EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

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Whatever may happen to thee, it was prepared for thee from all eternity; and the implication of causes was from eternity spinning the thread of thy being, and of that which is incident to it.—Marcus Aurelius.

A RELIEF FOR THE INLAND EMPIRE.

COMPARATIVELY speaking, there is not a waste acre of land in Oregon. The statement is strange to some people, but it is true. They have been wont to look upon the arid districts of eastern Oregon as a desert and to class all the lands in that region as waste. There are, however, immense areas of these so-called desert lands on which the fattest of cattle and the thriftiest of sheep are found. The presence of the live-stock in its wallowing fatness is proof of the powers of the soil. It is true that some of these districts are waterless and that the sinking of wells is an essential to their use for grazing. It is true that great herds of sheep and cattle have been pastured on them until the grass in many districts is almost killed, and that the scene is one of unthrift and unpromise. It is true that a condition of grass exhaustion is on, but it is the fault of those in authority, and that is the point in this article.

Why does not the federal government lease these lands to individuals, as it leases pasture rights in the forest reserves? Sixteen million acres of these ranges are owned by the federal government and one tenth as much by the state by Oregon. Great herds of nomad cattle and sheep, some owned out of the state, some in it, are grazed on these lands, and with never a care or thought for the conservation of the grass. Sheep that ought to be left on them for not more than two or three days, and then be removed to other sections, are kept on the lands for weeks, or until the last vestige of grass is eaten away. It is a process that is gradually eating the heart out of the country, and what gives it an ugly phase is, that it is to nomad cattle and sheep kings, here today and out of Oregon tomorrow, that the usufruct goes.

There is no reason why leases of these districts to medium or small stockmen should not be made. If a lease of four or five years were given, the lessee would become interested in protecting the grass supply. He could afford to sink wells and build stock fences. He would become a thrifty citizen, one less to live in the congested cities, one more to build an empire beyond the Cascades. The fees collected for rents could be applied to building roads through the region, the only way in which highways apparently will ever become possible. For destruction there would be substituted an era of construction in settlement and development. The great ravaging herds of sheep like those of Lux and Miller of California, drawing sustenance from Oregon and taking it to California without giving anything in return, would be crowded out, and settlements of thrifty Oregonians, paying taxes, building schools, and making an empire would be substituted. A new mine for the supply of raw material for the coming packing-house industry in Oregon would be opened. The principle for the lease of these lands is confessed, the operation would be a source of great and lasting benefit to all Oregon. What do members of the Oregon delegation in congress, and the members of the Oregon legislature think about it?

Mr. Hearst contrasts the action of President Roosevelt in "shaking" Foraker immediately on the publication of the Archbold correspondence with that of Mr. Bryan in refusing to jump on Haskell as soon as he was attacked. But the cases were different. The Foraker-Archbold correspondence was admitted to be genuine, while the accusations against Haskell were not nor for that matter have not yet been proven. Besides, the president knew substantially all about Foraker over a year ago, and yet said nothing, and desired his support for Taft.

MR. TAFT ON PUBLICITY.

MR. TAFT attempts to defend his and the president's position that publication of campaign contributions should be made after and not before election, but the defense is weak. He argues that there is no need of publicity before election, and that publicity after election is enough. To quote his exact language, as reported:

"The proper object of a publicity law is to prevent the use of money for bribery and other improper purposes in elections and to enable the law officers of the government and the public to determine whether the contributions made were properly expended for legitimate purposes. The requirements that the names and amounts of the persons contributing should also be shown is for the purpose of enabling the public and prosecuting officers of the government to judge whether subsequent official action has been improperly affected in favor of contributors by the successful candidate."

But how can publicity after election "prevent the use of money for bribery, etc., in elections?" Evidently Mr. Taft means, by subsequent judicial investigation, and punishment of the offenders. That might tend to prevent bribery, etc., in the next election, but could not "prevent" it in the election then past.

But the object of publicity is far more than Mr. Taft supposes, or admits; it is to let voters know who and what are supporting certain candidates, so that they can form their own conclusions as to whether this or the other candidate will be beholden to such and such persons, corporations, trusts and interests. If the people were to know by October 15 that the Standard Oil, the Steel trust, the Powder trust and other trusts, had contributed $5,000,000 to help elect Mr. Taft, many voters would conclude that they would on that account vote against him, fearing that he would in office be under too great obligation to those trusts. But to publish these contributions after election would give the people no such chance to act in opposition to the contributing trusts. This in fact is the principal object of publicity—not that the courts should make out cases against bribers—we all know that this would amount to little, would wear out in the interminable judicial mill—but so that the people may know, at the time, just who is supporting either candidate with large contributions.

