Oregon Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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America asks nothing for herself but what she has a right to ask for humanity itself.
—WOODROW WILSON.

Millions for defense, but not a cent for tribute. CHARLES C. PINCKNEY.

Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens.
—Daniel Webster.

THE TIME AND PLACE

THE candidate for governor in Maine was not Woodrow Wilson.

The candidates for senator in Maine were not Woodrow Wilsons.

In the public view, Mr. Wilson is a different kind of candidate. He is unlike, and distinct from, usual candidates. The public view of him is a more intimate concern, a closer relation, a more direct personal interest.

The universal thought about Mr. Wilson is that he has been president at a time when the world was tumultuous, that he has faced every crisis with poise, patience and conscience, that he has kept this country safe and sane, that in all things he has done exceedingly well, that the abuse hurled at him like it was hurled at Washington and Lincoln for political purposes, is undeserved and that his reelection would make sure of a good president for the next four years.

Aside from a few jingoes, many Wall street brigadiers, a few confirmed reactionaries, a comparatively few radical German-Americans, and numerous individuals who either live or expect some time to live by politics, there is scarcely a citizen of America who does not feel personally friendly to Mr. Wilson because of what the American White House has been made to stand for during the Wilson term.

All this is a personal asset of the president's, and it is his alone. The Democrats could not deliver it to their party candidates in Maine, for partisan purposes. It is a non-transferable asset.

The time and place where it is to be tested was not in Maine Monday, but in the United States in November.

When Elihu Root, as secretary of war and William Howard Taft as governor of the Philippines used to send jocular cablegrams at fifty-two cents a word, asking about the health of Mr. Taft's horse, that was not pork or foolish extravagance. It was necessary for the secretary to know whether Mr. Taft's horse was efficient.

FORD THE AMERICAN

IF HENRY FORD had plunged head and heels into the business of making war munitions every jingo "leader of thought" in the country would have helped pin a golden halo to his silk hat. But he made the mistake of trying to stop the fighting and therefore he has been deluged with abuse. No doubt calumny has worried him. Hardly anybody can live through so much of it without showing the effects.

But Mr. Ford's brain is as active as ever and his eyes see the world clearly and sanely. "Print everything that Wilson has done and say that I indorse it," he told a Portland reporter.

Henry Ford is a great independent thinker, though a Republican in politics. Though in a different field, he is of the type of Thomas A. Edison, who recently gave a pungent explanation of his refusal to support the presidential candidate of his own party in order to advocate the election of President Wilson.

These are men who see the world as it is and America as it is. They have no illusions. They are not dreamers, but intensely practical men. Both are engaged in great business enterprises. They ask for no favors, seek for no special privileges from government. Yet they hold their own in the field of enterprise.

Perfectly disinterested in their opinions and independent in action, they are to be contrasted with the manufacturers who are pampered and who are still clamoring for more of the special privileges which government has so abundantly showered upon them in the past.

The genuine, self-helpful American spirit abides with the Ford-Edison type. It is a sound element in American life. It is the opposite of the parasitical and the spineless crowd clamoring for an enormous military preparedness on land and on sea.

There can be no safer guides or counsellors.

The Oregon State Hotel association is said to be worried about the exhaustion of the clam supply and about to demand some remedial legislation of the next legislature. Funny. The eaters of clam chowder have been having much the same worries for some time.

ON BUSINESS PRINCIPLES

THE president is looking around for fit material for the new tariff commission.

The new commission will be American preparedness against a one-sided tariff. It was one-sided tariffs with which the farmers of America have been so adroitly skinned.

Though farming is our basic industry, 37 per cent of the farmers of the United States are tenants. They are renters. They do not own the land they are cultivating.

It is an appalling total. The tenant farmers of America are nearly three times as high a percentage as the tenant farmers of Germany. The lands of American farmers are swiftly passing into the hands of landlords, and the men who actually till the soil are fast becoming a race of renters.

A century and more of tariff has not enriched them. It has enriched a few manufacturers by taxing the farmers into poverty. That was because it was a one-sided tariff.

We must always have tariffs. The tariff is the chief constitutional source of revenue for support of government. Tariffs are the main reliance for obtaining money for making government improvements and paying government expenses.

The purpose of a tariff commission is to provide a balanced tariff, a just tariff, an equitable tariff, a scientific tariff, instead of a tariff giving everything to a few rich men. The very few rich and the millions of comparatively poor in this nation show what 100 years of tariff has done for the people. Tariff as framed by politicians in politics and by big business brigadiers, also in politics, is the main reason why wealth in America is so unequally distributed.

