

BATTLE ROYAL IN THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

Republican National Gathering Alone Will Determine Who Candidate Is to Be.

GREAT 1908 CAMPAIGN NOW ON.

In the Democratic Field, Washington Political Observers Think Bryan Is a Certainty.

Washington correspondence:



THIS city will be the center of the great political campaign which will rage from California to Maine until the ballots of next November determine the people's choice for President. From now on until the successor of Mr. Roosevelt is chosen there will not be an instant's intermission in the din of political battle.

Secretary Taft stands sharply in the limelight and his friends are redoubting their efforts in his behalf. The fact that he is the candidate of the administration is sure to have the effect of keeping Washington on the jump to watch every move. Senators Foraker and Knox and Secretary Cortelyou, also located in Washington, will help to keep the political pot furiously boiling in the capital. New York will get the height of its excitement from the fact that Gov. Hughes seems destined to be a factor of no small moment in the lineup of the contestants in Chicago. Vice President Fairbanks and Speaker Cannon, presiding officers respectively of the Senate and House, must inevitably keep these bodies embroiled in the stress growing out of their candidacy, and their home States of Indiana and Illinois are likely to feel the heat.

Between these men, Taft, Knox, Hughes, Foraker, Fairbanks and Cannon, the convention at Chicago is regarded an open chance. All are powerfully backed, all will push their cam-

PHEW! IT'S GETTING HOT.



paigms with that energy for which the American politician is famous. For them will be expended limitless eloquence, and in their interest the quiet work, which appears little on the surface, but which means so much in the final result, will keep forces of trained men busy from now on until the nomination is made.

For the first time in twenty years the Republican convention will see a real battle. The gathering that nominated Benjamin Harrison in 1888 was an open fight much similar to the one that pronounces for this year. In 1892 the renomination of Harrison was a foregone conclusion; in 1896 the movement against free silver had fixed on McKinley in advance of the convention as the man to lead the fight; and in 1900 not a shadow of opposition developed against his renomination. Similarly Roosevelt outranked in popularity every name suggested for the Republican nomination. But this year the quadrennial upheaval will be made still more chaotic by the sharpness of the Republican battle.

Democratic Fight Different.

The Democratic fight is a little different. There is no mixed field with the hopes even. It is everybody against Bryan. In opposition to the Nebraska will be welded all the forces that contend that his two defeats for the place eliminate him, but though Judge Gray, Gov. Johnson of Minnesota, Chanler of New York, and Hoke Smith have been tentatively mentioned, there is no evidence of any boom powerful enough to prevail against the

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS SINCE 1856.

Good Thing to Cut Out and Save for Reference.

There have been thirteen campaigns by the Republican and Democratic parties.

Republican Candidates.

1856—Fremont and Dayton.
1860—Lincoln and Hamlin.
1864—Lincoln and Johnson.
1868—Grant and Colfax.
1872—Grant and Wilson.
1876—Hayes and Wheeler.
1880—Garfield and Arthur.
1884—Blaine and Logan.
1888—Harrison and Morton.
1892—Harrison and Reid.
1896—McKinley and Hobart.
1900—McKinley and Roosevelt.
1904—Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Democratic Candidates.

1856—Buchanan and Breckinridge.
1860—Douglas and Johnson.*
1864—McClellan and Pendleton.
1868—Seymour and Blair.
1872—Greeley and Brown.
1876—Tilden and Hendricks.
1880—Hancock and English.
1884—Cleveland and Hendricks.
1888—Cleveland and Thurman.
1892—Cleveland and Stevenson.
1896—Bryan and Sewall.
1900—Bryan and Stevenson.
1904—Parker and Davis.

*By the northern Democrats and Breckinridge and Lane by the southern Democrats.

Electoral Votes.

The number of electoral votes received by the two parties in these contests and the pluralities are shown here:

	Rep.	Dem.	Plu.
1856	114	174	60 D
1860	180	*72	108 R
1864	212	21	191 R
1868	214	80	134 R
1872	286	63	223 R
1876	185	184	1 R
1880	214	155	59 R
1884	182	219	37 D
1888	233	168	65 R
1892	271	176	132 D
1896	271	176	95 R
1900	292	155	137 R
1904	336	140	196 R

*The electoral vote of the Breckinridge-Lane ticket of the southern Democrats; the Douglas-Johnson ticket of the northern Democrats received 12.

magnetic Nebraskan's undoubted strength in his party.