Publicity of expenditures is desirable too, but not, as Mr. Taft says, so important, or at least not so practicable. The large campaign contributions are all made a considerable time before the election, and can be announced at once. The expenditures continue until the eve of election and even afterwards, and could not be published in full till afterward.

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that Mr. Taft is not quite sincere in his argument on this question. It sounds like the labored attempt of a lawyer who has a manifestly bad case. Mr. Bryan has taken the right position on this question. Publish all the big contributions, not after but at least two weeks before the election, "so that the people may know."

AS TO WORKINGMEN.

THE movement announced from Minneapolis for the uniting of all workingmen for Bryan, whether union or non-union, will interest labor everywhere. The movement is promoted by the Minnesota state federation of labor, and is said to be at the instance of Gompers who will push it in all states.

Irrespective of its effect on the campaign, the outcome will be a matter of much gravity. If workingmen do not unite now for their own common defense, it is doubtful if they ever will. They have the votes and could carry measures of importance to themselves if they would move to concentrate their forces. Their mistake is that they listen to the siren song of partisanship, and the false representations of partisan spellbinders who at other than campaign time, care no more for a workingman than for a cannibal. It is a mistake that "the interests," those who oppress labor, never make. They vote solidly. They find out which candidate best suits their purposes and mass their forces and spend their millions in his support. The usual effect is to give them victory in spite of the fact that the workingmen have the votes and could, if united, easily have their way at the polls.

In the present election, labor has the chance to overthrow government by injunction. The issue is clearly and distinctly presented to them for decision. They went to the Chicago convention and asked for an anti-injunction plank, but the plank was promptly rejected. They went to the Denver convention, and there secured adoption of the plank prepared by labor leaders. Repudiation of them and their plank by one convention, and acceptance by the other presents the issue so sharply that there is no chance of error. It is a paramount issue to labor, for the injunction has prevented concerted action by workingmen, has brought back and destroyed the effectiveness of many a peaceful strike, and above and beyond all, has sent many a laboring man to jail without a trial by jury. If workingmen want the injunction continued, they should vote for Taft, Mr. Debs, Mr. Hisgen or other of the minor candidates. A vote for Debs or Hisgen, who cannot win, is, so far as the injunction is concerned, a vote straight for Mr. Taft. If they wish to strike a blow at the injunction, a vote for Bryan will do it. If they elect Bryan, no other national convention will turn down an anti-injunction plank, as was done at Chicago. Such is the situation, exactly as it is, and labor, union or non-union, can take its choice.

ELECTRIC RAILROADS.

THE newly completed electric railroad to Hillsboro is important in itself, but more important in what it suggests and signifies of similar development of which this is but a beginning, or an early appearing fraction. This road will rapidly add to the population, production and wealth of the strip of country which it traverses, and this will be an incentive to the building of other similar roads. Some of them are already projected and will be built without waiting for this result, for such a result is not to be doubted.

From the beginning of its existence The Journal has urged, encouraged and predicted the building of electric lines of railroad in the Willamette valley, and already they are appearing. We have the road to Salem, the road to Hillsboro, soon to be extended to Forest Grove, and others will soon be built. Salem should get busy helping the proposed line to Stayton, Albany boosting the line to Brownsville, and other towns should follow their example.

Mr. Harriman is going to do a good deal of building in Oregon, no doubt; he can hold off no longer—through Central Oregon, to Tillamook, to Coos Bay. St. Paul railroad officials are looking over the Oregon field with a view to its large exploitation. Mr. Hill has extensive plans for the invasion of Oregon. These railroads are needed; they will give Oregon a great boost forward during the next few years; but besides them a network of electric lines is needed, too, connecting all towns of importance and running through all communities capable of large and diversified production.

Then get good wagon roads also; subdivide the large farms; practice intensive farming; care well for the soil and make it yield its best without exhausting it, and Oregon will rapidly double and treble its population, and begin to become the truly great state for which nature designed it.

WHICH IS THE CONCILIATOR?