The tariff commission, so organized that big business will not control it, will go far to stop the processes by which the farmers of the United States are being reduced to tenantry. It will help check the practice that is making them renters instead of farm owners. It will reduce the tariff to business principles and take it out of politics and take politics out of the tariff.

A conference of railroad heads for relieving the car shortage in western Oregon is announced for today. With men out of employment and mills closing, lumber orders being cancelled and consumers waiting for supplies, it is to be hoped that the conference may result in providing sufficient cars for all requirements.

FARM TRACTORS

MR. FORD did not say a great deal while he was in Portland, but he contrived to emit a ray of comfort for the farmers. His new tractor, he said, will be ready for the market in about a year. If the machine when it comes out is as efficient and cheap proportionally as the Ford car it will revolutionize farm work.

What the farmers want is a tractor that will replace horses for plowing, seeding and so forth. Great power is not so much desired as "traction." Many of the machines now on the market are more powerful than the case demands. But they lack traction. When the pull at the drawbar becomes a little heavy the drive wheel buries itself in the ground instead of forging ahead. This is, of course, a fatal defect.

Mr. Ford once said in an interview that he had made a special study of the traction problem and we may feel certain that he will not put his machine on the market until he has solved it.

Miles Poindexter is evidently the man who put the hump in Humphrey as well as the point in Poindexter.

MEXICAN LANDS

FROM the stories told of the conditions surrounding land ownership in Mexico, the suggestions made by the Mexican commissioners at the New London conference would seem to be most sound and sensible.

The lands of Mexico are held under immense grants, and wide flung concessions by the Diaz government, while hundreds of thousands of the Mexican people, without homes, are living in dire poverty and practical slavery.

It has been suggested by the Mexican commissioners that some plan of taxation be adopted by the Mexican government, probably patterned after the general land taxation plan of the United States, through which the great holdings would be made unprofitable and thus broken up into smaller tracts.

A country in which the great mass of the people do not own and cultivate their own farms, or own and reside in their own homes, never can be a contented and prosperous country. It is true that a man's heart is where his home is. The Mexican government will never stand on a firm and stable foundation until it possesses a contented people intent upon their own affairs and not bound by the chains of peonage.

If the Mexican commission can suggest any plan that will break up the big holdings of Mexico and put the thousands of discontented and homeless people into possession of self owned and self cultivated homes, it will have gone a long way towards solving the problem of Mexican unrest and continual revolution.

A Chicago judge gave an 18-year-old bicycle thief the choice of serving a year in the army or a year in the state reformatory. The boy chose the army, and it is probably a wise plan both for boy and court.

MAINE

SUPPORTERS of Mr. Hughes will find comfort in the Maine election. Their side got the offices.

On the other hand, the supporters of Mr. Wilson have much encouragement. The Republican plurality in Maine in 1900 was 28,613. In 1904, it was 36,807. In 1908, it was 31,584. These are heavy pluralities. They are Maine at the normal.

In 1916, after the convulsion of 1912, with no Progressive ticket in the field, the plurality of the long-term Republican candidate for United State senator, a strictly national office, drops to less than 10,000. From 36,000 in 1904 to 10,000 in 1916 is a long toboggan. Even the fraction of such a change throughout the country would give President Wilson most, if not all, the doubtful states in November and make his election certain.

Now the Manufacturers' association informs us that the price of buttons is going up because the supply of fresh water clams is going down. Something ought to be done about that in the interest of the public morals.

SCHOOL GIRLS' DRESS

THE board of education of Kansas City has been asked to require all high school girls of that city to wear a uniform style of dress. The request has been made by the civic commission. Rivalry among the fair students in the matter of dress has reached the point that some poor but proud young ladies have refused to attend their classes, being financially unable to keep up with the pace.

This presents a picture in striking contrast to that shown by several of the bigger educational institutions of the country where the girls of the graduating classes not only put a limit on the cost of their graduating gowns, but fashion them with their own hands.

The Kansas City trouble in all probability rests not so much with the high school girls as with their parents. There is seldom much studying done, out of books, by young ladies decked out in silks and ruffles, or by young lads "dolled up" to the acme of existing fashion. Too much thought on things outside the curriculum, too much planning for the next party and the coming hop lead more to rivalry in dress than in class standing.

