably on all of the beneficiaries. The entire State of Oregon, particularly the coast counties, is developing so rapidly that the necessity of good roads is becoming pressing in the extreme. This necessity has forced some localities, notably in Clatsop and Tillamook Counties, to undertake considerable expensive road work, and the results achieved have been satisfactory in the extreme, so far as the work has proceeded.

There is not much disposition on the part of property-owners anywhere to protest against the collection of money that is honestly expended in construction or repair of roads. As an example of what support can be secured for a good road into an inaccessible region, the highway recently completed between Seaside and Elk Creek, in Clatsop County, is interesting. The Elk Creek property-owners were not only willing to pay their regular road taxes, but they also by individual subscription raised a sum sufficient to pay about one-fourth the cost of the road. Clatsop County has also built many miles of good road in other parts of the county, and, in connection with Tillamook County, is now preparing to put through a good road extending from the Columbia River south as far as Netarts Bay.

Good roads in other parts of the state can be secured in the same manner if the public is only assured that there will be a dollar's worth of work for every dollar raised by subscription or taxation. It might be advantageous to have the roadbuilding system under state jurisdiction, and perhaps assisted by state aid, but if the efforts of the taxpayers in the various counties are as well directed as they have been in Clatsop, Tillamook and some of the other counties, excellent results can be secured without the necessity of making the roadbuilding exclusively a state function.

CHAIRMAN MACK'S "CLAIMS."

It may be supposed that no one failed to examine the "claims" of Chairman Mack for Bryan, published yesterday. By the way, observe also that none of the alleged news matter given out by the Democratic committee—however raw or rare—fails to appear in The Oregonian. Still, we are not vouching for it as news.

The imaginative chairman gives Bryan 301 electoral votes, or 59 more than necessary for his election. This is pretty good—till one observes that in order to get these votes he includes New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Idaho, Montana, Colorado, Nebraska, Nevada, Indiana, Ohio, Delaware, Kansas and South Dakota. Then one begins to have fears. For we suspect it is not certain that Bryan will carry any one of these states, and the probabilities are immensely against his obtainment of a majority of the electoral vote which they represent.

The New York Herald, which has been very friendly to Bryan throughout the campaign, and has used its news columns specially for presentation of his appeals and all news in his behalf, offers an estimate quite different from that of Chairman Mack. In yesterday's issue the Herald presents a complete summary by states, collected through its own agencies, by which it assigns to Taft 280 electoral votes, to Bryan 156, leaving 47 doubtful. Necessary to elect, 242. Now this certainly does not settle the election, but it has a chance of being a sounder judgment than that of a rainbow-chaser. It accords, too, substantially with the forecast of the Chicago Tribune, the New York World and other newspapers that have resources equal to the effort and expense of making independent campaign inquiries, on so great a scale.

The Herald's forecast of New York is particularly noticeable. It gives Bryan 79,900 plurality in the city, and Taft 160,400 in the remainder of the state. The estimate for Bryan in the city is probably large enough. Whether that for Mr. Taft in the remainder of the state is not too large, is, we believe, more open to question. Less than 80,500 plurality could, however, carry New York.

NATURE OF THE CONTEST.

It has been a struggle of twenty years and more to protect property and business in the United States against their assailants. The attack has proceeded mainly by subtle and indirect attempts upon the integrity of money and general credit. The greenback craze was its first phase. This was a proposition to continue the issue of irredeemable paper notes and "pay" the National debt with them. After repeated efforts to force this folly, and defeat after defeat, it was abandoned. Next craze was free coinage of silver. That raged for many years. Silver was falling, the world over, and the object was to place the standard money on a cheap metal and debase the dollar. This finally was abandoned, but only after repeated defeats.

The disposition now manifests itself in other forms;—for restriction of the operations of capital, so it may not be possible to push large operations with hope of profit; to withhold from property and business the protection of law, by denying power of restraining those who would attack them; by endeavor to limit power of production or amount of output of large industries; by forcing sound banks to insure the deposits of reckless or dishonest ones; by loading on property and business new burdens of taxation, "for the benefit of the people;" by coddling idleness, encouraging inefficiency and making industry in labor and energy in business pay for it.