NEVER had any man in quiet times a more difficult role than W. J. Bryan has assumed. He is on a hunt for votes. He is extremely anxious to conciliate all classes and conditions and groups of voters.—Oregonian.

Even were Bryan anxious to conciliate, what? What about Taft? Is not Taft insisting that he is Roosevelt, and Roosevelt Taft, while Jim Sherman, Joe Cannon's henchman and tool, is rounding up Wall street? Is not the Roosevelt flag waving from the foremast, and Taft and Roosevelt making signals from the bridge, while, as Henry Watterson says, under the gunwales, crouched in concealment but ready to spring, are all the pirates of finance and all the grafters of high protection from Harriman to Cannon, from Rockefeller to Aldrich, from Du Pont to Foraker. Does not Taft say some duties ought to be lowered and others raised, and what is that but a play to hold the trusts on the one hand and the western farmers on the other? Did not Taft tell Nebraska workingmen that he is labor's own and only friend, while in the east he has made the hit of his life with the trusts, by sending workingmen to jail without trial by jury? Is not Mr. Taft's platform of, for and by "the interests," while he insists out here in the west that he is against "the interests"? Was such hocus pocus, dodging and side stepping by a candidate ever seen in this country before and will it ever be seen again? Who is the conciliator?

A large number of voters need to register in order to vote at the November election. All who failed to register last spring must register now if they would vote for president. Immigrants who will have been in the state six months prior to November 3 should register. Voters who since last spring have changed their residence should have the change made on the register. The books are now open at the county clerk's office. Everybody entitled to vote should vote for president.

The president has called too many men liars and rascals, sometimes mistakenly, to be implicitly and unquestioningly believed whenever he so attacks a person. There needs to be at least a little corroboration. The president no doubt thinks at the time that he is right, but he has "gone off half-cocked" in this way so many times that it would be unfair to take it for granted that he is not mistaken.

Small Change

Just a month from today.

* *

Get your shoes shined this evening.

* *

Mr. Bryan is quite bald; he has been married 24 years.

* *

We either need more Sunday law or less—probably less.

* *

You can't vote even for Tom Watson unless you are registered.

* *

O, well, the soda water and ice cream season is about over anyway.

* *

There is objection to the "barrel" in a campaign being an oil barrel.

* *

And in his self-praise the president overlooked his great spelling reform stunt.

* *

Mr. Taft says he is sure of election. That's right, old man; keep your courage up.

* *

It is doubtful now whether Roosevelt, if running, could get as many votes as Taft will.

* *

The New York Sun asks: Does money transmit disease? It certainly has corrupted a good many politicians.

* *

If Bryan should be elected, what a rip-roaring, buzz-saw, annual message from the president congress may expect.

* *

Badness in woman concealed or cloaked is as bad as badness openly displayed, so far as the individual is concerned.

* *

Up to date Mr. Cortelyou has never returned that $260,000 corruption fund raised at the president's request from the criminal trusts four years ago.

* *

A prominent Chinese editor named Li Sum Ling is visiting this country. He will be fraternally received; there are Lie Some editors in this country, too.

* *

Oregon is safe now—for Taft—says the Salem Statesman, on account of the lithographs sent out. Doubtless the Taft lithographs are rather stunning.

* *

"We were delighted beyond expression at the scenic beauties of this region," said President Earling of the St. Paul road. And delighted even more, no doubt, at the timber, the great areas of rich soil, the vast resources.

* *

The members of the sisterhood of shame are to be pitied rather than hated, but they cannot well be permitted to dwell longer on a prominent business street. What will become of them? As Mr. Taft says, "God knows."

* *

Chicago Record-Herald: Can a United States senator represent the Standard Oil and also represent the people?—Atlanta Constitution. Why ask such a foolish question? Who expects United States senators to represent the people?

* *

The Pendleton Tribune says Cannon should not be defeated. There speaks your organ. It is for the Roosevelt policies—and for Cannon. If Cannon were running for president it would support him just as thoroughly as it does Taft.

* *

If the Oregonian keeps up its high-toned methods of fighting Governor Chamberlain, the vote for him in the legislature will be unanimous.—Salem Journal. Well, why shouldn't it be so? This is the instruction of the people by over 48,000 majority.

Oregon Sidelights

Stayton is going to have a milk condenser.

