THE PEOPLE OR THE PRESIDENT THE ISSUE, SAYS JUDGE PARKER

The Power Now Assumed Equals a Monarch's---Letter of Acceptance.

(Journal Special Service.)

Esopus, N. Y., Sept. 24.—Judge Parker's letter, in which he accepts the nomination for the presidency of the United States tendered by the Democratic national convention is in full, as follows:

To the Honorable Champ Clark and others, committee, etc.

Gentlemen: In my response to your committee, at the formal notification proceedings, I referred to some matters not mentioned in this letter. I desire that these be considered as incorporated herein, and regret that lack of space prevents specific reference to them all. I wish here, however, again to refer to my views there expressed as to the gold standard, to declare again my unqualified belief in said standard, and to express my appreciation of the action of the convention in reply to my communication upon that subject.

Grave public questions are pressing for decision. The Democratic party appeals to the people with confidence that its position on these questions will be accepted and endorsed at the polls. While the issues involved are numerous, some stand forth pre-eminent in the public mind. Among these are,—tariff reform, imperialism, economical administration and honesty in the public service. I shall briefly consider these and some others within the necessarily prescribed limits of this letter.

Imperialism.

While I presented my views at the notification proceedings concerning this vital issue, the overshadowing importance of this question impels me to refer to it again. The issue is oftentimes referred to as constitutionalism vs. imperialism.

If we would retain our liberties and constitutional rights unimpaired, we cannot permit or tolerate, at any time, or for any purpose, the arrogation of unconstitutional powers by the executive branch of our government. We should be ever mindful of the words of Webster, "Liberty is only to be preserved by maintaining constitutional restraints and a just division of political powers."

Already the national government has become centralized beyond any point contemplated or imagined by the founders of the constitution. How tremendously all this has added to the power of the president! It has developed from year to year until it almost equals that of many monarchs. While the growth of our country and the magnitude of interstate interests may seem to furnish a plausible reason for this centralization of power, yet these same facts afford the most potent reason why the executive should not be permitted to encroach upon the other departments of the government, and assume legislative, or other powers, not expressly conferred by the constitution.

The magnitude of the country and its diversity of interests and population would enable a determined, ambitious and able executive, unmindful of constitutional limitations and fired with the lust of power, to go far in the usurpation of authority and the aggrandisement of personal power before the situation could be fully appreciated or the people be aroused.

The issue of imperialism which has been thrust upon the country involves a decision whether the law of the land or the rule of individual caprice shall govern. The principle of imperialism may give rise to brilliant, startling, dashing results, but the principle of Democracy holds in check the brilliant executive and subjects him to the sober, conservative control of the people.

The people of the United States stand at the parting of the ways. Shall we follow the footsteps of our fathers along the paths of peace, prosperity and contentment, guided by the ever-living spirit of the constitution which they framed for us, or shall we go along other and untried paths, hitherto shunned by all, following blindly new ideals, which, though appealing with brilliancy to the imagination and ambition, may prove a will o' the wisp, leading us into difficulties from which it may be impossible to extricate ourselves without lasting injury to our national character and institutions?

The Tariff and Trusts.

Tariff reform is one of the cardinal principles of the Democratic faith, and the necessity for it was never greater than at the present time. It should be undertaken at once in the interest of all our people.

The Dingley tariff is excessive in many of its rates, and, as to them at least, unjustly and oppressively burdens the people. It secures to domestic manufacturers, singly or in combination, the privilege of exacting excessive prices at home and prices far above the level of sales made regularly by them abroad with profit, thus giving a bounty to foreigners at the expense of our own people. It levies oppressive and unjust taxes upon many articles forming, in whole or part, the so-called raw material of many of our manufactured products, not only burdening the consumer, but also closing to the manufacturer the markets he needs and seeks abroad. Its unjust taxation burdens the people generally, forcing them to pay excessive prices for food, fuel, clothing and other necessaries of life. It levies duties on many articles not normally imported in any considerable amount, which are made extensively at home, for which the most extreme protectionist would hardly justify protective taxes, and which in large amounts are exported. Such duties have been and will continue to be a direct incentive to the formation of huge industrial combinations, which, secure from foreign competition, are enabled to stifle domestic competition and practically to monopolize the home market.