In all probability if the Kansas City school board would bear down a little harder on the school work the young ladies would not have to be put in uniform.

Portland and the Columbia interior are still paying freight rates based on an over-mountain haul, though a water-level haul down the Columbia river should be the basis of their rates. How much longer will rates be kept on artificial conditions in defiance of natural conditions?

OUR HIGHEST COURT

WITHIN everybody's memory the United States supreme court ordered the Standard Oil company to dissolve. It was like a command from the Mikado to a Japanese noble to commit suicide, with the difference that the Mikado's order is always obeyed. The Standard Oil company merely pretended to obey. It broke up its share of stock into fractions which it issued in place of the old holdings and there the dissolution stopped. The management of the concern remained exactly as it had been and the dividends increased.

It was a singularly beautiful example of euthanasia. Perhaps we might better term it an instance of survival after death. At any rate, the monopoly throve wonderfully well after the supreme court had decreed its extermination, and when the opportunity came to put up the price of gasoline the discarnate corporation was ready and willing to do it.

It may surprise some people that the federal supreme court should have been satisfied with such a farcical obedience to its decree.

But there is no reason for such surprise. The court in interpreting the statute under which Standard Oil was prosecuted, read into that statute words that are not there. The law declared that there should be no "conspiracy in restraint of trade" and the court, with Justice Hughes concurring, made the statute read "conspiracy in UNREASONABLE restraint of trade."

That is why Standard Oil is an autocrat. That is why it is still doing business in the same old way and raising the price of gasoline at will.

President Wilson was bitterly assailed for naming Mr. Brandeis to the supreme court. He is still attacked for that appointment. But it was with the realization that Brandeis would never read into the law something that congress did not put into the law that Mr. Brandeis was selected for the position.

His appointment gives the American people far greater confidence in their highest court.

Letters From the People

[Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. If the writer does not desire to have the name published he should so state.]

"Discussion is the greatest of all reformers. It rationalizes everything it touches. It robs principles of all false sanctity and throws them back on their reasonableness. If they have no reasonableness, it ruthlessly crushes them out of existence and sets up its own conclusions in their stead."—Woodrow Wilson.

Consider Well.

Corvallis, Or., Sept. 8.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is to be regretted that a large number of women are threatening to copy their rash sisters across the water, with the difference that their weapons would be votes, instead of bricks or other missiles of violence. Let us hope that in the proposed means of punishing the president, the suffrage cause will not read its death warrant. This is not the time to put our cause before every other consideration. We had better wait a while longer than change, for the untried, the pilot who has thus far steered safely among the danger rocks that have obstructed his course. Mr. Hughes may favor woman suffrage (though not to the extent of a vote) but we might pay too big a price for it in the "deeds" that he would see performed rather than the "words" with which Mr. Wilson met the war situation. And maybe the militants would realize their ambitions, and maybe they wouldn't.

Figures tell us that the number of women now voting controls a sufficient number of electoral votes to decide whose shall be the gulding hand the next four years. What a responsibility! Will we meet it as broad-minded citizens, alive to the seriousness of the time, or as a child who insists upon getting a coveted toy—allowing the one thing so desired to loom so large before the vision that the greater need cannot be seen? If the childish course be taken it will prove the president's wisdom, and will show to the world that we do not merit a trust so important as the ballot.

It is unlikely that many of the newly enfranchised citizens of Oregon would purchase the ballot for their sisters at the price the nation might have to pay in money and lives; but anyone here or elsewhere who would have Wilson replaced with one who is not in sympathy with his course of procedure fails to appreciate the condition of our land, compared with the situation where reason has been dethroned and hatred and bloodlust are causing sorrow and desolation. That we have not been drawn into the maelstrom is only one of the many reasons we have to be grateful to Wilson.

Equal in importance are his efforts in behalf of the child labor law. As the great emancipator was to the colored bondsman, so is Wilson to the children. You mothers who would see the president crushed, consider what they have had to endure who are as much His "little ones" as are your sheltered darlings. Go with them through the long hours of toil; follow them to their homes where, too tired for play of which they scarcely know the meaning, they sleep to dream of the hours of torture to be repeated the coming day—then humbly sue for pardon for ingratitude. And others who desire his defeat, weigh well your reasons. Into one scale put the child labor law, the banking law to avert panics, the outcome of the recent threatened strike disaster, his refusal to hinder the emancipation of the Mexican people from selfish interests, all of which is but part of what he has to his credit; and besides this, his vote for woman suffrage in his home. In the other scale place his declaration that woman suffrage was a matter for state rather than national action. Then, if anyone feels that this one thing outweighs all the president has done for the country—his fearless stand for humanity, rather than special privilege for the few in the face of possible defeat as the result, that one will cast a vote for the man who has not favored the suffrage cause to the extent that Wilson has done, and whose veto act while governor seemed to indicate that he considered a woman's services as teacher worth less than a man's work in the same employment. J. H. M.