* *

The Dallas basketball team will make an eastern tour.

* *

Among the 300 new houses in Salem this year are many beautiful ones.

* *

The agricultural college at Corvallis may have a total attendance of over 1,200 this year.

* *

State Senator R. A. Booth has given $10,000 more to the endowment fund of Willamette university.

* *

Elgin lumbermen are again busy shipping their product. A planer has several million feet more to ship.

* *

Fairs are becoming so numerous that one can scarcely keep track of them. Next week in Clackamas and Wasco and some other counties.

* *

Some years ago a Eugene man was struck on the neck by a limb while felling a tree and a large splinter went into the muscles of his neck. It has just been removed.

* *

Houses, houses everywhere, and not a house to rent in Salem, says the Statesman. There should be at least 600 new ones next year, and there will likely be that many.

* *

In a poultry yard near La Grande is a grouse nearly grown. How it came to be there will never be exactly known. The first thing the family knew it was there and evidently had been there some time, as it is domesticated and considers itself a fixture. It is thought a grouse egg may have somehow got among the hen's eggs.

* *

A man living on Mill creek near The Dalles picked over 1,200 pounds of cherries from one of his cherry trees last year, and over 1,100 pounds this year. The tree from which they were gathered is about 30 years old, and he sold the fruit for 3 cents a pound.

* *

La Grande Star: The Grand Ronde valley with the large irrigation project completed will become a densely populated community. Even a family on every 40 acre tract will many times double our present population, and there will be many 10 and 20 acre farms whereon prosperous and happy families will reside.

* *

Sunday evening some young hoodlums who have absolutely no sense at all, sat outside of one of Eugene's churches with some squirt guns filled with red ink or some similar liquid and after ladies and gentlemen went by would shoot it upon their clothing, utterly ruining some fine dresses and new suits. Three months on a rockpile would not be too severe a punishment for such a dastardly trick.

* *

That Pilot Rock is to become a feeding ground and stock buying center for the Armour Packing company is now almost an assured fact, says the East Oregonian. Options on two or three tracts of ground adjacent to the town of Pilot Rock have been secured by the big packing company and this week the deal will be finally closed for a feeding ground, it is believed.

William Crawford Corgas' Birthday.

William Crawford Corgas, the distinguished soldier and physician, was born at Mobile, Ala., on October 3, 1854, the son of General Josiah Corgas of the confederate army. He was educated at the University of the South, at Sewanee, Tenn., and graduated from it in 1875, with the degree of A. B. Then he went to New York, where he studied medicine and graduated from the Bellevue Hospital Medical college in 1878, receiving his degree of M. D. For a short time he joined the house staff of the Bellevue hospital, but in 1880 he was appointed first lieutenant of the medical corps of the United States army. He became captain in 1898 and by special act of congress was made colonel for his distinguished services during the yellow fever epidemic at Havana in 1903. He became a member of the Isthmian canal commission on March 4, 1907, and served as chief sanitary officer of the Isthmian canal zone. He is an associate fellow of the College of Physicians at Philadelphia, and has been honored by other scientific bodies. On September 16, 1885, he married at Cincinnati, Ohio, Miss Marie Cook Doughty.

THE INCREASED COST OF LIVING

From the Boston Globe

From the Boston Globe.

If there is one thing of more interest than politics to the majority of citizens in this country it is the cost of living. The people are hearing constantly of the wonderful benefits that will come to them through the continuance of Republican rule in nation and state, yet concerning the most important matter to them—moderate prices for the necessaries of life—nothing is accomplished.

The public knows that trusts are chiefly responsible for most of the exorbitant prices, yet after years of attacks on these pernicious combinations, the prices continue to increase year after year. There will be sufficiently large crops of wheat, corn, oats, etc., this year and there have been phenomenal yields in recent years, but all this prosperity has been of no real benefit to householders. In fact, the more plentiful the crops and the larger the production of articles which people must purchase, the higher are the prices, not only in one section, but in all parts of the country.

The complaints by householders from time to time that prices for the necessaries of life were unwarrantably high are fully borne out in an official report just published by the national bureau of labor. This report deals with the retail prices for food in the years 1890 to 1907 inclusive, and the statistics cover the retail prices of 30 staple food commodities as sold in 68 localities in the United States by 1,014 dealers.

