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Charles H. Fisher

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1908

FROM "THE DESERTED VILLAGE."

O blest retirement, friend to life's decline,
Retreat from cares that never must be mine!
How blest is he who crowns in shades like these,
A youth of labor with an age of ease;
Who quits a world where strong temptations try,
And since 'tis hard to combat, learns to fly!
For him no wretches, born to work and weep
Explore the mine or tempt the dangerous deep;
No surly porter stands in guilty state
To spurn imploring famine from the gate;
But on he moves to meet his latter end,
Angels around befriending virtue's end,
Sinks to the grave with unperceived decay,
With resignation gently slopes the way.
And all his prospects brightening to the last,
His heaven commences ere the world be past.
—Oliver Goldsmith.

AS GOES NEW YORK

It begins to look like the state of New York will name the President this year, as it has a number of times in the past. At any rate, it will be well to keep your weather eye on New York affairs. From now until next Monday night the Republican and Democratic managers alike will center their greatest efforts on that state, for they recognize its importance to their success in the struggle of next Tuesday.

It is an old saying that as goes New York so goes the nation, but this of necessity is not true. Four years ago Roosevelt could have given Parker New York's 39 electoral votes and still have had the comfortable margin of 118 votes in the electoral college. You often hear it declared that New York is necessary to the success of this candidate or is not necessary to the success of that one. As a matter of fact, New York's vote is never necessary to the success of a presidential candidate—provided he gets enough votes to elect him without New York. The point is that the conditions which will turn New York one way or the other are certain to overflow into and affect the result in other states, and enough other states together with New York to determine the result.

Hence the saying that as New York goes so goes the nation. A glance back at political history will show that this is warranted. In 1876 Tilden carried New York and Hayes was inaugurated president, having finally been declared to have a majority of one in the electoral college. Since then New York has been an unerring barometer. Garfield carried it in 1880, and was elected; Cleveland carried it in 1884, and was elected; Harrison carried it in 1888, and was elected; Cleveland carried it in 1892, and was elected; McKinley carried it in 1896, and again in 1900, and Roosevelt carried it in 1904.

Yet we find that in each of these cases the successful candidate would have been successful even without the vote of New York, though in 1884 Cleveland would have had but one vote to spare without the thirty-six electoral votes New York then had. In all other cases the successful candidate would have had a comfortable margin had New York's vote been eliminated from the contest. Had New York's vote not been counted in 1880, Garfield would still have had a margin of 21; Harrison would have had 29 in 1888; Cleveland 74 in 1892; McKinley 59 in 1896 and 101 in 1900, while Roosevelt would have had 118 in 1904. In 1880, 1884 and 1888, therefore, had New York's vote been given to the opposing candidate Garfield, Cleveland and Harrison would have lost; while in 1892, 1896, 1900 and 1904 Cleveland, McKinley and Roosevelt would have won had New York been carried by their opponents.

When politicians say this year that as New York goes so will go the nation, they mean in the sense that it determined the result in 1880, 1884 and 1888, and not in the general sense that it will indicate the drift of sentiment, as in subsequent elections.

We are all familiar with the man who will not listen to reason. His head is set, his opinion is formed, and nothing will turn him, says the Oregon Tradesman. He shakes argument from him as a dog shakes water from his shaggy hide. Such a fixed and immutable stand is excellent when the premises on which he has founded it are correct. Before one makes up his mind fully on any one point he should be receptive. He should hearken to both sides, get all the facts and figures available, and then make up his mind carefully.

Real estate dealers in Eugene report that the most troublesome thing about their business this fall is to secure houses for the newcomers. A similar condition is said to exist in all the principal towns of Western Oregon, indicating the wonderful growth of the state since the westward movement set in. There is room in Oregon for several times the present population and we believe there will be no cessation of immigration until the population is even more congested than it is in the oldest of the Eastern states.

The writer of a syndicate article on "Wire-Pullers in Balkan Schemes" got it bad by failing to mention the boss of the bunch—the kaiser.