How They Will Vote.

Independence, Or., Sept. 8.—To the Editor of The Journal—When Mr. Hughes delivered his speech of acceptance most people were disappointed, but there was one newspaper man who has his article prepared in advance, and had pronounced the speech a "masterpiece." After the speech was delivered he was in a hurry to get it into print and just let it go at that. Then there were some 27 writers that were disappointed and wrote to Mr. Hughes asking him to make himself clear on a number of different propositions. Well, of course, Mr. Hughes could not stop and write 27 letters in answer to those gentlemen but preferred to allow them to gather from the speeches that he was to deliver afterwards as to where he stands. I presume they have learned by this time. If they have not, I have and will answer their questions. Mr. Hughes stands opposed to Wilson—first, last and all the time. He is opposed to everything that Wilson has done. He is opposed to all that Wilson is doing, and he is opposed to everything that Wilson ever will do. He is opposed to Wilson's peace policy in Mexico. He is opposed to Wilson's diplomatic dealings with Germany and wants deeds instead of words, or in other words, bullets instead of diplomacy. In fact, he is opposed to Wilson as a candidate for president, and of course could not go out and tell the people that Wilson had done anything good, for then some of the common herd might go and vote for Wilson. It seems to me that this covers the ground, and that those 27 gentlemen ought to rest easy now.

Now Mr. Hughes has asked one question which has never been answered. I will answer it. Somewhere along the trail he was delivering a "masterpiece" and claimed that the Democrats had nothing to do with bringing about the present prosperity that "might be likened to a fools' paradise." He cited a case of a large exportation of mules to Europe which of course brought in a large amount of money, and then he asked the question were the Democrats the cause of that? Yes, Mr. Hughes, yes, sir. Judging by what they say, if Mr. Hughes or "Teddy" had been president we would now be busily engaged whipping Germany and Mexico. We would have needed all those mules at home. Wilson has kept us out of war. We are at peace with the world, the mules are sold and the money brought back to swell the wave of prosperity that the country is enjoying.

In conclusion, everybody who is satisfied with the conditions, everybody who is satisfied with peace and prosperity, will vote for Wilson. But if anybody wants war, and would have the mules kept at home to haul cannon and supplies for our army in the field, and to haul trucks and ambulances loaded with the mangled bodies of our boys—well, of course, he will vote for Hughes. J. K. P. HARRIS.

According to Mosaic Law.

Portland, Sept. 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—Mr. Hughes dwells at length on the discharge of a few Republican officeholders of more or less importance, to make place for "deserving Democrats." This criticism comes with peculiarly bad grace from Mr. Hughes who is intensely religious and a staunch upholder of the Bible as the guide for our conduct of this world. I contend that the thing he condemns is strictly just according to Mosaic law.

For some occult reason, the Democratic party is universally represented by the donkey, and the Socialists continually score the workingmen who allow themselves to be led by Republican politicians, as oxen led forth to the slaughter, in the wars for capitalistic gains, which Mr. Hughes says are "A lesser evil than infringement of our (capital) rights abroad."

This ox-like docility and bovine intelligence of the workers who hope by following Hughes to be led into a stall with a full manger called a dinner pail; these workers who are workingmen from their eyebrows down and capitalists from their eyebrows up, clearly indicate the name of the animal representing the Republicans, which Roosevelt also recognized when he named his offspring therefrom the Bull Moose. Sad to say, this hybrid of these two species died, due to the transgression of the laws of nature. But the zoological names of the old political parties merely show that the Democratic administration, in discharging Republicans, was obeying the laws of Moses to the letter, which read: "Thou shalt not work an ox and an ass together."

LOUIS HONSTEIN.

A Protest.

