

EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

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Mr. Bryan's second candidacy also impossible of success.

In 1908 there is a reversal of conditions. Mr. Taft has many handicaps. His personality is one. His candidate for the vice-presidency is another. His use of the injunction as a federal judge in Ohio, and its inevitable alienation of a large block of the labor vote, is another and a formidable one. His part in the extraordinary dismissal of the Brownsville soldiers, innocent as well as guilty, and the loss of a section of the colored vote that it will entail, is another. Another, and a greater one than all these is the known fact that Mr. Taft was nominated by patronage, and not by the free choice of his party. It is not the fault of Mr. Taft that he was so nominated, and he is doubtless presidential size, but voters universally resent interference with their rights, and this unusual method of his nomination will weigh against Mr. Taft in his candidacy. Greatest, however, of all the embarrassments with which he must contend, is the hard fact of the 1907 panic. This country has never, following a panic, elected to the presidency the candidate of the party in whose administration the depression occurred. If it does so next November, it will reverse the past.

On the other hand, Mr. Bryan has advantages he never had before. If the utterances of La Follette and of Roosevelt may be trusted, his platform is excellent. The incorporation of many of Mr. Bryan's policies as slogans of the Roosevelt administration, and the unqualified endorsement accorded them by the American people outside of Wall street, constitutes a vindication of Mr. Bryan beyond that ever received by any private citizen in this country. Nor has he to contend against the glamor of war and returning peace as in 1900. Nor has he a panic on his trail as in 1896. It is Mr. Taft that must carry a panic.

Mr. Bryan has his handicaps, notably the antagonism of the favor-seeking interests, and it is a mighty one. He may not be elected, yet those who desire him defeated, must recognize that his cause is not the forlorn hope of former years.

HEARST AGAINST BRYAN.

MR. HEARST'S independent party may cut some little figure in New York, but is not likely to poll any considerable number of votes in the middle west, where Mr. Bryan must win if he can win at all. Unless he can carry Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, or most of them, he has little chance of success, and there is no predicting the extent of the revolt in those states, and in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota, against high protection and the reign of the trusts. However worthy Mr. Hearst's motives may be, he must expect to be generally regarded as a malicious wrecker, merely to gratify his personal whims. Of course he has a perfect right to oppose Bryan as well as Taft, but the only possible result is to help Taft and hurt Bryan, and nearly everybody will conclude that this is the very purpose of the independent movement. This of itself will defeat any design Mr. Hearst may have of making his party a greatly growing one during the next four years. Men are not going to flock to the standard of a leader whose chief efforts and purpose seem to have been to defeat the very men and measures that give them promise of relief, justice, and needed reforms. Mr. Hearst may possibly get enough votes for his candidate to turn the scale against Bryan, but if so he will look for any popular movement in his direction in vain.

HIGHER FREIGHT RATES.

PRESIDENT RIPLEY of the Santa Fe railroad says that as it will be impossible to reduce wages, freight rates will have to be raised. Reduction of wages would cause a great and prolonged strike, but perhaps raising freight rates will cause a strike among the people who pay the freight. At least they will demand to know why increased freight rates are necessary. They will have to be shown. If Mr. Ripley and his fellow railroad presidents have facts and figures showing a real justification for such a raise, the people will submit, but they are indisposed to believe everything these gentlemen tell them any more.

Well, what are they going to do about it? Why establish rates themselves, the best they can, tax gross incomes, or perhaps bring about government ownership. There is a growing feeling among the people that important and desirable as railroads are, it would not be wise for half a dozen railroad magnates to be absolute masters and dictators of the transportation business of this country.

Let them publish all the facts and figures, real, true ones, being perfectly honest about it, and taking the public fully into their confidence, and then, if higher rates are necessary, the people will not object. But they must be shown, they must not be kept blindfolded, they must have the truth; for this is their business.

Reports are already being made of various "Democrats" or "former Democrats" who are coming out for Taft. There will be many such, no doubt. It is a free country in which traitors once a Democrat and not

be one. There may also be some Republicans or former Republicans who will conclude to support Bryan. It would not be strange if there were a good many such.