It contains many duties imposed for the express purpose only, as was openly avowed, of furnishing a basis for reduction by means of reciprocal trade treaties, which the Republican administration, impliedly at least, promised to negotiate. Having, on this promise, secured the increased duties, the Republican party leaders, spurred on by protected interests, defeated the treaties negotiated by the executive, and now these same interests cling to the benefit of these duties which the people never intended they should have, and to which they have no moral right.

Even now the argument most frequently urged in behalf of the Dingley tariff, and against tariff reform generally, is the necessity of caring for our infant industries. Many of these industries, after a hundred years of lusty growth, are looming up as industrial giants. In their case, at least, the Dingley tariff invites combination and monopoly, and gives justification to the expression that the tariff is the mother of trusts.

For the above-mentioned reasons, among many others, the people demand reform of these abuses, and such reform demands and should receive immediate attention.

The two leading parties have always differed as to the principle of customs taxation. Our party has always advanced the theory that the object is the raising of revenue for support of the government, whatever other results may incidentally flow therefrom. The Republican party, on the other hand, contends that customs duties should be levied primarily for protection, so-called, with revenue as the subordinate purpose, thus using the power of taxation to build up the business and property of the few at the expense of the many.

This difference of principle still subsists, but our party appreciates that the long-continued policy of the country, as manifested in its statutes, makes it necessary that tariff reform should be prudently and sagaciously undertaken, on scientific principles, to the end that there should not be an immediate revolution in existing conditions.

In the words of our platform we demand "a revision and a gradual reduction of the tariff by the friends of the masses, and for the common weal, and not by the friends of its abuses, its extortions and discriminations."

It is true that the Republicans, who do not admit in their platform that the Dingley tariff needs the slightest alteration, are likely to retain a majority of the federal senate throughout the next presidential term, and could, therefore, if they chose, block every attempt at legislative relief. But it should be remembered that the Republican party includes many revisionists, and I believe it will shrink from defying the popular will expressed unmistakably and peremptorily at the ballot box.

The people demand reform of existing conditions. Since the last Democratic administration the cost of living has grievously increased. Those having fixed incomes have suffered keenly; those living on wages, if there has been any increase, know that such increase has not kept pace with the advance in the cost of living, including rent and the necessaries of life. Many today are out of work, unable to secure any wages at all. To alleviate these conditions, in so far as is in our power, should be our earnest endeavor.

Trust Remedies.

I pointed out in my earlier response the remedy, which in my judgment, can effectually be applied against monopolies, and the assurance was then given that if existing laws, including both statute and common law, proved inadequate, contrary to my expectations, I favor such further legislation, within constitutional limitations, as will best promote and safeguard the interests of all the people.

Whether there is any common law which can be applied and enforced by the federal courts, cannot be determined by the president or by a candidate for the presidency.

The determination of this question was left by the people in framing the costitution, to the judiciary and not to the executive. The supreme court of the United States has recently considered this question, and, in the case of the Western Union Telegraph Co. vs. the Call Publishing Co., to be found in the one hundred and eighty-first volume of the United States supreme court reports, at page 92, it decided that common law principles could be aplied by United States courts in cases involving interstate commerce, in the absence of United States statutes specifically covering the case. Such is the law of the land.

Reciprocity.

In my address to the notification committee I said that tariff "is demanded by the best interests of both manufacturer and consumer." With equal truth it can be said that the benefits of reciprocal trade treaties would enure to both. That the consumer would be helped is unquestionable. That the manufacturer would receive great benefit by extending his markets abroad hardly needs demonstration. His productive capacity has outgrown the home market. The very term "home market" has changed in its significance. Once, from the manufacturers' point of view, it meant expansion; today the marvelous growth of our manufacturing industries has far exceeded the consumptive capacity of our domestic markets, and the term "home market" implies contraction, rather than expansion. If we would run our mills to their full capacity, thus giving steady employment to our workmen and securing to them and to the manufacturer the profits accruing from increased production, other markets must be found. Furthermore, when our manufacturers are dependent on raw materials in whole or part imported, it is vital to the extension of their markets abroad that they secure their materials on the most favorable terms.