Six months of contention must take place before the two parties place their standard bearers in the field, the Republicans at Chicago, the Democrats at Denver. Meantime the nation's business will be swayed and moved by every new boom, by every straw, by every indication. Capital, sensitive above all things of which man has

For Democracy Bryan is bound to be the big figure, whether he is the candidate or not. No man matches him in the popular kind of eloquence, and his fine voice, handsome face and magnetic bearing give him a phenomenal power to sway audiences. If Bryan is the nominee it is probable that the country will be stirred by another speechmaking tour similar to the memorable one of 1896.

And after the turmoil has subsided, and business, collecting its scattered wits, gets together at the beginning of 1909 to try to make up the ground lost in a wasted year there will be new advocates for a bill introduced into Congress recently by the venerable Senator Cullom of Illinois, which provides for an amendment to the constitution making the term of the President six years, limiting each incumbent to one term, and thus decreasing 50 per cent the recurrence of the year of politics.

INDUSTRIES ARE REVIVING.

Workers of All Kinds Are Reported in Great Demand.

Business throughout the United States, both commercial and industrial, is reviving, according to Terence V. Powderly, chief of the division of information, bureau of immigration. The division of information was created by Congress as an agency to divert immigration from the larger cities, and find places for the unemployed alien. The functions of the division have been enlarged, inasmuch as Chief Powderly is endeavoring to provide work for Americans as well as aliens.

From July 1 last until early in October 200,000 requests were made upon Chief Powderly to supply various forms of labor for factory, railroad, farm and industrial enterprises of all descriptions. About the middle of October, when the financial disturbances became acute, many of these applications were canceled, correspondents stating that instead of needing labor they were putting off men, and that everything pointed to a prolonged period of depression.

Recently there has been a renewal of the demand for labor. Chief Powderly says that this demand comes from every section of the country; that it calls for mechanics, mill operatives, factory hands, railroad builders, and farm laborers. From the agricultural States have come notice that in the spring hundreds of thousands of farm hands will be needed, and that every effort should be made by the government at this time to see to it that an adequate supply of labor is provided in the regions where it will be urgently required.

"An investigation has developed," said Mr. Powderly, "that, while the unusually large exodus of foreigners during the past few months was the direct result of disturbed financial conditions, it was not due to the closing of mills or factories or cessation in the progress of public works. The great majority of those who returned to Europe were not turned out of employment. They were alarmed by the outlook and decided to go back. The tide will begin to turn early in the spring, and I have no doubt that the increasing demand for labor that our reports indicate is at hand will be fully met by the supply in this country amplified by an enlarged immigration."

TERRORS OF "FRAT" INITIATION.

Sorority Ceremonies Shatter Nerves of Novitiate and Arouse Mothers.

The nerve racking, even though fancied, terrors of an initiation into a Greek letter society of girl students in private and preparatory schools in New York City caused a meeting of twenty angry mothers at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Moore. Their first purpose is to break up the local organization of the Sigma Gamma Society, and their second is to start a campaign throughout the country against secret societies among school girls.

It was the story of Julia Mills, not yet 17, as told by her to her mother, that caused Mrs. Mills to take the first steps. Miss Mills, according to her story, was summoned to appear at the Moore home. When she was ushered in she was led into a dimly lighted room between two columns of black robed, black masked figures, up to the high priestess.

"This will be a test of your fortitude, of your fitness to be a sister. You are ordered to thrust your hand into a small caldron of molten lead, which you see before you. Ready! Obey orders!"

Miss Mills dashed her hand into the liquid and sank to her knees in fright. After she recovered her composure in part she was surprised to note that the caldron was filled with mercury.

Suddenly the lights went out. Miss Mills felt the floor give way beneath her and she felt herself go down, down, and then land on the pillows.

The candidate was ordered to grasp the hand, for which she could only feel shuddering, she involuntarily drew back her arm when she felt the clammy fingers. She had grasped a wet chamois skin glove filled with sand.