Portland, Sept. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—Knowing the fairness of The Journal towards questions of public interest, I take the liberty to show the people of Portland a sample of union terrorism. The Oregon Labor Press September 9, makes the following statement concerning the Labor Day parade:

"No notices were handed out to union workers by employers of labor that unless they marched with their country's flag in labor's preparedness parade they could seek other employment. No superintendent nor petty boss was needed to herd them into line and by coercion and intimidation make a showing. The workers themselves without other suggestion than their own, concluded that a demonstration was due and proceeded to demonstrate."

As a union man, I must protest against this statement. Nearly every union passed a resolution to fine any member who stayed away from the parade. Two and a half to five dollars look mighty big to any workingman who has no job. Who gets that money? The only suggestion the union bosses could make, was to hit the poor man's pocketbook. And after this tyrannical coercion, there comes out the labor press and speaks of human liberty. "Consistency, thou art a jewel!" JOHN KOCH.

A Straw Vote.

Murphy, Or., Sept. 9.—To the Editor of The Journal—That President Wilson's administration is approved and received in the rural districts by the farmers and laborers was demonstrated by a straw vote taken recently at the York hopyard in Murphy precinct, Josephine county, Oregon, in order to get the preferential choice for president. The results were a three-fourths vote for Wilson. Out of every four votes cast Wilson received three of them. The vote was taken by ballot and only qualified electors were allowed to vote.

As the November election approaches it is evident that the cloud of prejudice is being lifted off the president's head and the people are going to show their appreciation of his war policy (in "these times when the souls of men are being tried"), the rural credits measure and other remedial legislation brought in existence by his approval, and will stand by his side with votes of encouragement and commendation.

W. S. BAILEY.

Condensed Flats.

From Popular Mechanics.

Many builders of apartment houses in large cities are now erecting structures composed exclusively of convertible apartments, because this modern form of family abode takes up less space than the ordinary flat, and hence can be rented for less.

By a convertible apartment is meant one in which a single room can be adapted to two or three uses by shifting the furniture or revolving a pivoted wall. One corporation erects buildings of this character composed entirely of one of three types of flats—those having one room only, which can be altered to serve as a dining room, living room and bedroom; two-room apartments, in which the furniture can be changed to make two bedrooms, a living room, a dining room and a sun parlor, and three-room suites, counting day and night uses. Each apartment has a kitchenette and a bathroom, which are not convertible.

The main room in each group is, on the average, 12 or 13 feet square, with practically the whole of one wall divided into two revolving sections; to one side of this wall is fastened a bookcase and sideboard; to the other is fastened a dresser and folding bed. These articles are screwed to the wall just high enough to pass over the rugs as the partition revolves. The closet into which the unused furniture disappears is roomy and has outside windows or is ventilated mechanically. Convertible and disappearing furniture gives the rooms adjoining the main room their dual character.

To change the main room into a bedroom requires only two or three minutes. To make the dining room into a living room the round top of the table is removed and placed on hoops on the under side of the bed. This leaves the table with a small square top, making it suitable for a living room. The three-room apartment covers 680 square feet and renders the service of seven rooms occupying 1485 square feet.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE.

No one makes jokes of the Ford balance sheet.

No complaint is heard concerning the elimination of stamp taxes.

One peculiarity about the Maine election is that all parties get comfort from the result.

The London and Berlin papers at hand do not show much interest in the Maine election.

Dr. Aked's former congregation in San Francisco do not seem to be moved by his plea "I was with Ford."

A news dispatch from San Jose says "Hidden Villa" is threatened by forest fire. It does not refer to "Pancho."

In view of the Day-Withycombe controversy it was fortunate that the Third Oregon was brought back from the border.

The startling discovery has been made at Eugene that three city employes have been working eight hours a day seven days in the week.

A mirror has been invented which a woman may hold in her mouth while fixing her hair but no way is provided whereby she can talk at the same time.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

According to Hood River advices huckleberries are scarce. The Indians are much disappointed.

Business at the Halfway postoffice is increasing very rapidly and Postmaster Deaderick has added 84 lock boxes.

According to the Blue Mountain Eagle, eastern landgrabbers are making an effort to secure all the valuable timber lands in Oregon.

Four brides and bridegrooms are wanted at the Pendleton Round-Up to provide a wedding each night of the Happy Canyon entertainment.

Talking about cows Philip Steiner of Beaver valley has one which is not only a great milk producer but is the mother of triplets. All doing well.

Nimrods returning from the Aneroid and Ice lakes in Wallowa county report many dead fish along the lake shores, indicating that some one is using dynamite with telling effect.

The Grant County Journal announces that more than bucking horses are wanted at the county fair. The management wants to see all the babies of the county between ten months and three years of age.