WHY SALT THE WOUND?

FOR narrowness of soul, perversity of purpose, obliquity of thought and downright poverty of human sympathy, commend us to this quotation from the Oregonian:

"But this (the Cleveland resolution in the Denver convention) was not remarkable at all, not in the least degree of a nature to produce amusement or excite guffaw, compared with the special resolution on Abraham Lincoln."

Why should not the Denver convention have paid a tribute to Lincoln? Is the war not yet over? Is it a lie that the Blue and the Gray marched up San Juan hill together? Is the tragedy of 1861 with its red valleys of blood and cities of grave-stones, brought on by passions of men and the accumulated heresy of centuries, a heresy contributed to by all men and all parties—Is all this a gaping wound that must be probed and dug in lest it close and we forget? Which is the nobler, the Denver delegates reaching across this chasm of 40-odd years to place a wreath of flowers on the tomb of Lincoln, or this carping miserly production with its whine because the dead statesman has received a meed of praise from an unexpected source?

Is party a thing that must absolutely see no good in the men or measures of another party? Is it a crime, or an incident to "excite guffaw" for a man or all the men in one party to acknowledge that a man, living or dead, in another party is worthy of applause? Must justice between man and man, must human sympathy, must all the thought of a square deal for men of another party be stifled when the portals of the opposing party are entered. Does manhood and magnanimity end where party begins? Where is the authority for this unbending, this narrow, this peevish, this tragical party creed, save in the hand that challenges the right of a Democrat, because a Democrat, to speak kindly of the name of Lincoln? Was Lincoln, and is Lincoln, a political party's dead, or is he the nation's dead?

From where, more than from those delegates from the sunny south, should there come benisons upon the memory of Lincoln? It was the gentle, forgiving Lincoln that offered to take the seceded states back into the union whenever 10 per cent of their people would organize a state government and ask admission. If he had lived, the stricken south would have been spared the hard grueling terms of reconstruction forced upon her brave people by congress. In those last days the south and all the country got a glimpse of a heart that it had never seen before, a heart that in the hour of triumph and power was gentle, forbearing, magnanimous in its terms for recementing the union. It was a heart out of tune with congress, which attempted to impeach Andrew Johnson, mainly because he sought for the south the magnanimous terms Lincoln had proposed. Why should not the southern delegates at Denver, and all the delegates there have rolled back 40 years of time to lay a wreath on a martyr's grave. Shall all men cease to be magnanimous, because a few are prone to possess the instincts of swine?

COLONEL ROESSLER'S WORK.

COLONEL ROESSLER has finished up his work in this region, and will depart for a new field. Under his administration much has been accomplished, and he leaves the affairs of which he had charge in a very encouraging condition. His report, published in The Journal, gives his estimates for the amounts needed for river improvements in this district during the next year, and they will probably in most cases be allowed. Another year, barring strikes and casualties, should see the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia completed, the channel deepened by several feet, a good start made on the Celilo canal, and considerable other river and harbor improvements made; yet it will be necessary to keep pressing these matters upon congress, and also the case of the Oregon City locks, in behalf of which Mr. Hawley should have somewhat of a pull' by next year. Colonel Roessler has been here a good while, and understands our needs and our deserts well, and has labored faithfully for our interests as well as those of the government and the country at large, and will leave behind him a host of friends. A few years hence the work that has been carried on under his direction, and that will be carried on under that of his successor, will show immense and splendid results.

It is sometimes said that it is the truth that hurts, and possibly L. M. Davis is relying upon this to sustain his assertion of having suffered so severely on account of a recent editorial in The Journal.

If Mr. Bryan ever gets one term as president he will not accept a renomination, a renomination scarcely wise for a man to make, in view of

the fact that the term is only four years. If it were six or seven, one term should be the limit. The underlying reason for Bryan's resolution, however, is sound.

Small Change

Let us not begin listing the doubtful states till after harvest.

As between Peary and the Poles, the odds are long in favor of the Pole.

While Diaz lives Mexican revolutions will be short lived and unsuccessful.

Some to the harvest fields, some to the sea shore. Thus runs the world away.

The new charter should provide some way for getting detectives off as well as on the payroll.

It would not take much space or cost much to publish a list of the trusts that have been busted.

Tom Watson says Bryan isn't a Democrat. That he doesn't altogether agree with Tom Watson.

"Murder will out every time," says an exchange at St. James. It was not old saying is that it isn't so.

Bryan shows all visitors through his house. That a housecleaning job Mrs. Bryan will have to do next fall.

At last the Democrats are to be credited with not putting a fossilized monkey on the ticket for vice-president this time.

The attorney-general has decided that trout are not legally "food" fish. But they taste very good when one is hungry, and answer very well for food, all day long.

Senator Platt of New York doesn't think the State of No. 1. It was not to be expected that he would. He believes in politicians "working" the people, not serving them.

The East Oregonian says "The Republicans of Oregon shall bitterly resent the removal of Chairman Calkins from the committee. It is highly probable that the committee will be reconstituted, and it is at least at least part of them."

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer heavily criticized Bryan. Yet it approves Roosevelt and the two are much the same. Of the two, Bryan seems rather more consistent than Roosevelt.

Since the Democrats twice elected John Johnson governor of Minnesota, the Republicans have elected only one, Jacob Jacobson. But Jacobson and Johnson are not nearly as numerous as Yons and Tonsons.

Bryan prefers his home at Fairview, with its alfalfa, garden truck, blooded heifers, fruit, chickens and fresh eggs, and other home comforts, to a sea shore resort, at a resting place, which is another evidence of his good sense.

But Senator Fulton cannot know that Taft could not be elected by a respectable majority if Mr. Calkins remained chairman. In fact, the vote for and against Taft would be about the same, whether Calkins remained or not. It is not the real point of consideration; it's "the offices."

Every day many innocent bystanders have to wait a while at First and Alder streets, and they ought not to be compelled while doing so to listen to the continuous ear-piercing, nerve-racking and brain-splitting, nerve-racking whistles of the several power-cars there. This whistle is a nuisance, and we believe an unlawful one, anywhere in town, but it is especially annoying where so many people are obliged to linger for several minutes. And the noise is not worth a nickel a year to the peanut vendors.

Oregon Sidelights

The Brownsville Woolen mill is fully in operation again.

A Eugene man picked 430 pounds of cherries in one day.

Forest Grove is to have a glove factory and a cigar factory.

A bear ate up a calf on a farm only three miles from Junction City.

Several farmers around Echo are going to experiment with thornless cactuses.

A man recently bought a piece of land near Freewater for \$1,000 and has sold it for \$800.

John Sutherland of Gold Hill was 80 years old on July 4, and has gone on a deer-hunting trip.

A Wallawa man sold about 500 gallons of strawberries last year, and nearly as much this year, off of one-third of an acre of fruit.

Yamhill county claims to have the largest fruit evaporator on the Pacific coast, and the largest one in the world is said to be in Benton county.

One thousand gallons of "bear beer" were made during the recent celebration in that city, and nobody got drunk.

Washington county is the richest in the state. Dairy Commissioner Bailey and has been made so by the growth of the dairy industry.

The loganberry industry has come to stay, and will always be a profitable one. Farmers claim they can realize 40 cents per pound net, by drying the berries, says the Salem Statesman.

Cottage Grove man retired for the night, leaving his trousers at the head of the bed close to the window, and while in peaceful slumber, someone raised the window curtain, and he reached in and secured his pocketbook, abstracted the money and replaced the pocketbook and garment.

For the first time in history, according to a Coos bay paper, two torpedoes in the breakers, a small steamer, a bay last week and took aboard a supply of coal for a trial on their 1200-horse power engines. The coal had been sold at \$4 per ton, while what they had been using cost \$10.

A Kansas man who with one or two others has been out to Lane county several times on visits has concluded to come to stay, says The Register.

Last week a terrific hailstorm came and cut every vestige of a crop he had close to the ground and now he is packing up and will come at once.

Echo Register: A town from which are shipped in a year 7,111 head of cattle in the breakers. Grand Deers has been raised over Mr. Homesecker. We raised 100,000 bushels of wheat and 60,000 tons of alfalfa around Echo last year. This is going some, but with 50,000 acres of irrigated lands coming to the produce market the above figures are not a small thing.

Better stop off, Mr. Homesecker, and take two looks.

THE WEST IS STRONG AND SOLID

From the New York Evening Post

The ending of the first complete half year since the panic of 1907 gives natural occasion for review and comparison. Before resumption of payments by the Federal government on June 1, 1908, the country was in a state of depression. The panic of 1907 had ranged 15 to 20 per cent below last year. In January, railway-gross earnings fell 10 per cent below last year; the figures for May showed 24 per cent shrinkage, and June returns have averaged 20 per cent under 1907.

Iron production in this country on January 1 was 46 per cent of the same date in 1907. In February and March the figures for May showed 24 per cent shrinkage, and June returns have averaged 20 per cent under 1907.

Commercial failures in the six past months were in number the largest of any corresponding period in the history, excepting only 1896, in liabilities they have never been equaled, and are double those of a decade.

There was an undoubted revival in general business, though not of a very sanguine nature, in February and again at the opening of June; but in each case, signs of activity died away within a fortnight. In other words, actual figures indicate only slight recovery from protracted stagnation.

Our merchandise import trade, in the five months for which complete reports are available, has decreased \$210,000,000 from 1907. In the same months of 1908, the decrease from the previous year was \$104,000,000, and where our export trade for the same period, 14 years ago, ran about \$1,000,000,000, the exports for 1908 there has been a decrease of \$40,000,000. The ratio of decrease in treasury revenue has been greater than in either 1894 or 1874.

These are the cold facts of the situation. Taken by themselves, they reflect the most serious results and serious half years of trade depression in our history. Yet the financial markets have virtually ignored them, and the country does so, clearly enough, because they believed them to be only temporary.

What is the basis of this confidence? The business men would give the question up; most will, however, answer that, whatever has happened to the east, the west has not been touched. It is now the tritest of arguments in explaining the situation; yet it is the one that has done most to sustain the victims of the financial community are really anchored.

Perhaps it will be asked why depression in trade stagnation should have continued as they have, with this countervailing fact of a prosperous inland market. The answer is, that the situation there can hardly be any answer except the admission that the financial panic has been so general, and so deep, that it has reached the west, and that, but for the wealth and soundness of the interior communities, they should have had to face a recession similar to that which has befallen the east since 1894 and 1874 would have been a trifle.

But in one thing the first half of 1908 has not resembled the first half of 1874. The conditions of the west are not the same. Speaking of these past six months has been the atmosphere of hope, and of confidence in the future, which has prevailed ever since we emerged from actual panic. An unsympathetic student of the situation would, however, rather likely to say that the favorable evidence in trade and industry did not warrant the feeling. Exchange of checks

at the country's clearing houses, at the beginning of January, were running 30 per cent short of 1907, and that was before resumption of payments by the Federal government on June 1, 1908. At the end of June they still ranged 15 to 20 per cent below last year. In January, railway-gross earnings fell 10 per cent below last year; the figures for May showed 24 per cent shrinkage, and June returns have averaged 20 per cent under 1907.

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Roosevelt and Bryan

From the Medford Tribune.

There is much besides a superficial similarity between Roosevelt and Bryan. Both are sincere, honest and courageous. Both are fighting a common enemy in behalf of the common people. But Roosevelt is fighting more blindly than Bryan. He sees the real evil and does not seem to fully comprehend the underlying cause of the national trouble. He is fighting for the interest, and consequent corruption of national, state and municipal government to secure this special legislation. He is fighting for the special interest at the expense of the many.

That Roosevelt realizes in a vague way the nature of the national trouble, is shown by his warfare upon Wall street, the source of national corruption, and the source of the national trouble. He is fighting for the interest, and consequent corruption of national, state and municipal government to secure this special legislation. He is fighting for the special interest at the expense of the many.

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