Again she was led forth, this time to drink a nauseating liquid out of a skull, which liquid "would serve to make her one of blood with her other prospective sisters."

Revolted at each gulp, she was compelled to drain the skull.

TOLD IN A FEW LINES.

In an attempt to rob the Citizens National bank at Long View, Texas, Alex Walker, a negro, was shot by Sheriff Little and probably fatally wounded.

The new whitehead torpedo developed a speed of thirty-one and thirty-two knots in tests off Newport, R. I., of a consignment recently purchased abroad.

Senator Jefferson Davis of Arkansas said, "I don't believe any man on earth ever made a million dollars honestly" in an address before a mass meeting of the Progressive Democratic League in Cooper Union hall, New York.



Putting Up Silage.

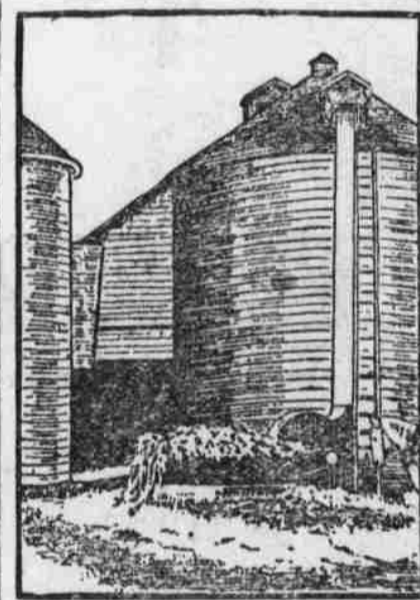
Many people make the mistake of cutting corn too green for silage, writes Dr. G. A. Billings in American Agriculturist. At this stage there is a larger percentage of water, and the silage when taken out has a large amount of acid, less starch and sugar and hence is less nutritious. Corn planted in drills with stalks eight to ten inches apart will mature a good proportion of ears.

Harvesting should not begin until the ears are passing the roasting stage and begin to glaze. Unless the season is exceptionally dry the stalks and leaves will remain green, but too mature or dry corn is more liable to mold. This may be found in spots around the sides or more generally over the silowherever the air has gained access to cause the fungous growth. This condition may be improved by tramping the material carefully in the silo, adding water by sprinkling with a hose, or if this is not available direct a stream of water into the blower or elevator sufficient to saturate the cut fodder. This moisture assists the material to settle and acts as a seal to keep out the air.

There should be labor and teams enough to keep the cutter running steadily. Nothing is gained by cutting a large amount of corn beforehand, hauling and piling near the machine to be handled over again. Aim to harvest at the least expense a ton. This will be accomplished as follows: If hand cutting is practiced, cut and hand directly to the man loading, not throwing on the ground in bundles, which will require an extra handling. Let each load come to the table of the machine in turn, handling the corn directly to the feeder. If the corn is long and heavy an extra man is needed on the table to assist.

Power should be ample and in proportion to the size of the cutter. The blower is replacing the elevator machine, economizing space and largely doing away with the stopping of an entire crew to repair the elevator. If the corn is heavy and the stalk large, cutting in half inch to one inch pieces will have the tendency to partially shred the stalk, and there will be no butts refused by the animals.

Teh material in the silo should be kept level and well trampled, especially around the sides of the silo, and it pays to have sufficient help for this work. Where considerable silage is put up it pays to have a corn harvest-



FILLING THE SILO.

er and blower, which economizes hand labor. The accompanying illustration shows part of the outfit used at the New Jersey experiment station in filling the silo for fall and winter feed. The source of power for running the cutter and blower is a gasoline engine.

Avoiding Wastes.

The first great lesson to be learned is to avoid waste. Waste has been the curse of agriculture. Why pay taxes on land that is not farmed? Why only half cultivate the fields and so waste both land and labor? Why waste time and capital in raising inferior animals? Why waste money in buying what should be raised on the farm? Why waste energy in trying to do more than any one man can do right? On many farms there is waste in a thousand ways, and no wonder that to some "farming does not pay." The small details must be looked after, and no farm should be larger than what can be properly attended to.

Best Grafting Wax.

The following is claimed to be the best grafting wax, by an old orchardist who says he has tried a great many: To four pounds of rosin and one of beeswax add one pint of linseed oil; put in an iron pot, heat slowly and mix; pour into cold water and pull until it assumes a light color. Work into sticks, and put into a cool place until wanted. Some prefer linseed oil to animal fat for grafting wax.

Manure for the Garden.

Let the barnyard manure for the garden be well rotted if it is desired to cultivate it into the soil early in the spring; but if coarse, green manure has to be used, scatter broadcast during the winter, and rake up or mulch part of it before plants are set in spring. Of course, this applies to ground that has been plowed the past fall.

Bran for Poultry.

"Bran is an excellent food for poultry in all stages of growth as well as for laying hens. One great point in its favor is its cheapness. It contains a larger proportion of lime than any other food at the price, and lime is essential to growth of bone, muscles and feathers, as well as the formation of shells for eggs. Lime which is found in food for some reason is much more easily assimilated than in the form of oyster shell and the like. Wheat is a most excellent poultry food, but the high price prohibits many from using it freely. Bran and clover used in connection with oats will produce as good results. Clover and alfalfa are rich in lime and should be had at all times in the green state when possible and in the form of well-cured hay the rest of the year. Cut alfalfa and bran may be fed in the form of a mash. Skim milk is an ideal thing to moisten it with. Fowls, however, will consume quantities of bran dry fed from a self-feeder and they eat alfalfa or clover hay freely from the stack or manger.

"Bran may be used mixed with the cut grain in the self-feeder and perhaps this is the most convenient form of all in which to use it.

"Some of the most valuable food properties contained in the wheat are left in the bran and its food value for poultry is not fully appreciated by many poultry raisers or we would see more of them using it in the ration. If you feed bran, clover and alfalfa you need on oyster shell and very little cut home or lean meat. In fact a flock will get on and yield lots of eggs without any attempt to furnish meat if the bran and alfalfa is fed."—Poultry Topics.

Overshoe for Horses.

Horses undoubtedly require an overshoe when the ground is snowy and coated with ice as much so as the



STRAPS ON HOOF.

average human being. Drivers, although anxious to protect horses from injury by falling, have been unable to procure practical and satisfactory overshoes. Those made of rubber prevent the horse from slipping, but they wear out so quickly their cost is prohibitive. In the illustration is shown one which seems well fitted to serve the purpose, invented by a Massachusetts man. It is made along similar lines to the "gripper" chain placed on automobile tires. The tread is formed of a number of metallic links. When the overshoe is adjusted on the foot the links intervene between the hoof and the ground, affording a firm grip. This overshoe need not necessarily be worn on the horse all the time, but in case of sudden freeze can be quickly adjusted in position and removed when desired.

Result of Corn Breeding.

From numerous experiments made in Wisconsin there has been developed a strain of white dent corn which grows on a very short, thick-set stalk, and which matures a good-sized ear, and the ears run remarkably uniform. The growth centers in the ear rather than in producing a big stalk at the expense of a small ear. After four years of careful, persistent work, there are numerous corn fields in Southern and Central Wisconsin which will yield 60 to 80 bushels per acre, and 100 bushels have been reported several times. Such results coming from a State which a few years ago was considered out of the corn belt demonstrated what corn breeding will accomplish when carried on along sensible lines.

Clover and Fodder.

Clover and corn furnish a fodder ration that can not easily be improved upon for dairy cows. Two factors should be taken into account when determining the amount of grain to feed. One is the extent to which clover or alfalfa is fed, and the second is the production of the cow. The rule with some is to feed one pound of grain for every three pounds of milk produced. When clover or alfalfa form a large part of the ration it would seem reasonable to suppose that a less quantity of grain would suffice than the amounts named.

Cheap Fertilizing.

Some of the best farms in the East have been brought to the highest degree of fertility by the use of clover, lime and manure. The farmers who have accomplished such results have aimed to save every pound of manure, and also to preserve it in the best manner. Lime is used extensively by those who know that lime is an essential ingredient of plants, and also because it is excellent for increasing the clover crop. Clover enriches the land by promoting the supply of nitrogen in the soil, hence lime and clover make an excellent combination.