Our martyred president, William McKinley, appreciated this situation. He pointed out in his last address to the people that we must make sensible trade arrangements if "we shall extend the outlets for our increasing surplus." He said, "a system which provides a mutual exchange of commodities is manifestly essential to the continued and healthful growth of our export trade. . . . . The period of exclusiveness is past. The expansion of our trade and commerce is the pressing problem. Commercial wars are unprofitable. A policy of good will and friendly relations will prevent reprisals. Reciprocity treaties are in harmony with the spirit of the times; measures of retaliation are not."

This argument was made in the interest of our manufacturers, whose products, he urged, "have so multiplied, that the problem of more markets requires our urgent and imediate attention." He had come to realize that the so-called "stand pat" policy must give way—that there must be a reduction of duties to enable our manufacturers to cultivate foreign markets. The last words of this president—who had won the affection of his countrymen—ought to be studied by every man who has any doubt of the necessity of a reduction in tariff rates in the interest of the manufacturer. They present with clearness a situation and a proposed remedy that prompted the provision in our platform which declares that, "We favor liberal trade arrangements with Canada and with peoples of other countries where they can be entered into with benefit to American agriculture, manufactures, mining or commerce."

The present refusal of the Republican majority in the federal senate to ratify the reciprocity treaties negotiated in pursuance of the policy advocated alike by Mr. Blaine and Mr. McKinley, and expressly sanctioned in the Dingley act itself, is a discouraging exhibition of bad faith. As already mentioned by me, the exorbitant duty imposed on many an imported article by the Dingley tariff was avowedly intended by its author not to be permanent, but to serve temporarily as a maximum, from which the federal government was empowered to offer a reduction, in return for an equivalent concession on the part of a foreign country. President McKinley undertook honestly to carry out the purpose of the act. A number of reciprocity agreements were negotiated, which, if ratified, would have had the two-fold result of cheapening many imported products for American consumers, and of opening and enlarging foreign markets to American producers. Not one of those agreements has met with the approval of the Republican masters of the senate. Indeed they did not even permit their consideration. In view of the attitude of the present executive, no new agreement need be expected from him. Nor does the Republican platform contain a favorable reference to one of the suspended treaties. The reciprocity clauses of the Dingley act seem destined to remain a monument of legislative coseinage and political bad faith, unless the people take the matter in their own hands at the ballot box and command a reduction of duties in return for reciprocal concessions.

Independence for the Filipinos.

In some quarters it has been assumed that in the discussion of the Philippine question in my response, the phrase "self-government," was intended to mean something less than independence. It was not intended that it should be understood to mean, nor do I think as used it does mean less than independence. However, to eliminate all possibility for conecture, I now state that I am in hearty accord with that plank in our platform that favors doing for the Filipinos what we have already done for the Cubans; and I favor making the promise to them now that we shall take such action as soon as they are reasonably prepared for it. If independence, such as the Cubans enjoy, cannot be prudently granted to the Filipinos at this time, the promise that it shall come the moment they are capable of receiving it will tend to stimulate rather than hinder their development. And this should be done not only in justice to the Filipinos, but to preserve our own rights; for a free people cannot withhold freedom from another people and themselves remain free. The toleration of tyranny over others will soon breed contempt for freedom and self-government, and weaken our power of resistance to insidious usurpation of our constitutional rights.

American Citizenship.

The pledge of the platform to secure to our citizens, without distinction of race or creed, whether native born or naturalized, at home and abroad, the equal protection of the laws and the enjoyment of all the rights and privileges open to them under the covenants of our treaties, as their just due, should be made good to them. In the accomplishment of that result it is essential that a passport issued by the government of the United States to an American citizen shall be accepted the world over as proof of citizenship.

Civil Service.

The statute relating to civil service is the outcome of the efforts of thoughtful, unselfish and public spirited citizens. Operation under it has frequently been of such a character as to offend against the spirit of the statute, but the results achieved, even under a partial enforcement of the law, have been such as to both deserve and command the utterance of the Democratic party that it stands committed to the principle of civil service reform and demands its just and impartial enforcement.

Reclamation of Arid Lands.