All this now is summed up in the new effort to elect Bryan to the Presidency. It will fail to elect Bryan, we think;—but even if it should elect Bryan it will fail, because the people, when they see its consequences, will shrink back from them. Yet election of Bryan might, for a time, put a check upon movement of business and make people say, "Wait yet longer."

The signs all are that the country thinks it best that Bryan should be beaten—now again as heretofore. But for the unhappy situation in the South, where the negro specter stalks, eclipsing reason, there wouldn't be the slightest doubt. But desperate political gamblers in the North, having more than half enough votes to start with, counted up in advance of every election, always have the hope of success, and much prospect of it.

COMMON SENSE NOT COERCION.

The "coercion" of which Mr. Bryan complains in the East seems to be quite general here in Portland. Scores of prominent business men in this city, publicly and privately, have stated in unmistakable terms their belief as to the harmful effects that would probably follow the election of Bryan. Among the interviews printed in yesterday's Oregonian were a number with real estate operators in which they told of numerous large deals held up pending news of the election of Mr. Taft. Most of these transactions involved construction of new buildings in addition to the transfer of the realty, and in the construction work quite naturally there would be a demand for labor. Reasoning from the Bryan theory, it is thus plain that the men who refuse to invest their money and thus provide employment to labor until they are assured of Taft's election are guilty of "coercing" the voters.

There was also a number of interviews with large wholesale merchants in which they were practically unanimous in their statements that large orders were unobtainable until after Taft's election should be assured. One firm of manufacturers announced that, in event of Bryan's election and continuation of the slack business now caused by uncertainty as to the result, it would be necessary to reduce the working force and also the wages of those whom it would be possible to continue in employment. This waiting condition can be traced from cause to effect with such deadly accuracy that it would seem to be unnecessary for the employer to be obliged to "coerce" his employe by pointing out where the latter must bear a share of the burden that will be laid on all classes of society in the event of Bryan's election.

If, as claimed by the Bryan men, a simple statement notifying the employes of what may be expected under Bryanism is coercion, the same harsh term would be equally appropriate when applied to the investor who refuses to buy or build and thus employ labor until he is assured of the election of Taft. It must also be applied to the retail merchants who refuse to buy goods from the wholesalers until after they are assured that the country is not to be engulfed in a wave of Bryanism. And yet a careful analysis of the situation in any branch of industrial endeavor will show conclusively that it is not coercion, but plain common sense, that prompts sensible business men to adjust their affairs for a possible coming storm and at the same time notify those dependent on them for employment to do likewise.

FROM PERRY TO SPERRY.

It is a far cry from 1854, when Commodore Matthew Calbreath Perry entered the Bay of Yeddo and broke the seal of seclusion under which Japan had dwelt—a nation unto herself—and 1908, when, with extraordinary demonstrations of welcome from the government and the people, Admiral Sperry swung his magnificent fleet into the harbor and dropped anchor.

The time between the two dates is historically short. It is less indeed than an ordinary lifetime; yet the fifty-four years that intervene between the expedition of Commodore Perry and that of Admiral Sperry mark chagnes so radical as to awaken, in review, astonishment in an age little given even to surprise.

Japan, a recluse nation in 1854, distrustful of foreigners, even antagonistic to all peoples outside of her own rockbound, wave-surrounded shores, eyed askance the naval detachment sent out by the United States under Commodore Perry to conclude a commercial treaty between the two nations, and scarcely gave it such welcome as the simplest rules of international courtesy required. Japan, a world power in 1908, gives the mighty fleet of the United States under Admiral Sperry a welcome that causes the reception of the visiting fleet at home ports on the Pacific Coast, and that accorded by the Australian government when anchors were dropped before the great commercial cities of the British Empire in the Pacific, to pale into insignificance. Comparisons in this line may be ungenerous, since at every port visited by the American squadron since leaving Hampton Roads last December the expressions of good will have been earnest, sincere, hearty, even extravagant.