Wire-Winding Machine.

The frame of this wire-winding machine is constructed of 2x4 lumber, 6 feet by 2 feet 5 inches. Standards for



MACHINE TO WIND WIRE.

holding shaft, 2 feet 10 inches. Shaft for holding wire spool, 3 feet 5 inches long with crank. For wheels, swivel wheels will do.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1253—The Alhambra, a famous Moorish palace near Granada, founded by Mohammed I.

1651—First school opened in New England for instruction of Indian children.

1731—First issue of the South Carolina Gazette at Charleston.

1750—George Washington married to Martha Custis.

1765—Stamp act passed the British Parliament.

1775—First provincial assembly of South Carolina met at Charleston.

1777—Elizabethtown, N. J., evacuated by the British.

1779—Lafayette sailed from Boston to aid France in her war with England.

1781—French attack on Jersey.

1780—First national election held in the United States.

1791—Vermont adopted the Constitution.

1793—First balloon ascension in America made by Francois Blanchard.

1806—Cape of Good Hope taken by the English... Public funeral in London to Lord Nelson.

1800—Congress urged drastic measures to enforce embargo act.

1811—New Orleans militia called out to suppress negro insurrection.

1815—British defeated at battle of New Orleans.

1816—Safety lamp, invented by Sir Humphrey Davy, first used in coal mine.

1820—Large part of Savannah, Ga., destroyed by fire.

1840—Henry D. Gilpin of Pennsylvania became Attorney General of United States.

1848—Insurrection at Messina.

1852—Laval university at Quebec opened.

1853—The Victoria nugget, weighing 29 pounds, sent by Australia as a present to Queen Victoria.

1861—Jefferson Davis of Mississippi spoke in justification of secession... Mississippi seceded from the Union.

1863—The Alabama sank the United States steamer Hatteras.

1867—Movement to impeach President Johnson began in the House.

1870—Postcards first introduced into England.

1872—Congress arranged to issue 1 cent postal cards.

1874—Statue of the prince consort unveiled in London by the Prince of Wales.

1883—United States Senate passed a presidential succession bill.

1888—Many lives lost in terrific snowstorm in the Northwest.

1891—International monetary conference met at Washington.

1893—Last spike driven in Great Northern extension to the Pacific coast.

Woman First in Egypt.

An Egyptian papyrus over 2,000 years old, which has been brought to the Toledo (Ohio) Museum of Art with other antiquities, is found to be of exceptional importance, as it establishes the date of the reign of a Pharaoh hitherto unknown and throws light on the condition of woman in the fourth century, B. C. The name of the writer who signs this papyrus is found on another document in Strasburg university, which bears a definite date, consequently his reference to the Pharaoh Kahabasha places the reign of that Pharaoh in the year 341 B. C. It also confirms the statement of the Greek historian Diodorus, of the first century B. C., saying that women were more important in the social scale of Egypt than men and that they formerly dictated terms in marriage. Since Diodorus no evidence had been found substantiating his statement.

New Disease of Horses.

A new and destructive disease of horses—new, that is, to this continent—has been discovered in western Pennsylvania. It is epizootic lymphangitis, and the State veterinary department is taking every possible means to stamp out the disease before it has caused great loss to horse owners throughout the State.

This disease has been known for a long time in India, China, Japan and the Philippine Islands, and more recently in South Africa. From South Africa it was carried, after the Boer war, to England and Ireland, where the British Board of Agriculture has been combating it actively for several years. When or by what agency it reached Pennsylvania has not been discovered.

About 40 horses deemed incurable have been destroyed. The others are in quarantine. The disease is a dangerous one and hard to combat.

Success of Paroling Boys.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children at New York reports that 89 per cent of the 1,497 boys and girls accused of various offenses and paroled during 1907 have mended their ways.

The Failures of 1907.

Dun's Agency reports a total of 11,725 commercial failures during 1907, representing \$197,885,225 of indebtedness defaulted, as compared with 10,682 failures in the preceding year and \$119,201,515 liabilities.