A vast expanse of country in the west, portions of which are to be found in each of the 16 states and territories, mentioned in the law, is directly affected by the national statute—the outcome of intelligent and persistent efforts of leading citizens, providing for the reclamation of the arid lands for the benefit of home-seekers. During the years of the development of the measure which finally received the vote of every member of the upper house of congress, it encountered opposition, based to a large extent upon the view that the aim of its promoters was to secure the benefits of irrigation to private owners at government expense. The aim of the statute is, however, to enable this vast territory to reclaim its arid lands without calling upon the taxpayers of the country at large to pay for it. Whether the purpose of the bill will be fully accomplished must depend in large measure upon the ability, sobriety of judgment, independence and honesty of the officers of the interior department having this great work in charge.

In 1902 the main canals and ditches in the region affected aggregated more than 59,000 miles and the work of reclamation is but in its infancy. The total cost of construction of the necessary head-gates, dams, main canals, ditches, reservoirs and pumping stations was at that time a little over $93,000,000, which of itself suggests the hundreds of millions that may eventually be invested in the territory covered by the statute. The magnitude of the conception, and the enormous expense its carrying out involves, make us realize the overwhelming importance of a broad, capable and honest administration of the work authorized by the statute, if effect is to be given to that part of the plan that relieves the country at large from ultimate liability.

Panama Canal.

An isthmian canal has long been the hope of our statesmen, and the avowed aim of the two great parties, as their platforms in the past show. The Panama route having been selected, the building of the canal should be pressed to completion with all reasonable expedition.

The methods by which the executive acquired the Panama canal route and rights are a source of regret to many. To them, the statement that thereby a great public work was assured to the profit of our people is not a sufficient answer to the charge of violation of national good faith. They appreciate that the principles and healthy convictions which in their working out have made us free and great, stand firmly against the argument or suggestion that we shall be blind to the nature of the means employed to promote our welfare. They hold that adherence to principle, whether it works for our good or ill, will have a more beneficial influence on our future destiny than all our material upbuilding, and that we should ever remember that the idea of doing a wrong to a smaller, weaker nation than we, or even all mankind, may have a resultant good is repugnant to the principles upon which our government was founded.

Under the laws of the United States the duty is imposed on the executive to proceed with due diligence in the work of constructing the canal. That duty should be promptly performed.

American Shipping.

Our commerce in American bottoms amounts to but eight per cent of our total exports and imports. For 70 years prior to 1860, when the Republican party came into power, our merchant marine carried an average of 75 per cent of our foreign commerce. By 1877 it had dwindled to 37 per cent. Now we carry but a contemptibly small fraction of our exports and imports.

American shipping in the foreign trade was greater by over 100,000 tons in 1810—nearly a hundred years ago—than it was last year. In the face of the continuous decline in the record of American shipping during the last 43 years, the promise of the Republican party to restore it is without encouragement. The record of the Democratic party gives assurance that the task can be more wisely entrusted to it.

It is an arduous task to undo the effect of 40 years of decadence, and requires the study and investigation of those best fitted by experience to find the remedy—which surely does not lie in the granting of subsidies, wrung from the pockets of all the taxpayers.

Investigating Government Departments.

Recent disclosures, coupled with the rapid augmentation of government expenditures, show a need of an investigation of every department of the government. The Democrats in congress demanded it. The Republican majority refused the demand. The people can determine by their vote in November whether they wish an honest and thorough investigation. A Democratic congress and executive will assure it.

Army and Navy.

We are justly proud of the officers and men of our army and navy. Both, however, have suffered from the persistent injection of personal and political influence. Promotions and appointments have been frequently based on favoritism instead of merit. Trials and court-martials have been set aside under circumstances indicating political interference. These and other abuses should be corrected.

Pensions for Our Soldiers and Sailors.