Of the welcome given by Japan it can be said, further than all this, that it is distinctly Japanese. That is to say, it is unique, artistic, lavish, gorgeous, methodical. Witness the voices of 10,000 little brown school children rising as one voice in singing "America" as the officers of the fleet passed between their lines. In this demonstration of welcome Japan has shown, to the world the most marked characteristics of her people—industry that is painstaking and systematic; originality that is quaint and distinctive; cordiality that has successfully veiled any feeling of resentment that may exist against the people and the Government of the United States on account of exclusion laws and discrimination in regard to labor and educational privileges among us. If they are not sincere in the extravagant demonstrations of good will now in progress in the capital city of the empire, and in the good cheer offered to the representatives of our Government, they have simulated a sincerity that has deceived the officers of our battleship fleet.

There is, however, no reason to doubt the sincerity of the welcome accorded to Admiral Sperry and his command. If this visit of the fleet dispels through the genial glow of hospitality the cloud that within a year rose between Japan and the United States, trailing at times the shadow of war; if it re-establishes the feeling of friendship that is the basis of commercial growth and reciprocity, it will be worth all that the year's cruise has cost the Nation in energy, anxiety and money. Japan is our nearest trans-Pacific neighbor. It is worth while to cultivate her acquaintance along lines of neighborliness and to forget small differences in the wider estimate of peace and good will.

Oregon has been settled for more than seventy years, but there are still remaining many reminders of the wilderness. If desired, the seeker for "natural wildness" can find it without much difficulty. This is suggested by a news dispatch from Roseburg which states that one Bill Bradley, of Capps Illihee, had slain, between August 15 and October 10, no less than thirty-seven wolves and coyotes. The new settlers are steadily crowding the wilderness line a little farther back each year, but, so long as it is possible for a single hunter to kill thirty-seven wolves and coyotes in less than two months, Oregon is certain to retain her reputation as one of the best game states in the Union. As these thirty-seven "varmints" were all removed from a region where their sustenance was of necessity drawn from the haunts of wild game, their removal ought to improve the hunting of more desirable denizens of the woods.

The Seattle minister who refused a $10,000 salary offered him by a Pittsburg church because he believed it his duty to stay in the Northwest, even at a salary of only $6000, was manifestly right. For one thing, it is worth $4000 a year to live in the Northwest. For another, perhaps Seattle needs the preacher as badly as Pittsburg does.

The United States and Canada last week contributed another 6,000,000 bushels to the world's supply of wheat and the vast shipments were absorbed without any pronounced decline in prices. The American crop this year was not a large one, but it has been moving out of the hands of the producers in record-breaking quantities, and, unless there is a break in the market in the near future, it will probably leave higher average returns per bushel than for any season since the Leiter year. The old slogan, "Vote for Bryan and dollar wheat," is not in use this year.

The New York bank statement for the week ending Saturday makes a surprisingly favorable showing, with an increase of $1,408,875 in the surplus reserve. This increase follows several weeks of decreasing reserves due to the demands of the interior for crop-moving purposes, and seems to indicate that the Rubicon has been crossed, and that from this time forward we may expect a gradual accumulation of reserves until the result of the election is definitely known. If Bryan is elected there will be no immediate shrinkage, for the money will be held inactive in the banks until it is definitely known whether or not the Nebraskan is to attempt to put in practice his peculiar theories as expounded from the stump. The election of Taft will be the signal for release of the immense sums that are now stored in the banks, earning little for their holders and in no possible manner benefiting the people.

Taking the counties of Oregon one by one, and all through, the Fall registration is fully two to one for the Republicans and against the Democrats. Is there any significance here? Does it point to anything? Have men been lying, universally, in this new registration? What reason now, when there is no local issue to make crooked politics, have men who are Democrats to declare themselves Republicans and register as such? If they are really for Bryan wouldn't they so declare, for the purpose of encouraging their fellow partisans throughout the state?

All over the state the County Boards of Equalization have completed their work and the assessment rolls for the year have been made up. We have been hearing much in recent years of the manner in which valuable water powers have been gobbled up, and it has been frequently suggested in these columns that taxpayers generally would do well to see that assessors get property of this kind listed at its actual value. If the Assessor has not done his duty, what are you going to do about it?