M'ARTHUR'S CAMPAIGN DOCUMENTS

Washington, Sept. 12.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL)—Congressman McArthur of Oregon was one of those who took advantage of the open season for talk in the house of representatives in the closing days of the session. While the house was waiting for the senate on legislation, many afternoons were spent in speechmaking. One or two dozen members out of a total of 435 usually remain in the house on such occasions to preserve the semblance of an audience.

It is at such times, also, with a political campaign in progress, that requests swarm in for "extension of remarks" in the Congressional Record. The speeches delivered and those merely printed without delivery serve the same purpose. They receive precious little attention here, but the frank of the ambitious member carries them free in groaning cartloads to the congressman's constituents back home.

On Monday, September 4, McArthur inserted in the record his views on the "So-called Eight Hour Law," in which he asserted that congress had cringed and crawled in enacting legislation favored by the railroad brotherhoods. Two days later the record contained two speeches, one on "Commercial Preparedness" and one on "The Need of Forest Reserve Roads." These three speeches may be considered as the Oregon congressman's final appeal to the voters in his campaign for another term.

The "Commercial Preparedness" speech is an argument for protection. He fortified it with an editorial from the Oregonian as to the effects of the Underwood tariff in Oregon, and with figures of imports from the orient and Canada, and he asked:

"Do American farmers welcome this competition? Are they going to let Democratic orators fool them into keeping the door open to Australia, New Zealand, Argentine, Bermuda, Canada, the orient and every other country on the globe whose tillers of the soil live on less than it requires to fatten an American pig?"

Depression in the lumber market he attributed to lumber having been free listed. His speech contains no reference to the price of wool and readers will be unable to learn from his remarks as to whether the Underwood tariff has also ruined the Oregon wool market.

In his speech on forest roads McArthur praised the work of the forestry service under Chief Forester Graves as "able and broad-gauged." The present administration, he said, "has adopted policies that are promoting a rational development, and many of the erstwhile enemies of the reserve idea are now friendly to it."

"We do not object to a policy of conservation that develops without waste and conserves without stagnation," he continued. "We are willing that these large areas shall be withheld from taxation, but we insist that land capable of agricultural development be thrown open to entry. We join hands with the federal government in the matter of fire patrols and are willing to meet the forest service half way in every laudable undertaking.

"We do not want our magnificent national forests to pass into hands of the few at the expense of the many, nor do we want them to stagnate for the want of development. In brief, we stand for a rational policy without waste or monopoly and with a due regard for the welfare of future generations."

He commended the new policy of constructing roads in the national forest under the plan embraced in section 8 of the good roads bill, against which bill he cast his vote, however.

less than 15,000, it was regarded as an indication that the party was in danger of defeat. The last Democratic victory before Wilson's, that of Cleveland in 1892, was preceded by the election of a Republican governor in Maine by a plurality of 15,231 votes.

The first two defeats of Bryan were foreshadowed by Republican pluralities in Maine of 48,377 and 34,132 respectively. Parker's defeat was preceded by a Republican plurality in Maine of 25,800.

In 1908, however, the Republican plurality in Maine at the September election dropped to 7653, yet Bryan's electoral vote was smaller than usual.

In 1912 the September Republican plurality was only 3285 and Wilson carried the state in November by 2620 votes, although the combined Roosevelt and Taft vote exceeded this by 23,925.

It may be that the Maine vote has ceased to be the index of the national election in November.

Not Specific Enough.

From Detroit News.

"I would have protected the lives of Americans in Mexico," said Mr. Hughes in Nashville, and his audience shouted its approval.

How would Mr. Hughes have done it? That point he did not explain, nor was he asked to explain it. But the thoughtful voter will want to know how Mr. Hughes would have accomplished the end which every one desired, and which no one, apparently, saw a means of obtaining without bringing on such serious trouble as to cause the sacrifice of many more lives than were lost. And when Mr. Hughes explains, two and three years after the event, how he would have protected the lives of Americans threatened by anarchy in Mexico, will any one who knows anything about conditions as they were in Mexico at that time believe that he could have done it?

Mr. Hughes, who remained silent while President Wilson strove to secure agreement between railway heads and their employes, now criticizes the means taken to avert the threatened strike. What would he have done? Would he have insisted on arbitration, and tied up the industries of the country, causing widespread suffering and tremendous loss? Or does he believe that if the president had insisted on arbitration, there would not have been a strike? That would be a hard thing to prove one way or the other.