The national Democracy favors liberal pensions to the surviving soldiers and sailors and their dependents, on the ground that they deserve liberal treatment. It pledges by its platform adequate legislation to that end. But it denies the right of the executive to usurp the power of congress to legislate on that subject. Such usurpation was attempted by pension order No. 78, and effect has been given to it by a congress that dared not resent the usurpation. It is said that "this order was made in the performance of a duty imposed upon the president by act of congress," but the provision making the imposition is not pointed out. The act to which the order refers, which is the one relating to pensions to civil war veterans, does not authorize pensions on the ground of age. It does grant pensions to those "suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities, of a permanent character, not the result of their own vicious habits, which so incapacitates them from the performance of manual labor as to render them unable to earn a support." This specified requirement of incapacity is in effect set aside by order No. 78 as to all persons over 62.

The civil war closed nearly 40 years ago. In the meantime many of our soldiers and sailors long survived the age of 62 and passed away without receiving any pension. Skillful pension attorneys, hunting through the statute, failed to find there a provision giving a pension to all who had reached 62. Many prominent veterans urged the justice of congressional action giving a service pension to all veterans. Bills to that effect were introduced in congress. And not until March of this year did any one ever claim to have made the discovery that the president had power to treat the statute as if it read that when a claimant had passed the age of 62 years he is necessarily disabled one-half in ability to perform manual labor, and therefore entitled to a pension.

The present pension commissioner indicated his view of the order when in a recent address he thanked the president for what he had done, and advised his hearers to use their influence that a law might be passed to the same effect. Full confidence, after all, seems not to have been placed on the defense of justification, for it is pleaded in mitigation that a former Democratic president did something looking in that direction. Even if that were so—which is not admitted—our present duty would be none the less plain and imperative. Our people must never tolerate the citation of one act of usurpation of power as an excuse for another. The first may possibly be due to a mistake; the second, being based on the first, cannot be. In explanation, however, it should be said that the order relied on simply provided that the age of 75 years should be regarded as evidence of inability to perform manual labor. Few men are able to perform manual labor at that age, but nearly all men are at 62. The first order is based on a fact that experience teaches, the other is based on the assertion of that which is not true as a general rule.

The old inquiry, "What are you going to do about it?" is now stated in a new form. It is said by the administration, in reply to the public criticism of this order, that "it is easy to test our opponents' sincerity in this matter. The order in question is revocable at the pleasure of the executive. If our opponents come into power they can revoke this order and announce that they will treat the veterans of 62 and 70 as presumably in full bodily vigor and not entitled to a pension. Will they authoritatively state that they intend to do this? If so, we accept the issue."

This suggests the suspicion, at least, that the order was made to create an issue—that it was supposed to present a strong strategic position in the battle of the ballots. But as the making of that order was, in my judgment, an attempted, though perhaps unwitting, encroachment upon the legislative power, and therefore unwarranted by the constitution, the challenge is accepted. If elected, I will revoke that order. But I go further and say that, that being done, I will contribute my effort toward the enactment of a law to be passed by both houses of congress and approved by the executive that will give an age pension without reference to disability to the surviving heroes of the civil war; and under the provisions of which a pension may be accepted with dignity because of the consciousness that it comes as a just due from the people through their chosen representatives, and not as largess distributed by the chief executive.

Foreign Relations.

The foreign relations of the government have in late years assumed special importance. Prior to the acquisition of the Philippines we were practically invulnerable against attacks by foreign states. Those tropical possessions, however, 7,000 miles from our shores, have changed all this and have in effect put us under bonds to keep the peace. The new conditions call for a management of foreign affairs the more circumspect in that the recent American invasion of foreign markets in all parts of the world has excited the serious apprehension of all the great industrial peoples. It is essential, therefore, more than ever, to adhere strictly to the traditional policy of the country as formulated by its first president—and never, in my judgment, wisely departed from—to invite friendly relations with all nations while avoiding entangling alliances with any. Such a policy means the cultivation of peace instead of the glorification of war, and the minding of our own business in lieu of spectacular intermeddling with the affairs of other nations. It means strict observance of the principles of international law and condemns the doctrine that a great state, by reason of its strength, may rightfully appropriate the sovereignty or territory of a small state on account of its weakness. It means for other American states that we claim no rights and will assume no functions save those of a friend and of an ally and defender as against European aggressions. It means that we repudiate the role of the American continental policeman; that we refuse to act as debt-collector for foreign states or their citizens; that we respect the independent sovereignty of each American state and its right to preserve order and otherwise regulate its own internal affairs in its own way; and that any intervention in its affairs by us is limited to the single office of enabling its people to work out their own political and national destiny for themselves, free from the coercion of any European state.