The gamblers won out at Reno, Nev., and that city will enjoy the unenvinble distinction of being one of the few cities in civilized America where the green-cloth parasites are licensed to ply their thieving operations. Fortunately for Nevada, the gambling issue is still before the people of the state as a whole, and the next Legislature will undoubtedly place the state on the same plane of civilization as other states enjoy.

The Washington politicians who have been engaged in an endless chain of speculation as to what might have happened had Mr. Cosgrove's illness proved fatal should have known better than to bother with such improbabilities. Any one familiar with the staying qualities of Mr. Cosgrove should know full well that he would refuse to die now on the eve of a victory for which he has been striving for many years.

Even without other guaranty, the deposits of a bank are always as safe as its assets are good; and what is true of one bank is true of all banks, and would be true of associated banks. The whole problem lies in the ability and honesty of the management; and it is useless to expect good banks to insure bad ones.

John M. Gearin will address the people in Bryan's behalf. Mr. Chamberlain will keep quiet. The difference is that Gearin has been United States Senator in a Republican state, while Chamberlain has not yet been elected.

Three surviving members of the Cleveland Cabinet declare for Bryan. Released from the domination of the master mind, they declare for Bryan. So it has been among men, in all ages. There are few leading minds.

You probably will not say that you want Tom Taggart's man Kern—the Tom Taggart of French Lick Springs, his man—for your Vice-President. So, possibly, when you stop to think, you will not vote for him.

"A vote for Debs is a vote for Taft," says a Bryan organ, meaning that Socialist votes ought to be cast for Bryan. But, if that is true, it furnishes an additional reason for voting against Bryan.

Illinois is now the third state in the production of petroleum, Oklahoma and California ranking first and second. Yet only three years ago Illinois was "practically a non-producer."

Republicans in Oregon who have been lured away by non-partisan tempters of course find it impossible now to lure the non-partisans away from the Democratic party.

It may be that Seattle doesn't care whether Portland pays as much attention to its exposition as Seattle did to Portland's. However, Portland is willing to go one better.

If Bryan should be defeated, wouldn't it be a hard blow to the patriots in Oregon, who can't carry their own state for him, but have eyes on the pie?

The idea of Hobson coming out here to the Pacific Coast and talking for Bryan and a larger Navy! What can you think of that!

Election of Taft would be reassuring to all investors in American undertakings at home or abroad. Would election of Bryan?

Tacoma has raised over $36,000 for a stadium. A stadium is something in which the people can watch Tacoma grow.

Portland's murders show it is becoming a large city. Portland's hangings, however, are below the average.

Bryan, who wouldn't have a Pacific Navy, ought not to get a vote on the Pacific Coast.

REPUBLICAN PARTY AND LABOR

Judge George Says Bryan-Gompers' Demands Tend to Class Legislation.

PORTLAND, Oct. 25.—(To the Editor.)—Mr. Gompers has done, in the past, some good work, but he is too impulsive and partisan. He is in error regarding the decision of the Supreme Court, presided over by that eminent Democrat, Chief Justice Fuller. He says that it brings labor unions for the first time under the Sherman anti-trust law. They always were under it. Numerous courts have so held and the Supreme Court decided nothing new. In a dispatch, Mr. Gompers is reported as saying that the Republicans intend to wreck the labor unions by proceeding against them criminally under the Sherman law. His apprehensions are imaginary. The Sherman act, passed in 1890, prohibited "all . . . combinations or conspiracies in restraint of commerce among the states, or with foreign nations."

Mr. Furuseth in his recent address in this city said of this decision, concurred in by all the Democrats, that "with one sweep the right of combination was taken from us and we were subject to being sent to jail," etc. But that case never decided against the right of laborers to combine, and no labor union is in any danger whatever.