Retail prices of food in 1907 were higher than in any other year of the 18-year period named, and 4.2 per cent higher than in 1906. The articles which showed the greatest advance in prices are: Flour 8.9 per cent; butter 8 per cent, evaporated apples 7.8 per cent, milk 7.3 per cent, corn meal 6.8 per cent, cheese 6.7 per cent and potatoes 5.4 per cent. The only article which showed a decrease is tea, the decline being 0.2 per cent.

Retail prices in each month of 1907 were higher than in the corresponding month of 1906; in January they were 3.9 per cent higher, in February 4.2 per cent, in March 4 per cent, in April 3.9 per cent, in May 4.1 per cent, in June 4.2 per cent, in July 4.5 per cent, in August 4.8 per cent, in September 5.1 per cent, in October 5.4 per cent, in November 4 per cent, and in December 3.1 per cent higher. Thus it is seen that October, 1907, showed a greater increase over the corresponding month of 1906 than any other month of 1907, and December showed the least increase.

The articles which showed the most marked advance in prices in December, 1907, over December, 1906, are flour 17.5 per cent, evaporated apples 15.3 per cent, corn meal 11.9 per cent, potatoes 10.1 per cent, and milk, fresh, unskimmed, 9.6 per cent.

The average prices of 29 of the 30 articles were higher in 1907 than in any other year of the 18-year period, 1890 to 1907. The price of every article, except coffee, was higher in 1907 than in 1896, the year of lowest prices during the period, and in the case of 16 of the 30 articles it was more than 25 per cent above the level of 1896. The increases in the price of some of the more important articles over the 1896 prices were as follows: Bacon 62.7 per cent, potatoes 56.6 per cent, eggs 43.4 per cent, salt pork 47.9 per cent, fresh pork 46.3 per cent, and lard 45.1 per cent.

All these increases in prices since the year 1896, when Mr. Bryan first ran for the presidency, are significant. Since that year the householders certainly have not prospered so far as moderate prices for food are concerned. The meat and other food trusts have had their way and demanded and received exorbitant rates. Should there not have been some improvement in this matter in a dozen years of Republican rule in the nation?

The trouble now is that the purchasing power of a dollar is far less than in past years. In 1890 a dollar would purchase 7.81 pounds of fresh beef, and the same in 1896, but in 1907 it would only purchase 6.47 pounds. For the United States, as a whole, the average cost of food per family in 1890 was $318.20. In 1896, the year of lowest prices, it fell to $296.76; in 1907 it reached the highest point of the 18-year period named, being $374.75.

Letters From the People

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The name will not be used if the writer asks that it be withheld. The Journal is not to be understood as indorsing the views or statements of correspondents. Letters should be made as brief as possible. Those who wish their letters returned when not used should inclose postage.

Correspondents are notified that letters exceeding 300 words in length may, at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

The Chinese Question.

Dairy, Or., Sept. 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—These be days of frights and scares when, according to the philosophy of the man in the tall tower, people ought to be shaking in their boots at the prospect of Bryan's election. But that isn't what impels me to write just now. It is a well-known fact that citizens of the coast states have for years had a fight on their hands to maintain the Chinese exclusion act, chiefly because the commercialism of the eastern states wants the trade of China and has never been brought into contact with coolie labor, as we of the coast have. It is, therefore, important to us of the far west to have, as the occupant of the White House, a man whose sympathies are with us, and who has information upon the subject that would make his opinions worth something to us. Two candidates are before the people, one or the other of whom will be elected president next November. They seem to have opposite views on the question of Chinese immigration. It is important for the people to know what these views are before they come to cast their ballots. These men are Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan.

Mr. Taft is quoted as saying: "It is not the duty of members of congress and of the executive to disregard the unreasonable demand of a part of the community deeply prejudiced upon this subject in the far west, and insist upon extending justice and courtesy to a people from whom we are deriving and are likely to derive such immense benefit in the way of international trade."

I may be mistaken, but if I am right, this means that the exclusion laws ought to be modified or ignored in the interest of trade with China. On the other hand, while Mr. Bryan was making his tour of the world he visited China, and it is interesting to note the result of his observations with reference to this subject. In the book, "The Real Bryan," there is a chapter quoting from one of his letters. A single paragraph will suffice to indicate his views and some of his reasons therefor. He says:

"If every American could visit China, the question of Chinese immigration would soon be settled upon a permanent basis, for no one can become acquainted with the Chinese coolie without recognizing the impossibility of opening the doors of our country to him without injustice to our laboring men, demoralization to our social ideas, injury to China's reputation among us and danger to our diplomatic relations with that country. It would require generations to bring our people down to a plane upon which they could compete with the Chinese, and this would involve a large impairment in the efficiency of their work."

