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Portland, Thursday, Sept. 19, 1912.

COMMENT ON MAINE'S VOTE.

Eastern newspapers are almost of one mind that the result of the Maine state election presages victory for Wilson in November.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean finds two or three circumstances which "make the Republican victory encouraging to the Republican party of the Nation."

Under the unique conditions the results in Maine are of interest in connection with the national election.

The New York Tribune draws the certain conclusion that there is to be no Democratic landslide.

The New York Tribune attributes the Republican trace to the "cohesive power of 400 state jobs."

While pronouncing it nonsense to say that Maine's verdict "means that the tide has set away from the Democrats," the New York Herald says that "to say that it does not mean a red light on the track for the Democracy would likewise be nonsense."

The Brooklyn Eagle ridicules Chairman Hill's prediction that the Maine vote means Taft's re-election.

As a matter of fact, if Roosevelt had planned the sequence of the Vermont result in the Maine election, he would have indicated that the Republican division alone makes the party outlook hopeless.

Conceding that the slim majority of the United Republicans means certain Democratic victory when they are divided, the New York Evening Sun says it "shows that the expected landslide to Roosevelt has yet to start."

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with congratulations to the Democrats of the state at large.

The meaning of the vote is thus summed up by the Hartford Courant: It was a very decent day's work, and a healthy sign.

The Springfield Republican holds that the election was fought on state issues, that the attempt by the Democrats to inject National issues into the campaign served only to drive the Republicans.

The Indianapolis News cannot find much hope for Taft. It remarks: With such a narrow plurality the Republicans carry the state in the election.

Obviously the determining factor in November will be the issue of the tariff. Another question is as to the number of votes which Roosevelt can carry.

Recalling that "the Taft Board of Strategy refused to send either speakers or substantial aid to the Maine Progressive Republicans," the Indianapolis News says:

It is a pity the Taft men cannot share in the Maine triumph over the Democrats. The Chicago Inter-Ocean finds two or three circumstances which "make the Republican victory encouraging to the Republican party of the Nation."

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posed before the date of election, but the charter may now be summarized as a measure placing in the hands of five men all the initiative and administrative work of the city.

The salaries provided in commission charters are quite generally subject for attack. In the charter proposed for Portland the salaries of the five Commissioners will aggregate \$23,000 yearly.

At present the salaries of the Mayor and fifteen Councilmen aggregate \$9300. We think there can be no doubt that if we elect a Mayor whose services are really worth the \$6000 a year the charter establishes as his salary, and five Commissioners who are really \$5000 men all devote their time to city duties, we shall be less extravagant than we are at the present time, when we pay each of fifteen Councilmen \$25 per month for giving his spare time to municipal affairs.

Adoption of a commission charter is a step in the right direction, but it does not go the full distance. It will not automatically relieve a city of graft or incompetence. We should like to see the proposed charter discussed and criticized. The more interest is taken the better.

Dr. Benson's views on the subject may be perused in the Bulletin Review. It is fair to publish them by a statement of the Psychological Research Society that every story of a haunted house which they have examined has proved to be a humbug.

The Salem affair seems to have been a Titanic conflict between the warring leaders (not bosses). There has been nothing like it since the old Populist days.

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There are some points of resemblance between the Hungarian Diet and an Oregon Bull Moose convention.

MR. MOORES ON THE BULL MOOSE Sharp Comment on the Third-Party Convention at Salem.

PORTLAND, Sept. 18.—(To the Editor.)—The action of the Bull Moose convention yesterday at Salem seems to call for a plain talk.

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DEFECTS SEEN IN HARMONY BILL Bounded Indebtedness Authorized Is Too Great, Says Writer.

ST. JOHNS, Or., Sept. 18.—(To the Editor.)—There are 38 measures to be voted for on the November 5 election. The "information book" containing these measures, together with arguments pro and con, has as yet not reached all the voters, and when it does, how long will it be before the average voter will have the time carefully and critically to analyze each measure so as to be able to determine whether it is properly hedged about with safeguards so no jobbery can be worked under its provisions, where large appropriations of money are provided for—that criminal waste of the public funds characteristic of the present day?

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Solons and Sluggers By Dean Collins.

I've seen conventions, one or two, With factions fierce in conflict clash— I've seen assemblies that broke up With riot and near-window smashing.

I have heard speakers hooted down By the wild outcries of the rabble; I've seen the Legislature's halls In one grand comprehensive babble.

I have been told that there are times When after Congress had assembled, Excitement waked into the scene A rough-and-tumble fire that resembled.

But Hungary hath sent a tale Which, when I fully think it over, Leads me to see that solons' rows Like breezes light in honeyed clover.

In Budapest, apparently The rough-house artists are the men It Takes to conduct in proper way Deliberations in the Senate.

The high-brow solon would not stand— So fair a chance of safe remaining To solve the problems of the state As one who had a gridiron training.

How sad the dogs that Fate mixed up When some of our most expert slugs Here in America she dropped As common pugilistic pluggers.

How more appropriate it were Had she been careful in ordaining Johnson, et al, as deputies To Budapest to do their training.

Sooth when the cops broke in the doors To quell the trouble that was brewing And hark the deputies away— Believe me, there'd be something doing.

But in our Senate, lackaday, Where is the vigor and the wildness Of those Hungarian rhapsodies— They are the essence pure of mid-nights.

I do compare the countries twain, And marvel with great admiration, Wringing the while I do admire, "Arise ye, ye peachblow, peaceful nation!"

Portland September 18.

Half a Century Ago From The Oregonian of Sept. 19, 1862.

On Tuesday last Messrs. Keach & McLean, with a Kanak and an Indian, started on a prospecting tour to the head of Nisqually River, near the base of Mount Rainier, where gold in large quantities is believed to exist.

EMPLOYER'S VIEW OF 8-HOUR LAW INFLUX OF LABOR TO REMAIN IDLE IN WINTER Would Follow Enactment. PORTLAND, Sept. 17.—(To the Editor.)—The bill to amend the law relating to the employment of labor, which, according to its title, is to "protect sub-contractors, laborers, etc.," is a bill to do as much as possible to protect the employer's interests. It is a bill to do as much as possible to protect the employer's interests. It is a bill to do as much as possible to protect the employer's interests.