What a great many voters dislike in Mr. Hughes is his habit of broad statement. He does not go into details. Many are ready to admit that President Wilson's administration has not been ideal, but they want some assurance that Mr. Hughes could have done better, or even as well. His easy, fluent criticism of what has been done is not convincing. It sounds like the words of a political opportunist, anxious to seize every brickbat which offers, and relying for his success on the axiom: "The people don't think."

Emotions.

From Life.

Emotions are what you have when you are all stirred up; for example, when you are in love or when a note which you had previously forgotten suddenly falls due. Also when you think you are writing poetry and when you are leading one who is practically a total stranger up to an altar, where, by previous arrangement and design you have stationed a gentleman with power to cause you more future trouble than you have ever dreamed of. Science tells us that something cannot come out of nothing, yet emotions seem to do this. A calm, placid lady whom you have known and trusted for years will suddenly have emotions which will create an area of disturbance extending for miles in all directions. Emotions are felt, but not seen. If you could see an emotion coming with the naked eye, you might be able to avoid it. Some men can thus avoid emotions when they see their wives coming, but not when they have emotions themselves.

Emotions are of various kinds and are variously expressed; a New York policeman expresses his with a club, and every dog with the end of his tail.

Is It a Barometer?

From St. Paul Dispatch.

"As Maine goes the nation will go" once was a political axiom. As the only state to hold its gubernatorial and senatorial elections before the November election, it still is considered a political barometer.

In past years, when the Republican plurality in Maine in September was

An Ancient Truism.

From Detroit News.

A Chicago court is trying hard to obtain justice for an elderly person named Morrison, who inherited millions, and who is now almost penniless as the result of his benefactions to a large and motley circle of friends.

The case is pathetic, yet Morrison does not seem to think so. A fatuous faith in the parasites who trailed him on his spending expeditions in the underworld persists with him. Federal Judge Landis is determined to retrieve for the aged bankrupt a portion of his estate, and has had occasion during his endeavor to speak harshly of Morrison's friends.

A spender's friends are all of a type. Self-respecting men shun him for fear that the taint of his scattered cash will fall on them and those who cling quit with suddenness when the golden bait is gone.

One of the chief compensations of moderate means is that they carry with them insurance against the creatures who sell their companionship and interest. Old Man Morrison of Chicago is not an especially appealing figure, but as living proof of an ancient truism, he stands without peer.

No Sex in Friendship.

Richard Wightman in "Soul-Spur."

There is no sex in friendship, for sex is of the body and friendship is of the soul. We move on different planes of being and experience; each plane has its own inhabitants, men and women similarly spirited, capable of really meeting, able to converse sensitive to the thrill which attends the subtle interlacing and aspiration. But except with the approval of man made law and village convention, it is difficult for like souled men and women to draw near to each other. The bars are up. "Thou shalt not" is the legend of the highways. The social order is arrayed against itself by the entertainment of narrow distinctions, by insolent insistence as to who shall, and who shall not, be together. There is doubtless some gain in this, but more loss, and the struck balance shows an almost universal unhappiness.

The Future Newspaper.

Col. Herbert O. Gunnison in Leslie's.

The journalism of the next decade will be sane, sober, and sincere; sane as opposed to silly; sober as opposed to sensational; sincere as opposed to selfish. There will be more newspapers for discriminating readers and fewer catch-penny sheets. The newspaper of tomorrow will aim to be sound as well as to resound; it will be a newspaper of sense, but not of sensation, devoted to service, but not cringing servility.

But That's Work.

From the Houston Post.

There are young men who can dance a summer night right down to sunrise without tiring, and yet if the boss were to ask one of them to put in an extra half hour the little thing would swear that work was killing him.

Stories of Street and Town

PESSIMISTS' CORNER

Help Wanted in Finding Things to Worry About.

THE editor could not think of anything to worry about today, so he is asking help from the general public. Really, something must be done to stem this appalling tide of happiness, and every little straw showing which way the gloom blows will be welcomed.

P. S.—Indian summer is sad; it tells us that winter is coming in a few weeks.

This Item Is Incomplete.

THE following birthdays were celebrated in September: Misses Dean Schrumberger, Jean Fisher, Susie Mattis, Mrs. Katherine Slavin and Mrs. Mary Mattis.—Foots Creek Item in Rogue River Courier.

Ages Are Not Stated.