The Sherman law never prohibited any peaceable labor organization, or any organization from doing any lawful thing. Judge Taft so decided as far back as 1894 in the case of the Cincinnati Railroad, two years before Mr. Bryan thought labor was being crucified upon a cross of gold. Even a year before that, the United States Circuit Court of Louisiana held that the Sherman law applied to combinations of all kinds—workers as well as capitalists; and this was three years before Mr. Bryan was trying to shove off with free silver the crown of thorns that he said the Republicans were trying to press down upon the brow of labor. Mr. Bryan was in Congress after that Louisiana decision, but he never tried to amend the Sherman act so as to let out labor organizations.

The Supreme Court was unanimous. No Democrat on the bench thought of deciding otherwise.

If the unions in that case were not restraining interstate hatters' commerce, what were they doing? And if Chief Justice Fuller, or any of the other Democratic Judges, had received the Democratic nomination, Mr. Gompers and Mr. Furuseth could wallop them all over—but would they?

The decision was that neither they, nor any one else, could, under the act, restrain by a vast system of boycotting interstate hat-selling commerce—that unions were not exempt from law made for all.

It in no way affected agreements between the employes and employers, nor touched any essential right of unionism, or of employes to strike or quit. Mr. Gompers wants Congress to authorize labor unions to boycott as much of interstate commerce and trade with foreign countries as they please. Let this then be so understood generally, and from what Mr. Gompers says, it may be inferred that Mr. Bryan has pledged this and other special legislation for a class not enjoyed by the remainder of the American people.

But the great body of union-labor people are law-abiding, sensible Americans, and ask for no special favors not accorded to all. All they ask is a square deal. They ought to have it, and if they elect Mr. Taft they will get it. There is good reason why labor interests should have a good representative in the next administration of the President. For one, I voted for the act creating the Bureau of Labor passed in the 48th Congress (1884), and signed by President Arthur. In the 50th Congress the Bureau was made an independent Department of Labor, and five years ago a Republican Congress established the Department of Commerce and Labor and made its head a Cabinet officer.

A good representative of labor interest of brains and judgment is beneficial, and it's safe to say that such incumbency will come only from the next Taft Republican Administration. M. C. GEORGE.

SHEEP MEN ARE ALL FOR TAFT

Why Not, Since Success of Bryan Spells Ruin for Them?

Wallowa Sun.

It is a significant fact that the sheepmen of this county are nearly all Taft men. Whenever men have property at stake, they naturally look to a Republican Administration to protect that property for them. A prominent sheepman remarked a few days ago that if he did not have a sheep, he would like to see Bryan given a chance to try his ideas, but that he could not afford to support a man whose very ideas were ruinous to the sheep business.

In the past Mr. Bryan has stood for various ideas, all of which were destructive to at least one industry. The fallacy of these ideas has become apparent to the majority of the people and they have shown their belief. To please the people, to gain their vote, Mr. Bryan has cast aside his ideals, free silver, imperialism, free trade, government ownership, and is now worshiping at the shrine of the new deity, guarantee of bank deposits. One by one the people have investigated the issues presented before and have rejected them. They will reject as strongly any plan to permit a dishonest banker to ply his calling at the expense of the honest banker.

In Wallowa County, where everything is prosperous, Taft will get a big majority.

ODDS 9 TO 1 AGAINST BRYAN.

Lloyds Insures Business Men $500,000 Against His Election.

New York Times, October 20.

Nine to one are the odds against the election of William J. Bryan, as figured out by Lloyds Exchange in London. At least that most conservative and careful concern, after receiving reports from confidential agents in all parts of the United States, according to information given out last night by the Republican National Committee, has accepted risks the equivalent to a wager at those odds against the Nebraskan to an aggregate of $500,000. The premium on this insurance, paid by American business men to insure themselves against business losses contingent on a Democratic victory, amount to about $55,000.

It was also announced that in view of the two slight accidents to trains on which the Republican candidate has been traveling during his speechmaking tour, Lloyds has been asked to underwrite some risks providing against such a contingency as Mr. Taft being prevented from taking his seat in the White House by death or by incurring bodily injury that would prevent him from accepting office.

Bee Stings Man's Tongue.

Newark (N. J.) Dispatch.