The Frenchman who predicts that the fight for health will

within twenty years do away with New York's skyscrapers, means well, but is in the wrong. It isn't a question of health, but of providing office room for the manipulators of get-rich-quick skin games that made and will keep these skyscrapers.

The Saturday Guard is the biggest daily paper in Oregon outside of Portland—and with our increased plant the type is all set in one day without extra effort. Our friends who want to see a real newspaper and job printing plant in operation are invited to call around any week day and go through the shop.

The wire-workers of both parties seem to be working overtime to work the workingman, but it is doubtful if their schemes work—somebody else who likes to work better than we do please finish the paragraph.

Instead of being about ready to cash in, as had been reported, she's 75, you know—the Empress of China has resumed the big stick and is swatting heads right and left, to show them that she's still the big noise.

Senators and representatives are doubtless wondering to what extent "Teddy" will use the blackthorn big stick, presented to him by the winner of the Marathon race, during the coming session of congress.

There are communities in which Professor Zueblen, formerly of the Chicago University, who is publicly advocating intermarriage of whites and negroes, would be speedily uplifted—by the hemp route.

In the midst of the campaign the Cleveland Plain Dealer pauses to warn fat men not to stoop to hunt for lost collar buttons, because of the danger of apoplexy. That's real humanitarianism.

Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, is said to have been tempted to pull off that czar stunt by being told that he had a nose like Napoleon. Still, some contend that women monopolize vanity.

The death of a Connecticut manufacturer, supposed to be a bachelor, revealed the fact that he left a wife and twelve children. More proof that things are not always what they seem.

Just to show that we, too, can read the future, we predict that on the evening of November 4 you will read a big headline saying, "Bill a Victim of Deadly Frost."

It's up to the law-abiding citizens of several states to decide, and decide promptly, whether the men duly elected and qualified, or the night riders, shall govern them.

Though prohibition is making no end of trouble for the old parties in several states, there are no indications that it will make a single electoral vote for its own ticket.

Nobody has accused Senator LaFollette of seeking to increase his personal popularity in the senate when he announced his intention to try to "clean up" that body.

It may have been noticed by close observers that Harriman has not found it necessary to deny that he contributed to anybody's campaign fund.

Unless distillers are doing some wholesale lying about their loss of business in the South, there are states in which prohibition actually prohibits.

Wouldn't it be a good idea to clean some of the mud off the streets? They never have been in a worse condition since the pavement was laid.

Of course the handful of men fired out of ten-cent federal jobs for political activity are wildly enthusiastic about the cabinet spellbinding.

Eugene has the prospect of a first-class modern hotel in the near future. It is needed, as well as a new city hall and a Y. M. C. A. building.

Politics and Politicians

Thomas L. Higson, candidate of the Independence party for president will close his campaign with a speech in his home city of Springfield, Mass.

The Prohibitionists hope and predict that they will be able to hold the balance of power in the lower house of the next Illinois legislature.

Judge Taft will speak at noon Monday, the day before election, at Cleveland, and at Youngstown, O., the night of the same day.

Reversing the custom of eighty-odd years, Missouri will nominate its United States senator by direct vote of the people at the polls at the general election next week.

On the day before election William J. Bryan will leave Kansas City in the morning for a trip across Kansas to Lincoln, Neb., delivering speeches en route at Leavenworth, Atchison and several other points.

Representative Walter L. Smith, who has represented the Ninth Iowa district in congress for the past eight years, is being mentioned in connection with the speakership in the event of Representative Cannon falling of re-election.

In twenty-three states a total of ninety proposed constitutional amendments, laws, questions, or propositions, will be accepted or rejected by the people in the election of next Tuesday.

Seven names have been filed for the republican nomination for United States senator in Missouri, as follows: David W. Hill, former speaker

of the house of representatives; John Kennish, former state senator, now assistant attorney general; Col. Richard C. Kereas, former republican national committeeman; John C. McKinley, present lieutenant governor; Chauncey I. Filley of St. Louis, Jacob F. Schmitter of Morgan county and Joseph Black of Ray county.

