

VOTING BY MACHINERY

A QUARTER of a century ago when a citizen desired to vote he was beset with difficulties—at least annoyances—from the time he hove in sight of the army of "heelers" at the polling place until he reached the ballot box handlers. He was crowded out of line, jostled, yelled at, delayed by challenges. Voting was a matter of strength, brute force and endurance. There was no privacy or secrecy of political inclination. The program then in vogue disgusted the respectable voter, and there was no remedy or improvement afforded until the Australian system came into use.

This plan exceeded in purity and accuracy anything that America had been able to devise. Its salient benefits were that the intending voter has a clear 200 feet in which to approach the voting booth unattended, that no man

rection in the way of practical experiment, and, in order to understand the workings of the new system, a typical case would be that of a great city like Chicago. Here there are 1,120 precincts, with an average of 328 registered voters. Five men to the precinct are officials at every election, and each man receives \$5 daily. The city sets aside \$124,000 for salaries of these judges and clerks. The rental of the precinct headquarters averages \$15. The ballots cost over \$5,000. When the care, keeping and distributing expenses are added this cost is doubled or trebled. The office expenses of the commissioners are also extremely heavy.

Without too close analysis a saving could be effected by the use of machinery that can be shown at once. It is estimated that on this basis the number of voting precincts could be re-

duced to 650. The printing of ballots would be done away with. Of course the care of the machines would be an expense, although not nearly so heavy. On an equitable table of reduction, after careful computation, it is calculated that the enormous sum of \$57,000 could be saved on every city election. Itemized, this plan shows as follows:

Reduction in number of precincts	470
Reduction in salaries of officers of election	\$39,950
Reduction in rentals at \$15 a precinct	7,050
Reduction in ballots and handling	10,000
Total	\$57,000

This is a showing based wholly on the assumption that the voting machine can handle double the number of voters that can be handled under present methods. The machine, according to reliable experts from cities where it has been tested, can handle 600 voters to the precinct without trouble. It is asserted that the voter can record his vote in one minute. In one city precinct in Detroit it was reported that 150 men voted in exactly 150 minutes.

In its adaptation to villages and to country districts generally the voting machine appears to be even at present within the compass of all as to economy, utility and expense. One machine can be taken for a type of all. To a city like Buffalo it sells for \$500. The great feature of the machine is that it insures absolute accuracy in expressing the will of the voter. It is automatic, registers only what the voter wills, cannot be disturbed without being wrecked, and casts up the totals as it goes. As soon as the polls are closed the returns are there, totaled up and ready for transcription to the records for canvass. It provides for the voting of "split tickets" by an ingenious device, varying, of course, in the various types. But it insures one thing—it renders any contest impossible.

was worth more than 1,000 machines in casting up the receipts in cash. That day, as all others, passed. Comparatively few concerns in these days omit the humble cash register, because of its speed and approved accuracy in assembling totals. The longest-headed arithmeticians the world has ever produced cannot calculate skillfully enough to destroy the equipage of the delicate machine, which attends to business and merely rings a bell when cleared for action.

At least half a dozen voting machines have been invented, each of which has points in its favor, according to the reports of investigators. A typical one deserves a detailed description. It is about four feet square and ten inches deep, and is supported by legs, the top being a little over six feet from the floor. From the upper corner projects a semicircular bar, on which is hung a curtain, which forms a booth. An operating lever extends from the center of the top of the machine, the outer end of which is attached to the curtain. The voter throws this lever, which closes the curtain about him. Placed on the front of the machine in full view of the public before it is closed by the curtain is an Australian ballot, 22x30 inches. At the head of each ticket over the party emblem is a straight ticket knob, and in front of each name where the marking space should be is an indicator which may be moved over the name to indicate the voter's choice, which connects the counter, but does not register the vote until the lever is moved to open the curtain.

The voter first selects his party ticket, and by pulling the straight knob at the top over the party emblem down to the right, moves all the pointers for that ticket. If he desires to split his ticket he can move the pointer back over the name that does not suit him, and in the same office line move the pointer over the name he wishes to vote for. After pulling the straight ticket knob, a pointer may be moved back and forth, making a click at intervals to indicate splitting, and at the same time, vote straight. In splitting his vote he can move the pointers silently, with a little care. Having arranged his vote satisfactorily, he is now ready to register it, which he does by throwing the curtain open by means of an operating lever, with which he closed it, thus casting and counting his vote in perfect secrecy. After the votes are closed and the machine locked against voting, the doors in the rear are unlocked, and the vote of each candidate is shown on the counters, ready to be copied over the election returns.

The machine is constructed of steel and non-corrosive metal, and where steel is used it is protected from rust by plating with copper and nickel. Every movement is positive, the machine is wholly different in construction from any other, and cannot be manipulated fraudulently. The machine weighs about 500 pounds, and when boxed for

THE ALUM BAKING POWDERS.

Names of Some of the Principal Brands Sold in this Vicinity.

The recent discussion in the papers of the effect upon the human system of food made with alum baking powders and the opinions that have been published from noted scientists to the effect that such powders render the food unwholesome, have caused numerous inquiries for the names of the various alum powders.

The following list of baking powders containing alum is made up from the reports of state chemists and food commissioners, of Minnesota, or other reliable authority:

- Baking Powders Containing Alum;**
- K. C. Contains Alum
 - Jaques Mfg. Co., Chicago.
 - Calumet. Contains Alum
 - Calumet Baking Powder Co., Chicago.
 - Home. Contains Alum
 - Home Baking Powder Co., San Francisco.
 - Washington. Contains Alum
 - Pacific Chemical Works, Tacoma.
 - Crescent. Contains Alum
 - Crescent Mfg. Co., Seattle.
 - White Lily. Contains Alum
 - D. Ferrera & Co., Tacoma.
 - Bee-Hive. Contains Alum
 - Washington Mfg. Co., San Francisco.
 - Bon Bon. Contains Alum
 - Grant Chemical Co., Chicago.
 - Defiance. Contains Alum
 - Portland Coffee & Spice Co., Port and.
 - Portland. Contains Alum
 - Beno & Ballis, Portland.

In addition to these, it is learned that many grocers are selling what they call their own private or special brands. These powders are put up for the grocer and his name put upon the labels by manufacturers of alum powders. The manufacturers, it is said, find their efforts to market their goods in this way greatly aided by the ambition of the grocer, to sell a powder with its own name upon the label, especially when the grocer can make an abnormal profit upon it. Many grocers, doubtless, do not know that the powders they are thus pushing are alum powders which would be actually contraband in many sections if sold without disguise.

It is quite impossible to give the names of all the alum baking powders in the market. They are constantly appearing in all sorts of disguises, under all kinds of cognomens, and at all kinds of prices, even as low as five and 10 cents a pound. They can be avoided, however, by the housekeeper who will bear in mind that all baking powders sold at 25 cents or less per pound are liable to contain alum, as pure cream of tartar baking powders cannot be produced at anything like this price.

BURIAL OF SPANISH RULERS.

Weird Ceremonial Custom Prescribed for Royal Obsequies.

Strange and almost weird is the ceremonial which accompanies the burial of Spanish kings. The pantheon, or royal tomb, is at the palace of Escorial, situated 3,000 feet above the level of the sea and some distance from the capital. Only kings, queens and mothers of kings are buried there, the coffins of the kings lying on one side, and those of the queens on the other. After lying in state for several days in the throne-room in Madrid, says the San Francisco Argonaut, an enormous procession is formed accompanying the body to the Escorial. A halt is made on the way and the corpse rests there for one night. In the morning the lord high chamberlain stands at the side of the coffin and says in loud tones: "Is your majesty pleased to proceed on your journey?"

After a short silence the procession moves on and winds up to the grand portal of the palace. These doors are never opened except to admit a royal personage, dead or alive. When the casket containing the remains is at last placed in the vault the chamberlain unlocks it and, kneeling down, calls with a loud voice: "Senor! Senor! Senor!" After a solemn pause he cries again: "His majesty does not reply. Then it is true the king is dead!" He then locks the coffin, gives the key to the prior (the palace of the Escorial contains also a large monastery and the church) and, taking his staff of office, breaks it in pieces and flings them at the casket. The booming of guns and the tolling of bells announce to the nation that the king has gone to his final resting place.

Saving Oneself by Service.

A man was traveling over an Alpine pass. He went over the glaciers, sinking in the snow step by step, upward, until he was weary. High on the summit of the pass a desire to sleep overcame him. He could hardly put one foot before another. Just as he was almost sinking down into the sleep which would have proved the sleep of death to him, he struck his foot against an obstacle which proved to be the body of a traveler who had preceded him. He bent down, found that the heart had not ceased to beat and began at once to rub the frozen limbs and to do his best to reanimate the body. In his effort he was successful. He saved the man's life; and, in the effort, he banished his own desire to sleep and so saved his own life in saving another.—Herald and Presbyterian.

Already Tamed.

"I have decided," said the girl in blue, "that when I marry I shall marry a widower."

"Coward!" returned the girl in gray, scornfully.

Truly, it would seem that a woman should be willing to tame her own husband.—Chicago Post.



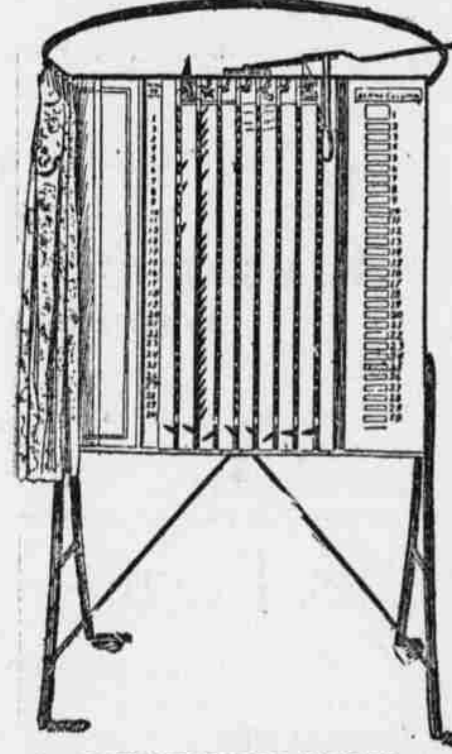
OLD-TIME VOTING.

but the judge of election could hand him a ballot, thus preventing tissue ballots and vest-pocket voting; that he retired to make his choice of candidates free from prying eyes, and that he saw his ballot get inside the box.

But at this point the lesson ended, for after trying the Australian system—beneficial as it has proven—it is certain that progress demands still further

Improvements, with eight tickets in the field, and each ticket with sixty candidates, all printed on one sheet of paper, many a voter, even of average intelligence, has been bewildered. Outside of this, the question of economics, in money and time, has arisen. The "blanket ballot" has been found cumbersome; to the uneducated voter it has often proved a puzzle. Intrigacy has been the fault. To show how common is the confusion, the faulty marking of ballots, it may be stated that in the New York election of 1897 some 122,088 ballots were thrown out as blank or defective. Add to this the fact that in the city of Chicago it costs \$75,000 merely to hold an election for two judges, and some of the defects of the Australian system may be understood.

For these and many other reasons the public mind is dwelling earnestly on the theme of voting by machinery. It is certain that the voting machine would in time be able to defeat the workings of the party machine. Several things are asserted in its favor that appeal strongly to the honest voter. One is the reduced expense of conducting elections, which is brought about by the increased speed in balloting, and the consequent reduction in the number of polling precincts. A great stride has been made in this di-



STANDARD VOTING MACHINE.

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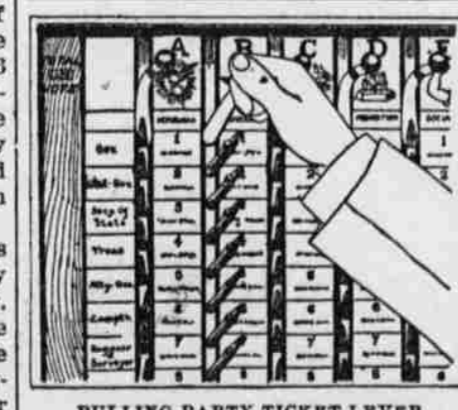
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storage or shipment occupies a space about four feet square and sixteen inches deep.

There is another device, known as the "United States voting machine," that has a keyboard on which is placed a printed ballot, or labels, with the name of each candidate, with a separate push button adjacent to each name. The machine has a large push button for each party ticket. The operation of the door through which the voter passes out of the booth registers the vote he has indicated. This device will readily accommodate up to 800 voters. By actual test a voter can enter the booth, vote the straight ticket, and make his exit in from five to ten seconds. When the polls close the door is locked in an open position, which locks the mechanism of the machine, after which the counting compartments are thrown open to inspectors and watchers and the total number of votes received by each candidate taken off and read in



PULLING PARTY TICKET LEVER

termer under the name of some other man long dead or removed from the city. When such a device is created—and why may not photography and other science abet?—then voting will become an accurate expression of the people's will. The reign of "the boss" will end, for the entire electorate will be "boss!"

He Won't Get Her a Bicycle.

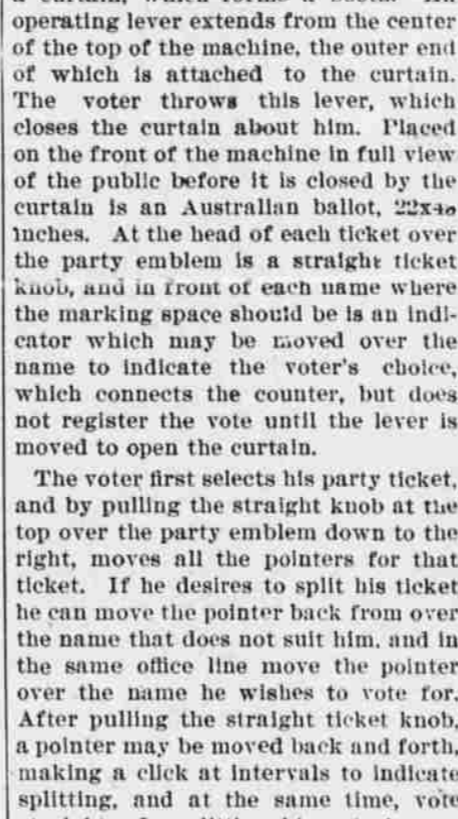
Mr. Wimply—My constant aim in this life is to do something to make the world better.

Mrs. Wimply—Well, you'll do it; I feel sure of that.

Mr. Wimply—Ah, Maria, I am glad that you have for once in your life indicated that you have faith in my ability to accomplish something.

Mrs. Wimply—Yes, you'll die some day. Then the world will be better.—Chicago News.

Dogs may have family trees, but you cannot tell them by their bark.

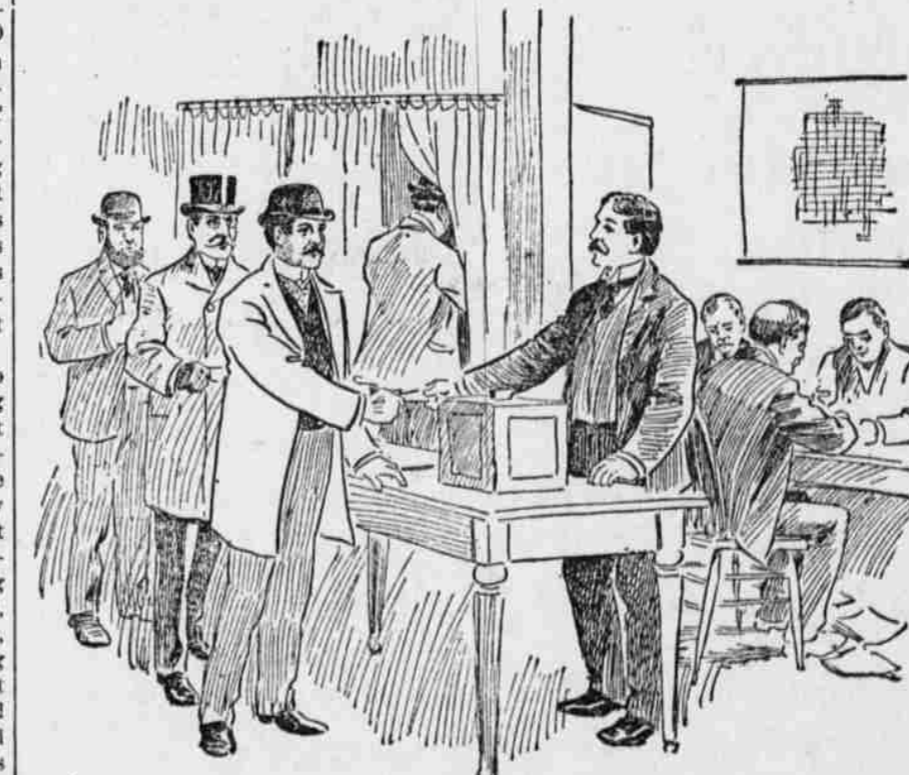


UNITED STATES VOTING MACHINE.

known three-quarters of an hour after the closing of the polls.

From all of this it will be conceded that voting by machine has many desirable features. The reduction of the cost of holding elections, the speed with which the votes can be taken, and the speed with which returns can be made, all important elements to consider. Once adopted by law, the inanimate faces of these engines formed to tell what the people want will be the medium of stopping foolish contests, which cost the people heavy sums of money.

One lack will yet remain, however. Complete purification of the ballot cannot be effected until some device is perfected which will insure absolute security and legality in the registration of voters themselves, whereby a corrupt man may be prevented from regis-



THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT SYSTEM.

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