Reform in Governmental Expenditures.

Twenty-eight years have passed since the Democratic party of the state of New York, in convention assembled, recommended to the national Democracy the nomination of Samuel J. Tilden as its candidate for the presidency, and declared it to be "their settled conviction that a return to the constitutional principles, frugal expenses and administrative purity of the founders of the republic is the first and most imperious duty of the times—the commanding issue now before the people of the union." This strong expression was called forth by the national expenditures for the year 1878, which amounted to $274,000,000—a situation which, in the opinion of a majority of our people, justified an imperative demand for reform in the administration of public affairs. As the expenditures of the last fiscal year amounted to the enormous total of $582,000,000, it is evident that a thorough investigation of the public service and the immediate abandonment of useless and extravagant expenditures are more necessary now than they were then. This astounding increase is out of all proportion to the increase of our population, and finds no excuse from whatever aspect we view the situation. The national Democratic platform declares that "large reductions can easily be made in the annual expenditures of the government without impairing the efficiency of any branch of the public service." Can there be any doubt of the accuracy of this statement? Between the expenditures of the year 1886, amounting to $242,000,000, and those of the last fiscal year—the seventh after Grover Cleveland ceased to be president—aggregating $582,000,000, there is a difference so great as to excite alarm in the breasts of all thoughtful men. Even excluding the sum of $50,000,000 paid for the Panama canal rights and to the state of Panama, the expenditures of the last fiscal year exceeded the sum of $532,000,000, being more than double the expenditures of the government for all purposes during the first year of Mr. Cleveland's administration.

The expenses of the first four years succeeding the last Democratic administration amounted to the enormous average of $511,000,000 per year. This large expenditure was due to a considerable extent to the cost of the Spanish-American war, which occurred during that period; but the termination of that war brought no relief to the treasury, for the average annual expenses of the government, during the three subsequent years ending June 30, 1904, were about $519,000,000, which is the largest sum hitherto reached, during a like period, since the close of the civil war.

This draft upon the revenue of the country has had the effect which might have been anticipated, and now we have presented the reverse of the situation, which led to the famous observation, "It is a condition, and not a thory, which confronts us;" for, although the present incumbent found at the close of the first fiscal year, during which he assumed control of the administration, a surplus of receipts over expenditures of more than $91,000,000, there was an excess of expenditures over receipts at the close of the last fiscal year of $42,000,000, and the official monthly reports made by the treasury department show that the expenditures are continuously and rapidly increasing, while the receipts are diminishing.

In this connection it is interesting to note the recent administrative orders forbidding government officers from making public any statement of estimates on which future appropriations are to be based.

If a man of ordinary intelligence and prudence should find in the operating expenses of his business such a tremendous percentage of increase, would he not promptly set on foot an inquiry for the cause of the waste, and take immediate measures to stop it, specially when trusted employes have been found dishonest and convicted, and a widespread impression exists that a thorough investigation may discover other cases of malfeasance? When the chief executive reported to congress that, "through frauds, forgeries and perjuries, and by shameless briberies the laws relating to the proper conduct of the public service in general, and to the due administration of the postoffice department have been notoriously violated . . . ," there was a general popular demand for a rigid, sweeping investigation by congress, in addition to that undertaken by the executive himself. Such an investigation the Republican majority in congress would not permit, although the minority insisted that the interests of good government demanded it. And the minority was right. The liberality, patriotism and national pride of the people should not be made an excuse for waste of the public funds. Official extravagance is official crime.

There is not a sentence in the Republican platform recommending a reduction in the expenditures of the government; not a line suggesting that the increase in the cost of the war department from $34,000,000 in 1898 to $115,000,000 in 1904, should be inquired into; and not a paragraph calling for a thorough investigation of those departments of the government in which dishonesty has been recently disclosed.

The people, however, can by their votes, if they desire it, order such an investigation and inaugurate a policy of economy and retrenchment. It is safe to say that this will not be accomplished by endorsing at the polls the Republican majority of the house of representatives which refused the investigation and made the appropriations, nor by continuing in power the administration, which made the disbursements.