Roscoe Jones, of West Orange, N. J., took some honey from a hive, and in tasting it was stung on the tongue by a bee. 'For several hours he was unable to close his mouth or partake of food of any kind.

THE ELECTION AND BUSINESS

Remarks From a Point of View That Should Interest All Concerned.

Milwaukee Sentinel.

Straw votes and canvasses of opinion are now in vogue. Here is one which has exceptional interest for business men and wage earners:

The National Association of Manufacturers has taken a canvass of its 3000 members as to business conditions and prospects. There were four questions. The last one, asking for suggestions as to something that might better conditions and hasten the return of good times, opened the way for some reference to politics. In every case the reply received to the last query indicated more or less emphatically a hope for the election of Taft as a factor making for good business and a return of prosperity.

Several of these replies are peculiarly interesting as coming from the Democratic South.

One Alabama firm said briefly: "Elect Taft." Another: "The possibilities for the iron trade in 1909 hinge on the election of Taft as President and the ability of the railroads to finance their needs." Still another: "If the Republican ticket is elected we believe the outlook is bright for a good business." All that from the new South.

And so it went with the replies throughout, with an occasional variation as to the business effects of the election of Mr. Bryan, for example: "The election of Mr. Bryan will, in our opinion, prolong present business conditions indefinitely."

There can be no question, of course, that the employers' side of the business world desires the election of Mr. Taft. Such men feel that the election of Mr. Bryan would mean renewal of disturbance, uneasiness of investors, prolongation of slack times; the election of Mr. Taft, renewal of confidence, and the return of boom times.

Investors and wage payers feel that way, beyond the shadow of a doubt. Wage earners should think that over, and realize that in voting for Taft they are voting for themselves.

To those who harp on "Roosevelt hard times," we reply that William H. Taft is not an agitator.

LIFE ON THE UPPER COLUMBIA

Enormous Numbers of Salmon Being Taken Out by Indians.

North Yakima Republic.

It is salmon time on the Columbia.

C. A. Day, of the White Bluffs Land Company, returned yesterday from Columbia River points, where he has been on business. With him Mr. Day brought a number of fine Columbia River salmon, which he is today giving away to his friends. The annual salmon run is now on, and there are hundreds of fishermen catching hundreds of fish with the seine.

According to Mr. Day, there are 500 Indians camped at White Bluffs for the sole purpose of catching enough fish to last them through the Winter. There are Indians there from every part of the state, including the Moses Coulee, Palouse, Colville and Yakima districts. Wenatchee and other up-river towns have sent their delegations of redmen to the annual fish-catch.

The fish being caught weigh from five to 35 pounds each. Mr. Day says people not living near the river have little or no idea of the number of fish that are annually taken from the river. The Indians, being experts, land the largest ones. They dry them at the camps, and what they do not save for food in Winter, they sell. The fish brought home by Mr. Day are some of the largest river salmon ever seen here.

Residents of the lands along the Columbia depend almost entirely on the salmon they catch for their Winter's meat supply. Besides the seine, white men and Indians organize large parties and with torches go out at night in boats for the purpose of spearing the fish.

LIFE IN THE OREGON COUNTRY

Nary a Failure in 61 Years.

Albany Democrat.

Hon. S. M. Pennington, this morning: "I have seen 61 crops in Oregon, and not a failure." Oregon against the world.

Worse Than Dog Tax.

Salem Journal.

We do not blame any one for not wanting to pay a poll tax. It is about the meanest tax that any man can be asked to pay.

Real Thing in Weather Prophecies.

Lakeview Examiner.

The Indians of Harney County, who are reported never to fail in their weather prognostications, say: "Heap cold, heap snow this Winter. Indian pony no stand him through; snow several feet deep." If that is what we may expect, woodpiles should be enlarged and extra clothing should be secured.

The Retort Discourteous.

Portland Advocate.

The little pinheaded, immoral, degenerate, blatherskite, donkey-donk editor in the last issue of his little trumpet, the Seattle Searchlight, which is the organ of macques, pimps, racehorse touts, tinhorn gamblers, dope fiends, women of the underworld, quacks, mountebanks, renegades, jack-legged, Bible-beating preachers and the like, got awfully sassy and boastful in his last issue. The dirty rascal jawed and jawed, and slobbered over two columns of rot and slush, the most of which was irrelevant, senseless and bad—very bad, indeed.