Further on in the letter Mr. Bryan makes other observations quite as potent as these in the expression of his opinions. It is quite easy to see that the two men view this subject from entirely different standpoints. Mr. Taft takes the commercial view, the dollar being uppermost in his mind; while Mr. Bryan views the question from the standpoint of the man, the citizen, the human being. "Let the Chinese stay out" is, in effect, his idea, both for the good of our people and for the purpose of preserving peace between the nations. The volume of our trade with China would be no compensation for the admission of the Chinese hordes that would come to our shores for exploitation.

Far be it for me to frighten anybody, but I cannot get rid of the idea that the election of Mr. Taft, with his commercialized ideas on this subject would be a perilous project for the Pacific coast.

C. W. SHERMAN.

Standard Oil.

From the New York Herald.

While everybody is shrieking about the Standard Oil company and the politicians are making a campaign football of it John D. Rockefeller serenely steps to the front of the stage with his memoirs and explains that if anything wrong has been done it was due to overzealous employes.

Why should not Mr. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil be serene?

From the executive chamber of the White House to the plains of Oklahoma everybody who wants to hold the public ear execrates the Standard and blackens his enemies' reputations by calling them Standard Oil tools. But what of it?

For all the outcray, what harm has the Standard Oil suffered? What damage has been done to it? It has not paid the $29,000,000, and there are grave reasons for doubting whether the courts will ever compel it to pay the fine. While the Roosevelt panic was at its height the Standard Oil crowd were busy acquiring more railroads at bottom prices. While Mr. Roosevelt has been swinging the big stick over the corporations and the whole country has been plunged in industrial depression, Standard Oil stock has been regaining its stock market values, Standard Oil has been paying undiminished dividends, Standard Oil has been selling as much of its products as ever at its own prices to the people of the United States, Standard Oil's power in the world of finance has not decreased.

As a trust, as a power in Wall street, as a manipulator of the stock market and of railroad properties through its personal representatives, the Standard Oil is more formidable than ever.

Mr. Rockefeller has a right to be serene.

Outraged Virtue

From the New York World.

As leader of the grand old party Mr. Roosevelt is morally outraged by the thought that a person like Charlie Haskell can hold public office and be identified with the management of a great political organization.

Mr. Roosevelt himself was nominated for governor of New York by that eminent purist Thomas Collier Platt. His nomination for vice-president was forced by those equally single-minded reformers Thomas Collier Platt and Matthew Stanley Quay. Mr. Roosevelt used to call Marcus Alonzo Hanna "Uncle Mark," and when that unselfish political philanthropist was not sufficiently enthusiastic over the Roosevelt candidacy the president used Joseph Benson Foraker to club Uncle Mark into submission.

Standard Oil is a stench in the presidential nostrils; but the Standard Oil bank still maintains its intimate relations with the treasury department. Harriman is hateful; but Harriman has not yet been compelled to answer the questions put to him 19 months ago by the interstate commerce commission.

No presidential lightning strikes Uncle Joe Cannon for protecting the paper trust. John Dalzell still represents the steel trust in congress, and Mr. Roosevelt lumps him among the Republican candidates whose election is necessary to preserve the government from corporation influence. The virtue that cannot abide Haskell counsels freely with Aldrich, Penrose, Elkins and Scott.

Elihu Root, who was Thomas F. Ryan's personal attorney, remains in the cabinet as secretary of state. One of J. Pierpont Morgan's partners is Mr. Root's assistant secretary; another is collecting Republican campaign tribute in Pennsylvania, and a third came back from Europe recently to express his great satisfaction with the election returns from Vermont. George R. Sheldon is still in Wall street divorcing the ruthless malefactors from their campaign contributions.

Surely it cannot be the Haskell corporation affiliation alone which so incenses Mr. Roosevelt. Neither can it be the sordid fact that Haskell has been caught with the goods. The author of the letter to "My Dear Sherman" in the matter of the Harriman $260,000 campaign contribution would never repudiate a fellow-statesman simply for being the victim of a little unexpected and undesired publicity.