California is one of the latest states to agitate election reform. The people of that state in the election next Tuesday will vote on a proposed constitutional amendment, among others, empowering the legislature to enact a direct primary law providing for the direct nomination of all candidates for public office. The advocates of the proposed law have been working hard and entertain strong hopes of a favorable decision at the polls.

Herman L. Ekern, speaker of the Wisconsin general assembly, a prominent member of the La Follette wing of the republican party and father of Wisconsin's radical insurance laws, is running as an independent candidate for re-election. In defending his course he charges that the big insurance companies, the anti-La Follette faction and Senator Stephenson spent \$10,000 in Trempealeau county to accomplish his defeat at the primaries.

In South Dakota the question of repealing the "one-year residence" act, which was passed by the last legislature in order to stop rapid divorces, will be submitted to the voters at the coming election. Formerly, suit for divorce could be brought after a six-months' residence in the state. Opposition to this short term of residence resulted, and the one-year act was passed. The latter has been objected to in certain quarters and petitions finally were secured for the submission of the one-year act to a vote of the people.

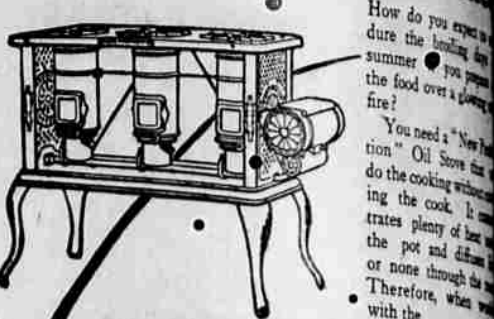
"THIS DATE IN HISTORY."

- October 31.
- 1735—General Oglethorpe re-embarked for America, accompanied by John Wesley and other missionaries.
- 1793—Execution of the Girondists during the French revolution.
- 1848—Stephen Watts Kearney, the conqueror of New Mexico, died at St. Louis, Mo., August 30, 1794.
- 1849—A remarkable meteoric stone fell near Charlotte, N. C.
- 1861—General Winfield Scott retired as commander of the United States Army.
- 1884—Marie Bashkirtseff, famous for her diary, died in Paris. Born in Russia, November 23, 1860.
- 1888—The first French legislature of the northwest territories opened at Regina.
- 1898—Helen Faucit, a celebrated English actress, died. Born in 1819.

"THIS IS MY 45TH BIRTHDAY."

William Gibbs McAdoo. William Gibbs McAdoo, the builder of the tunnel under the Hudson river which was named after him, was born near Marietta, Ga., on October 31, 1863. He studied law and began to practice in Chattanooga after he had reached his 21st year. In 1892 he moved to New York and began to practice law there until 1902, when he organized the company which acquired the old tunnel under the Hudson which had been begun in 1874. This original tunnel plan had proven a failure and a second attempt had met with the same fate. McAdoo was confident that the tunnel project could be carried out successfully and was made president of the New York & Jersey railroad company which has since built the tunnel from Christopher street to Jersey City. One year later, in 1903, he organized and was elected president of the Hudson & Manhattan railroad company, which started the tunnel from Cortland street to the Pennsylvania railroad depot in Jersey City.

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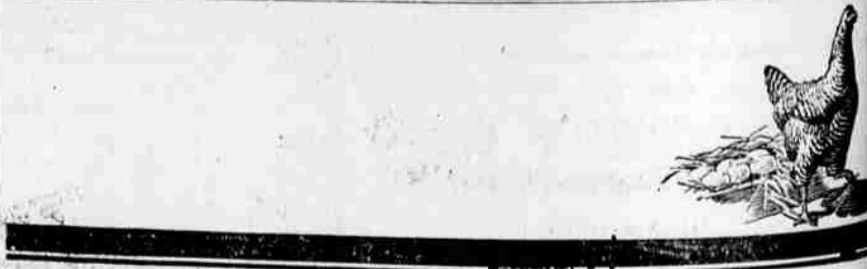
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