Why the Fat Man Is Happy.

Newport Mail.

Look at a fat man. You wouldn't know he had any bones at all. Not one shows. His complexion is unwrinkled and no bones stick out. And he's contented and happy. He's got his bones attending strictly to business. They've got no time to be creaking and groaning and making predictions about the weather. They have just as much as they can attend to keeping their owner properly stretched out. Then look at a thin man. His bones are close to the surface, right where they can get all the hard knocks and keep well in the front with their troubles. And the thin man is sour and full of aches and looks on life at best as a sorry series of disagreeable things.

PICKED UP ROUND ABOUT.

"Well, my little man," inquired a visitor pleasantly "who are you?" "I'm the baby's brother!" was the ingenuous reply.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

At the lunch counter—I feel mighty sorry for that man. "Why?" "He has an income of $50,000 a year and only $9-a-week tastes."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Most people," remarked the thoughtful thinker, "take life seriously." "Well, there's no reason why they should not," rejoined the matter-of-fact person. "Taking life is a serious matter."—Chicago Daily News.

"What I object to," said the reformer, "is the ostentation of wealth." "You have a mistaken idea about the matter. If you want to find out how shy wealth can be just give it a chance to contribute to a campaign fund."—Washington Star.

Mrs. Newed—Excuse me, but do you sell ice here? Dealer—Yes, ma'am. Mrs. Newed—Well, I want ten cents' worth. By the way, how long have you had it in stock? Dealer—Since last Winter, Mrs. Newed—Oh, that won't do. I want some that is fresh.—Chicago Daily News.

Tourist (after a long discussion with station master on the subject of catching a steamer)—So you would advise me to come back by the Sunday night train in order to catch the boat on Monday morning? Station master (severely—A wud advise nae mon tae profane the Sawbath; but a'll jist repeat—if ye wait till the Monday ye'll nae get the connection.—Punch.

PORTLAND AND GRAYS HARBOR

Complaint of Poor Train Service; Puget Sound Cities Favored.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 25.—(To the Editor.)—The wretched train service between Portland and the important and rapidly developing Grays Harbor country should be brought to the attention of every business man in Portland.

The train schedule now in force and which has been for some time is evidently designed to make it as difficult and tedious as possible for Grays Harbor people to do business with Portland and conversely the same is true regarding Portland people reaching the harbor town. Intending travelers leave Portland at 8:30 A. M. and 2 P. M. in fairly decent trains. At Centralia they are dumped into a very ordinary third-class train and conveyed to Gate City, where they are again compelled to change in an interval of about 30 minutes to catch the through Grays Harbor train from the Puget Sound cities.

The annoyance and tediousness of these transfers discourage travel to Portland, which city was formerly the shopping place for the entire Grays Harbor section.

To illustrate: Last Friday a woman left Portland for Hoquiam, her home. The porter in the observation car unfortunately placed her valise with a lot of others, at the Centralia depot. She failed to secure her valise at Centralia and had to remain over about seven hours. This particular woman has been going to Portland for the past 20 years or more to shop. She had just previously remarked, to the writer, how few Grays Harbor women went to Portland to shop, as compared with former years, on account of the inadequate train service.

The incident above noted will not be very conducive to stimulating an early return visit to Portland. This is only one case of many that the writer has noted on different occasions.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company could remedy this situation by putting on a through Portland-Grays Harbor car, both ways. The cost would not be great with no great incidental delays. To do less is to deliberately discriminate against Portland. Perhaps a few thousand less cars of freight sent to Portland ordinarily routed over the Northern Pacific might have the desired effect to make somebody sit up and take notice.

Two direct trains are dispatched from Grays Harbor to Puget Sound points, well appointed and generally well patronized. Portland gets a log train.

GEORGE M. CORNWALL.

"CAP" HOBSON'S TRIP TO ASTORIA

Queer Reception From the Enthusiastic "Hosts" of Democracy.