Reform in expenditures must be had in both the civil, military and naval establishments in order that the national expenditures may be brought to a basis of peace and the government maintained without recourse to the taxes of war.

Conclusion.

I have put aside a congenial work, to which I had expected to devote my life, in order to assume, as best I can, the responsibilities your convention put upon me.

I solicit the cordial co-operation and generous assistance of every man who believes that a change of measures and of men at this time would be wise, and urge harmony of endeavor as well as vigorous action on the part of all so minded.

The issues are joined and the people must render the verdict.

Shall economy of administration be demanded or shall extravagance be encouraged?

Shall the wrongdoer be brought to bay by the people, or must justice wait upon political oligarchy?

Shall our government stand for equal opportunity or for special privilege?

Shall it remain a government of law or become one of individual caprice?

Shall we cling to the rule of the people, or shall we embrace beneficent despotism?

With calmness and confidence, we await the people's verdict.

If called to the office of president, I shall consider myself the chief magistrate of all the people and not of any faction, and shall ever be mindful of the fact that on many questions of national policy there are honest differences of opinion. I believe in the patriotism, good sense and absolute sincerity of all the people. I shall strive to remember that he may serve his party best who serves his country best.

If it be the wish of the people that I undertake the duties of the presidency, I pledge myself, with God's help, to devote all my powers and energy to the duties of this exalted office. Very truly yours. ALTON B. PARKER.

More Blows.

Disturbances of strikers are not nearly as grave as an individual disorder of the system. Overwork, loss of sleep, nervous tension will be followed by utter collapse, unless a reliable remedy is immediately employed. There's nothing so efficient to cure disorders of the liver or kidneys as Electric Bitters. It's a wonderful tonic, and effective nervine and the greatest all around medicine for run down systems. It dispels nervousness, rheumatism and neuralgia and expels malaria germs. Only 50c and satisfaction guaranteed by Red Cross Pharmacy, corner Sixth and Oak, on the way to the postoffice.

STILL THE QUESTION IS: "WHAT DID THE WOGGLE-BUG SAY?"

The Wogglebug, wise man of the party, undertakes to answer all questions for his comrades from Oz. He has to answer one each week. His answer is not printed. The reader is left to discover it. The pictures and descriptive matter make this comparatively easy to the active mind. Both the pictures and the story are guided to the solution of the problem, and the question admits of but one correct answer. The puzzle requires only ordinary skill and knowledge of facts included in history, biography, botany and natural history, or an acquaintance with places, buildings or emblems about which information is easily obtainable. It is not a guessing contest, but a trial of skill.

To stimulate interest in the visit of the people from the Land of Oz, The Journal will give $50.00 in cash each month to those of its readers who send in correct or nearly correct answers to the questions put to the Wogglebug by his companions.

Sept. 26. Use this Coupon Only. **No. 23**

To the WOGGLEBUG EDITOR:

THE SUNDAY JOURNAL, PORTLAND, OREGON.

The answer to the question asked of the Wogglebug in the Magazine Section of the paper of SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, is—

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Name,.....

Street and Number.....

Town or City.....

State.....

No employe of The Journal or member of an employe's family is allowed to enter the contest.

FILL OUT THE ABOVE COUPON. Also the coupon to be found each day in The Journal until Friday, September 30. This gives you six chances to answer the question suggested in Sunday's page. Each Sunday a fresh question is asked. This question is to be answered on the coupon printed on that day and on each of the six week days following, except that in the week beginning September 25 only the coupons up to and including September 30 will be counted in that week's answers. SAVE YOUR COUPONS, and on the last day of the month send them all to THE WOGGLEBUG EDITOR, The Journal, Portland. This will end the contest for September, and the prizes will be awarded very early in the month of October.

October 1 will begin a new contest for the month and another $50 will be awarded to the prize winners, according to the schedule given below. Save your coupon of next Saturday, October 1, and use it in answering the question in the Sunday issue of October 2. That will give you eight chances that week.