Allies Dolled Selves Up.

A SHIPMENT of German-made dolls was seized by the allies and held in a prize court while the contraband question was being settled. Maybe it was thought the dolls might be spies, another tribute to the mechanical genius of the central powers.

Safe and Sane Sunday.

From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Seattleites who own motor cars would do well to place their hands upon their hearts this Sunday morning, resolve to conduct their cars with such care as to avoid accident, and ask for providential interposition in the guidance of the careless ones who have been tearing around with unusually deadly results during recent Sundays.

The Sunday toll of trouble has been too heavy of late. The bright days bring a large motor traffic to city streets and country roads. Wherever a citizen is on Sunday, he is quite likely to be engaged in going somewhere else. There is a complexity of common and cross-purposes, and in the mixup we may confidently count upon somebody getting hurt. A general appreciation of the dangers involved in Sunday driving and a general exercise of precaution would materially decrease the length of the casualty lists.

Much has been done to make the Fourth of July a safe and sane holiday, but our heedless motor drivers have replaced the one national danger day with 52. On a recent Sunday there were nine automobile accidents in and about Seattle, showing a greater hazard for the day than on the average Fourth of July.

Motor traffic is increasing every day. It is a problem now, and will be a more serious problem in the future. Careful drivers have few hazards. It would be far safer in a car than on foot, were it not for the careless ones. But no caution can anticipate the danger of the careless driver.

New Farm Loan System.

Paul V. Collins in September Review of Reviews.

The much-discussed rural credits law, as finally passed, and signed by President Wilson on July 17, was not the same in detail as when it left the guardianship of Senator Hollis in its triumphal march through the senate, although its fundamental principles remained intact. Its provisions are so multifarious that scarcely a member of congress nor a writer has been able to state them accurately, and those who base their criticisms on what the bill contained several days prior to final conference are likely to flounder in a maze of error.

Yet the spine and ribs are there as constructed by its creators—namely, the duel system: First, the cooperative system with units to be formed by farmers who desire to borrow, organizing local cooperative "national farm loan associations," comprising any 10 or more farmers whose mortgages must aggregate $20,000 or more. These units are to operate through a "federal land bank," and there are to be 12 such banks, the country to be divided into 12 districts, as in the case of the reserve bank system, although these districts will not necessarily be coterminate with the reserve bank districts. Second, the joint-stock bank system, not at all cooperative, but capitalistic and for profit to its stockholders. These joint-stock banks will have no connection with the 12 federal land banks, nor with the local "national farm loan associations," but will be in direct competition with that cooperative system; their intedest will be to discourage cooperation.

The two systems will be under one general control of the farm loan board, consisting of the secretary of the treasury, ex officio, and four members appointed by the president of the United States—two from each political party. This board has power to appoint appraisers, examiners and registrars, who will be public officials. At first it will also appoint the directors and officers of the 12 federal land banks, but in the course of time the stock of the land banks will pass to the ownership of the national farm loan associations, and the directors and officers of the banks will then be chosen by the representatives of the cooperative farm loan associations. In the meantime all appointees will be selected by the farm loan board regardless of the civil service, and since every farm to be mortgaged, throughout the nation, must be inspected by one or more of these appraisers, it is clear that a considerable army of appointees is to be built up outside of civil service rules. After it is organized it will be taken into the shelter of civil service by executive order.

Possibilities of Slang.

From the Boston Traveler.

Slang and its possibilities were vividly expressed in the conversation of two youths in a Back Bay home one night recently. The boys got into a discussion and when all legitimate arguments had been exhausted, the following repartee was heard:

"Snow again. I didn't catch the drift."

"Keep on spouting, kid, you're a whale."

"Tie yer shoe, your tongue's hanging out."

"Hang crepe on yer ear, you mutt, yer brain is dead."

"Aw sand yer tracks, yer slippin'!"

"Sneeze, little one, your bean is dusty."

Nature Study.

From Philadelphia Public Ledger.

A teacher in a large village school introduced nature study as a new branch in her classroom. She gave several talks on the trees familiar to the children.

One day she tested her scholars on their newly acquired knowledge. "Name three kinds of woods and state one use made of each," she wrote on the blackboard.

To her utter amazement one answer submitted was the following:

"In our town there are three kinds of woods. First, there is Kelly's woods, used for pasture. Second, there is Atwell's grove, used for the ash dump. But the third woods is the best of them all—it's Brown's gully, used for picnics."