Mr. Roosevelt has weighed the Democratic Haskell and finds him more offensive than all the Republican Haskells combined, except such as happen to be in opposition to My Policies. Can anything short of personal and partisan prejudice account for the intensity of this disfavor? Surely Haskell has given every proof that he, too, is "a practical man."

A Fit Withdrawal.

From the Pendleton Tribune.

The withdrawal of Senator Foraker from participation in the presidential campaign is an act fraught all through and over with the eternal fitness of things. He should, and no doubt will, withdraw from the senatorial race in Ohio. If not, he should be withdrawn.

His case is in line with many others to which the Tribune has frequently referred. (And more to which it has not referred.—Ed. Journal.) No public servant has the right to be dabbling in lines of business which interfere with the duties he has undertaken to perform for the people and for a stated salary.

And especially is this true in the case of senators and representatives in congress who are called upon to look after the interests of the people, not only collectively but as individuals, in every part of every state.

All public servants, whether of high or low degree, should rigidly draw the line at accepting any compensation from any quarter outside the regular salary allowed by law for the performance of any duty in any way pertaining to their positions. When an officer undertakes to draw a line of demarkation between his public duties and those of another character upon one side where he may properly accept pay for his work and upon the other where it would be wrong, he is treading on dangerous ground, upon which he should refuse to enter.

The public pays an officer a salary for his time, and if he cannot live upon it and be satisfied with that fixed sum, he should either refuse the position or resign it.

There is no middle ground in this matter. When Senator Foraker accepted even a single dollar from the Standard Oil, no matter what the plea or pretense, he knew it was given because he was a member of the United States senate. It was tainted money of the rankest quality.

All men occupying positions of prominence and responsibility have innumerable opportunities to exchange their services for pay from private individuals under the guise of "outside duties," but there is never any defendable excuse for so doing. It frequently prevents a man from emerging from the ranks of the poor, but the consciousness of having done right in such matters is a perpetual source of consolation against the admitted inconveniences and embarrassments of depressing poverty.

This Date in History.

1800—George Bancroft, the historian, was born in Worcester, Mass. Died in Washington, D. C., January 17, 1891.

1832—The Indian Chief Blackhawk died at his camp on the Des Moines river.

1860—The Prince of Wales visited Washington, D. C.

1863—The union troops threw Greek fire into Charleston.

1881—Henry Fowle Durant, the founder of Wellesley college, died at Wellesley, Mass. Was born in Hanover, N. H., February 20, 1811.

Guaranteeing Deposits

Charles G. Dawes was comptroller of the currency under Mr. McKinley. Since 1902 he has been president of the Central Trust company at Chicago. Writing in The Public, Louis F. Post calls attention to the factsthat several years ago Mr. Dawes wrote a book entitled "The Banking System of the United States." The following is taken from Mr. Post's article:

In describing in that book the "present need of our national banking system," Mr. Dawes distinctly argues for the insurance idea that Bryan advocated in congress and upon which his campaign is now advancing in the west. Referring to a proposed law, advocated by Bryan in congress, which would have levied a tax upon national banks for the purpose of creating a fund for the insurance of deposits, Mr. Dawes wrote:

"National banking statistics show that a fund of the necessary amount would soon be created by a comparatively small tax upon each national bank.

"* * * It must certainly be admitted that the establishment of such a fund would have a tendency to prevent the mad rushes of small and large depositors during times of panic, for money which they hoard away in safety deposit boxes or other hiding places.

"* * * If the effect of such a law would be to render bank deposits more stable under all conditions, as in our judgment would be the case, no law could be of more value and importance to the debtor, or to the creditor, or to the community at large. * * * Besides the great importance of the law, as related to the general prosperity of the country, it is meritorious as preventing the keen suffering in those localities where bank failures occur, and where the hard earned savings of the community, under our present laws, are often swept away. By such a law, losses are distributed as by insurance, the beneficial effects of which need no argument. To the passage of such a law in proper form, we trust the efforts of congress will be directed."

Popular Election Gaining Ground.

From the Evansville (Ind.) Courier

Popular election of United States senators is making sweeping strides all over the country. Several states have so arranged their primaries that the wishes of the people can be shown in the choice of senators. In Oregon a majority of members-elect of the legislature are pledged to support the senatorial candidate having the largest popular vote. Under this promise, Governor Chamberlain, a Democrat, would be elected United States senator, notwithstanding the Oregon legislature is Republican. In Missouri the contest between the Democratic candidates for the senate, Governor Folk and Senator Stone, will be settled by direct vote of the people.

Another example of submission of the senate question to the will of the voters is the defeat in Washington of Senator Ankeny by Representative Wesley L. Jones. In North Dakota, Senator Hansbrough, who has held the office three terms, has been put down and out by direct vote at the primaries. In South Dakota a vote at the primaries defeated Senator Kittredge. Illinois, Kansas and Wisconsin have all furnished examples of the rank and file of voters being called upon to pass on the pretensions of senatorial candidates.

At different times in the past, nearly two-thirds of the states have declared for direct election of United States senators.

Three Democratic national platforms—those of 1900, 1904 and 1908—have declared for it.

The public movement in its favor has been gaining ground for 10 years. It has wiped out party lines and has manifested itself among Republicans and Democrats alike.

Yet popular election of United States senators was deliberately ignored by the Republican platforms of 1900 and 1904. It is expressly repudiated in the Republican national platform of 1908.

The Chicago convention turned it down by a vote of 866 to 114.

Was there ever a more daring, bigoted and impudent slap in the face for a great progressive movement of the American people than this action of the Chicago convention?

No Republican paper of any pretensions to reflect the will of the people dares say that the direct vote for senators is a bad thing. Less insolent than their national convention, more in touch with the public than the convention, astute Republican organs know better than that.

Republican organs have the impertinence to claim that by the actions of the different states their party is regenerating the senate. This pretense has been formed on the party by a revolt of the people so strong that the Republican journals don't dare follow the lead of the Chicago convention and brazenly defy it. So they shuffle with the issue. They try to sneak out of the corner to which they have been driven by saying: "Let the states do whatever is to be done."

The Democracy has put before the nation a clause in its platform which will give the people, at one stroke, their right to be really and directly represented in the United States senate.

That is the way, and the only way, to dispose of this great issue.

A Republican Governor's Opinion.

From the Wichita (Kan.) Eagle.

Governor Hoch of Kansas has taken a fall out of United States Senator Hopkins of Illinois—the man who was so recently repudiated by a majority of the Republican party in that state. Hopkins, who is a sort of official parrot to corporations and special interests, severely criticised the Republicans of Kansas for having declared in favor of a bank guaranty law.

"I notice that Senator Hopkins contemptuously referred to Kansas as a state of cranks, and that this bank guaranty proposition is the legitimate offspring of such parentage," says Governor Hoch. "But Kansas is used to these javelins. For a third of a century every ambitious archer with a poisoned arrow has let it fly at Kansas, and every jaded jester has been rejuvenated at the expense of the Sunflower state. These things no longer irritate us; they only amuse us, for Kansas, always on the firing line, always engaged in some great battle for human rights, has forged forward until it is today the most enlightened, most progressive and most prosperous state in this union.

"But the depositors' guaranty proposition will not down. It is a sound and wise proposition and is based upon two fundamental theories which Senator Hopkins and others would do well to seriously consider.

"First—That the banking business is a quasi-public business and is not only a commercial necessity but a police necessity as well; that money is property in its most portable and dangerous form; that it is unsafe for the individual to keep this form of property on his person or in his home; that banks are therefore essential to the security of life and property, and that the banker is therefore an agent of the government not only for commercial purposes, but for the police purposes as well. Banks are not chartered by law and regulated by distinct departments of governments primarily in the interest of the banker. Their interests are secondary to the interests of the public.

"Second—That the man behind the counter is as certainly a borrower as is the man in front of the counter. That the demand for security for deposits is not more unreasonable than is the demand of the banker for security for his loans. The one is as much entitled to security as the other.

A Great River Disappearing.

From the Cincinnati Times-Star.

Poor old Ohio river! The proud old stream, formerly one of the most important arteries of commerce in the west and the trade route that gave Cincinnati much of her early importance, is now shrunk to the dimensions of a mere creek. At Gallipolis the channel is eight inches deep, while at Cincinnati a 9.5-foot stage was reported yesterday. Small boys are wading across the river to Kentucky, while in country districts farm wagons easily can ford the stream.