FIFTY DOLLARS IN CASH PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

1. For the greatest number of correct answers, $10.00	$10.00
2. For the next largest number of correct answers, $5.00	5.00
3. For the third largest number of correct answers, $2.50	2.50
4. For the fourth largest number of correct answers, $2.00	2.00
5. For the ten next largest numbers of correct answers, $1.50 each	15.00
6. For the ten next largest numbers of correct answers, $1.00 each	10.00
7. For the eleven next largest numbers of correct answers, 50c. each	5.50
	$50.00

RULES OF THE CONTEST.

The largest number of correct answers wins.

All coupons for any one month will be consecutively numbered, and must be placed in one envelope and arranged in order of their publication.

Only one coupon of the same date can be placed in the same envelope of answers for the month.

If more than one individual should have every coupon correctly marked and properly arranged, the first prize would be divided between the winners. Other prizes will be similarly divided in case any number of contestants have the same number of answers that are equally correct, but not absolutely so.

Contestants need not write the same answer on all coupons issued for any one week. A different answer can be written for each day; but if you are sure you are right, you will, of course, write the same answer on all coupons issued for any one Sunday. Remember, the largest number of correct answers wins.

All coupons for any one month must be placed in the same envelope and be in the office of The Journal by 10:00 a. m. of the 3d day of the following month.

MITCHELL'S CORN PALACE.

(Journal Special Service.)

Mitchell, S. D., Sept. 26.—The great quantities of corn, wheat and other crops raised in South Dakota this year are illustrated by the elaborate exhibits at the sixth annual corn palace exposition which opened today and will continue until October 1. The exposition has been enlarged since last year and all departments are well filled. Notwithstanding the wheat rust, South Dakota has raised an immense crop this year as is shown in the county exhibits, which form one of the leading features of the exposition.

World's Fair Excursions.

On October 3, 4 and 5 and 27, 28 and 29 the Canadian Pacific will again place on sale special round trip tickets to St. Louis, Chicago and eastern points at very low rates. Tickets will be good for stopovers.

This will be the last opportunity to secure World's Fair tickets at special rates.

Early reservations should be made.

Cheap excursion tickets from eastern points to Portland are now on sale. For full particulars, call on or address F. R. Johnson, F. and P. A., 142 Third street, Portland, Or.

And There Are Others.

From the Chicago News.

Oldbach—I tell you, sir, the women are going to rule this country after awhile.

Enpeck — After awhile? Why, I thought they ruled it now.

Y.M.C.A. Night School

60 Different Classes
25 Teachers

Fall Term Opens Monday, September 26

Subject—	Fee 3 Mos.
Algebra	$ 2.00
Architectural Drawing	3.00
Arithmetic	1.50
Bookkeepink	3.00
Carpentry	3.00
Chemistry	5.00
Civil Service Classes	$4mo.
Commercial Law	1.50
Electricity	2.00
Elocution	5.00
Engineering Mathematics	2.00
English Grammar	1.50
Free Hand Drawing	5.00
Geography	1.50
Geometry	2.00
German	3.00
Interior Decoration	5.00
Machine Design	2.00
Mandolin, Guitar	2.00
Manual Training	3.00
Mechanical Drawing	3.00
Pattern Making	3.00
Penmanship	1.50
Physics	5.00
Plumbing	5.00
Public Speaking	5.00
Reading and Spelling	1.50
Rhetoric	2.00
Sign Writing	3.00
Shorthand	3.00
Spanish	3.00
Steam Engineering	10.00
Telegraphy	12.00
Trigonometry	2.00
Typewriting	3.00
Vocal Music	1.50
Wood Carving	4.00

Association Membership gives use of Gymnasium, Library, Swimming Pool, Handball Court, Parlors, Baths, Games.

CALL OR SEND FOR FREE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.

Cor. Fourth and Yamhill Streets

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

has been used by Millions of Mothers for their children while Teething for over Fifty Years. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS A BOTTLE.

FREE LAND IN OREGON

In the richest grain, fruit and stock section in the world. Thousands of acres of land at actual cost of irrigation. Deed direct from State of Oregon. WRITE TO-DAY. BOOKLET and MAP FREE. Deschutes Irrigation and Power Company, 510-11-12 McKay Building, Portland, Oregon.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher