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WHEREIN PARKER'S CHANCES LIE.

When one studies the table of votes in the electoral college he is not surprised that Judge Parker should be deeply interested in the situation in Indiana and New Jersey, as he is reported in our dispatches to be. If Judge Parker is elected he will probably receive the electoral vote of one or both of those two states, which figure most prominently in democratic calculations. Wednesday's Oregonian contained a Washington dispatch, presenting the claims of the national republican committee, which may mislead those who are following the fight. According to this dispatch, the republican committee concedes Parker 166, claims 290 for Roosevelt and classes 35 as doubtful. Here we have a total of 4341, or 15 more than will be in the college. The committee has probably conceded 151-the solid south-to Parker.

The democrats figure several plans of winning. They will get the 151 votes of the south. Should they be able to swing the states classed as doubtful -Colorado, Delaware, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming-into the democratic column and also carry New York, with its 39 votes, they will have a total of 225. The number necessary to elect is 239, and the vote of Indiana, 15, would just make up the deficit.

It will be seen from this statement that the demof the legislature, but he has since reformed," is ocratic candidates may be elected without any para familiar jibe in local districts. ticular landslide. The democratic managers claim All this is a distinct part of American humor, a fighting chance in Wisconsin and Connecticut, albut underlying it is serious significance. If we though it is reasonably certain Wisconsin will give examine it faithfully we begin to see why repreits 13 votes to Roosevelt. Connecticut has heretosentative government scores so many failures. It fore been influenced by New York, and a democratic may be a joke to elect cheap men to pass laws and victory in New York might put Connecticut's seven votes in the Parker column, although this is not to pay them less than it costs to live at the capitals, but the jest grows grim when they settle down to be expected. to work and make their expenses-somehow. Does But the democrats are able to figure a simple not the American voter help the graft game by extable of victory, and Judge Parker's anxiety about pecting his representatives to be grafters? New Jersey and Indiana indicates that he is relying upon this other combination for success. The solid CORPORAL PUNISHMENT. south and New York will give him 190 votes. It is Every now and then, some one rises to advocate not unreasonable to suppose that West Virginia and a return to the brutal methods of the past, says Maryland will go democratic this fall, for up to the time of the nomination of Mr. Bryan both states the Tacoma Ledger. Boys and girls of spirit are had been unswervingly democratic. Their 15 votes generally inclined to assert themselves, and occaswould bring up the total to 205. If Colorado's five | ionally in a manner that disconcerts their elders, and Delaware's three are also captured by the demoeven as their elders did those who came before crats, the total will be 213, and Indiana and New them. These boys and girls are always liable to Jersey, the latter with 12, will find Judge Parker find the school room a somewhat monotonous place. and, consequently, their animal spirits rise for the in the 240 hole. It is quite probable that the democrats hope purpose of breaking the monotony. to win through victory in the states included in Naturally the teachers are dismayed. They bethis last classification. New York is, of course, lieve, with the pope, that "order is heaven's first claimed by both candidates, and, despite the claims, law," and seek by one method or another to prethe state is one of the most doubtful. Parker is serve order. In the old days this was done by means depending entirely upon the Empire state, for of the hickory stick, and the hickory stick still has without it he can not hope to win. West Virginia champions among those who believe that order in and Maryland may perhaps be counted for him, the school room is the first essential. leaving Colorado and Delaware to be fought for. But corporal punishment in the school room is based on a false estimate of the value of school This is a question which per-If the democrats can win in those states and carry education. Boys and girls go to school, it is as-Indiana, where Tom Taggart is making heroic efserted, for the purpose of learning to read and forts, and New Jersey, their nominee will come out with 240 votes, or one more than enough to write, to learn how to calculate and speak and write the English language correctly, and this can elect. Here we have the democratic election dream in not be accomplished unless order is preserved. a nutshell. Whether or not they can hope for In-It is true that boys and girls go to school partly diana is questionable, for the state can not be fig- for the purpose of learning these things. But the ured on at any time. In 1896, when Illinois gave main purpose of education, the sole purpose of a McKinley more than 100,000 plurality and New true education, is the acquiring of a character that York rolled up a lead of 200,000 for him, Indiana will stand the storm and stress of life. One must gave him only 18,000 and but 8000 more four years be devloped at all points. One must have a resolute later. The vote of New Jersey for the past 12 spirit. And corporal punishment is an evil beyears shows that the people there voted just about cause its natural tendency is to break the as those of New York voted, and it is a reasonable spirit of the child upon whom it is inflicted. assumption that the candidate who gets New York It is impossible for one to have too much spirit, if he must combat the obstacles which life is sure will also get New Jersey. The democrats are up against one very difficult to put in his way, and the school room, if it would propostion, and as yet none of their spellbinders be worthy of its mission, must foster and develop, has offered a solution of the trouble. In 1896 not destroy, the force that is required to fight the and 1900 Bryan was opposed by gold democrats, world battle. It is safe to assert that corporal punishment who have been given the credit for the election of the lamented McKinley. Parker this year must is the refuge of none but a dull teacher, and incontend with those Bryanites who will not heed stead of commending the teacher who resorts to it. the tom-tom of any other candidate than Bryan, as some are yet prone to do, it should be prima There is bound to be apathy among those demo- facie evidence that the teacher is incompetent to fill crats this year, but to what extent they will refuse his or her place, and the teacher should be dischargto support the national ticket can not be foretold. I ed at once as hopelessly incompetent.

ASTORIA, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.

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vietory in Indiana and New Jersey seems absolutely essential to their success.

OUR UNDERPAID LAWMAKERS.

An item in the Maine September election that escaped notice because of the larger interest in the presidential campaign was the defeat of the proposed amendment to the constitution increasing the pay of members of the legislature from \$150 to \$300. There was no question as to the wisdom, of paying adequately for useful public service; the voters simply declined to consider their legislators seriously and voted down the proposal overwhelm-

Maine's lump sum of \$150 for a legislative term is the smallest paid by any state in America, says o the Saturday Evening Post. It is ridiculous compensation for the time and work of an intelligent citizen, and yet public sentiment by a vote at the polls decided that it is enough. A traveler found a settlement of converted Indians in the far west whose spiritual needs were supplied by a Sunday O sermon for which the preacher received a dollar a week. "Don't you think it's might poor pay !" he asked. "Mighty poor preach," was the reply of a bronzed deacon. There might be a similar weighing of values in the Pine Tree state.

New York and Pennsylvania pay members of their legislatures \$1500. Measured by remuneration, these great commonwealths should fare far better than Maine. And yet it was only the other day that we read in a newspaper friendly to the administration in power that a Pennsylvania legislature ended a session of loot by stealing for its members all the state house furniture that could be carted off, and most of the New York papers regularly declare each new legislature in that state to be worse than the last, which means the worst of all. Allowance must be made for the extravagance inseperable from polities, but with all exaggeration deducted, the fact remains that our legislators have neither the confidence nor the admiration of their constituents.

An old story tells of the new congressman who spent the first week in Washington wondering how he got there and the rest of his term wondering how the other fellows got there. A state legislature is a primary school compared to the national body, and so its members come in for coarser ridicule than the congressmen. "He was a member

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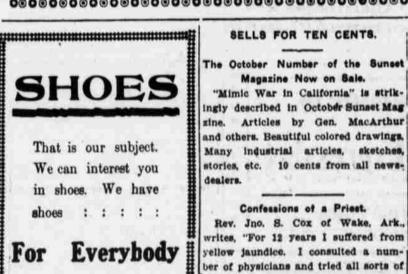
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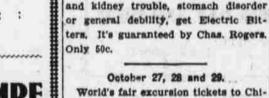
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