PORTLAND, Oct. 25.—(To the Editor.)—I am supposed to be a Republican—at least I am registered as such, and naturally would like to see our party carry the state; but if the wild enthusiasm and active support of all Democrats are as devoted as they are in some parts of the state, I fear the consequence.

Hobson was at Oregon's city of destiny Thursday, and from a weather standpoint, everything looked fine. The bay and the view of Washington's shore were excellent, but oh! the Democratic majority we have been told about!

Hobson was met by one automobile, one flag, four of the majority, and at the depot was introduced to the local police force, which was there assembled.

At 2 P. M. he made his speech, and was royally entertained until 5:45 P. M., when he was eating beans all alone in a combination saloon and lunch-room, at the depot just before the train left, perched on a high stool between the train conductor and a colored porter. He had managed to find his way back alone, due probably to his marine training, as his Astoria hosts had disappeared long before it came time to "buy."

Hobson seemed to like the beans in Astoria, but from the viewpoint of an Oregonian, who is proud of our state, it does not seem that it would ever be necessary to sink a ship in the channel, as the hospitality of the city by the sea will be ample protection against any invasion.

If the so-called majority works out as it did Thursday, we certainly have no cause to fear, and one can easily see now why it is that the Democratic party would need less than $100,000 more to win the election.

ONE OF THE REPUBLICAN MINORITY.

Near-Death Touch of Nitroglycerine.

Philadelphia Dispatch.

An automobile at Clintonville, Pa., frightened a team of horses hitched to a wagon loaded with 100 quarts of nitroglycerine, which was thrown out of the vehicle when it struck a building, but though everybody who saw the accident was frightened, the stuff didn't explode.

Women's Hats Barred From Church.

Denver (Colo.) Dispatch.

By a formal resolution, the First Methodist Church at Colorado Springs, Colo., has declared that women must not wear hats in the church during divine service.

New Fish in Maine Waters.

Baltimore News.

A new fish which may supplant the herring has appeared in Maine waters. It is seven inches long and thicker and fatter than the herring.

MISTAKES WILL HAPPEN.

By James J. Montague.

"Now look a' here, Archbold," said wrathful John D., "I thought you sent something to Mack
To help out the Peerless, who means to be
fearless in shielding us trusts from attack!"
"Sure thing," replied Archbold. "Despite what we've lost in the recent deplorable crash,
I gladly came through with a ducat or two
—namely, three hundred thousand in cash!"

"Then what is the meaning," pursued the old man in heavily gloom-laden tones,
"Of their noising about that we only fried out to the tune of a measly two bones?
In the statement that Ridder begs men to consider—and deeply and closely I've read it—
Concerning the pelf on the Limburger shelf, that two stands alone to our credit!"

"Gee, Chief," murmured Archbold, "I little like that! I knew that if Bryan got in
He'd Peerlessly stand for our whole blooming band, so I hustled to help him to win.
I'll drop Mack a line—for we sure must divine just where is that money before
It's, alas! all too late—if it's lost—to go straight to the cash drawer and send him some more!"

"Dear Chief," whispered Archbold the following day, "about that remembrance to Mack—
He got it all right, and the Peerless has quite decided he won't send it back,
Mack writes to me thus: 'You must excuse us, you couldn't have treated us fairer;
That your three hundred thou appeared two was, I vow, an unfortunate clerical error!'"

—New York American.

The Debs Platform.

New York Call.

The earth for all the people. That is the demand.

The machinery of production and distribution for all the people. That is the demand.

The collective ownership and control of industry and its democratic management in the interest of all the people. That is the demand.

The elimination of rent, interest and profit and the production of wealth to satisfy the wants of all the people. That is the demand.

Co-operative industry in which all shall work together in harmony as the basis of a new social order, a higher civilization, a real republic. That is the demand.

The end of class struggles and class rule, of master and slave, of ignorance and vice, of poverty and shame, of cruelty and crime—the birth of freedom, the dawn of brotherhood, the beginning of MAN. That is the demand.

This is Socialism!