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The Statesman has been established for nearly fifty years, and it has some subscribers who have received it nearly that long, and many who have read it for a generation. Some of these objects to having the paper discontinued at the time of expiration of their subscriptions. For the benefit of those, and for other reasons we have concluded to discontinue subscription only when notified to do so. All persons paying when subscribing, or paying in advance, will have the benefit of the dollar rate. But if they do not pay for six months, the rate will be \$1.25 a year. Hereafter we will send the paper to all responsible persons who order it, though they may not send the money, with the understanding that they are to pay \$1.25 a year. In case they let the subscription account run over six months, in order that there may be no misunderstanding, we will keep this notice standing at this place in the paper.

CIRCULATION (SWORN) OVER 4000



THE CONTEST IN MISSOURI.

Against practically every prospect for success, the Republicans of Missouri have for years made a gallant fight for control of the state. Although strongly Democratic, normally, the Republicans occasionally choose a member of Congress but have not been able to elect a state officer for twenty years or more. It has had an unbroken line of Democratic Governors since a few years after the war, though it would have been much better for the state's reputation and for its material interests, if the Democratic party there had been overthrown a decade ago.

But through the manly and persistent administration of the county attorney's office in St. Louis county, by Joseph Folk, a Democrat, the dominant party in Missouri has been able to practically purge itself of that boodling element which has disgraced the state during the past five years of that party's management of county and state affairs. Mr. Folk has made a matchless record as an honest official whose first desire was to bring to justice a gang of prominent men who were stealing from the county and state with absolute freedom of action, without regard for party or other affiliation. He at first declined the nomination for county attorney, offered to him by the very boodlers whom he has since so relentlessly pursued, assuring them that if he should once find himself in that position, he would let no guilty man escape.

Being a young man without much experience, the "gang" thought he would be the safest man they could choose, and regarded his declarations as to the prosecutions of thieves as a little youthful bluntness. But no sooner was he installed into office than he began his prosecution of the boodling gang in county and state, and no promise or threat on the part of those who were so anxious for his nomination, could "stop him."

The result has been that at the end of three years the gang is scattered to the four winds—part of them in the penitentiary, others in Canada, Mexico or England, and the remainder under indictment and ready for the fate justly awaiting them.

As might have been expected, the Democratic machine in Missouri has made a tremendous fight against the nomination of Folk for Governor, but the better element of the party triumphed through an appeal to the people, and his nomination came to him by acclamation. His nomination brings the punishment of boodlers and grafters to the front as the paramount issue in Missouri, and the natural result is the impossibility of his defeat.

The Republicans of Missouri have nominated an excellent ticket, headed by C. P. Walbridge, of St. Louis, for Governor, and John C. McKinley, of Unionville, for Lieutenant Governor, both excellent men, but the splendid record of Mr. Folk renders his election almost certain, and, indeed, in one sense, altogether desirable.

A MISTAKEN BROTHER

The Portland Journal rises to remark that the Statesman is somewhat con-

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cerned about the Democratic party. The brother has been influenced by a wrong inference. This paper has only been hoping the Journal would explain to its readers more in detail the source of its conclusion, that the Democratic party could support the gold standard now, though it could not in 1896, for the reason that then gold was so scarce it could not transact the business of the country, while it was not in hiding in 1890 when there was less gold and many times more business which was easily transacted.

Also, its other excuse that the increased production of gold by the Klondike and South Africa mines had so added to its quantity that it came out of its hiding; thus making the free coinage of silver unnecessary, when the facts are that gold came into active circulation immediately after the beginning of McKinley's administration, the prices of nearly every American product increased rapidly, all kinds of industries regained their feet at once, and all this occurred before the product of these mines had added anything whatever to the circulating medium of the country.

This question is interesting merely to show that during the great campaign of 1896, the Republicans were right and that the Democrats were wrong. With a degree of obstinacy which does them no credit, the Democrats implicitly admit they were wrong then, but really contend they were right by setting forth a reason for their change of heart—or platform—that does not conform to the economic and industrial history of the country.

Therefore, the Statesman has asked why, if gold "went into hiding" in 1893 because the amount was so small that it was not sufficient to transact the country's business, a much less amount was able to easily transact five times as much business in 1890?

The Statesman is not at all concerned about the Democratic party. It is full of good men who are as much at sea on the present stand of their organization, as it has any stand since a large majority of free silver men nominated a gold standard man on a neutral platform, as the Journal editor seems to be in his attempted explanation of the causes which have led to the loss of his political compass.

BRYAN AND PARKER.

A Democratic friend reminds the Statesman editor that in one issue last week Bryan's name was used five times while but one mention was made of Parker—the information being offered that Parker, and not Bryan, is the Democratic candidate. Technically, this is so, but Parker is but a passing incident in the political history of the country. He was never heard of outside of New York state until six months ago and after his defeat this fall, will not be heard of any more. Mr. Bryan is the head of the Democratic party. Parker's defeat will make of him a larger figure in his party than he has ever been before, and the rank and file will turn to him with an enthusiasm that will equal that of '96.

The leaders of the party are "sane" and for the gold standard, but the overwhelming majority of the lay members is for free silver and Bryan. If the selection of a Democratic nominee for President were left to a popular vote of the party today, Bryan would poll twice the number of votes that Parker would. For years to come there will be two Democratic parties in the United States, and Bryan will be at the head of the larger of the two.

A QUESTION.

A correspondent of the Statesman, commenting upon Superintendent Ackerman's recommendation of better salaries for teachers, because of the increased cost of living, suggests that the increased cost of living has also to be met by the taxpayer, and asks who will increase his income?

This is a question worth examining for a moment. The correspondent here makes a plain distinction between the taxpayers and the school teachers. Assuming that he is correct in his implied assertion that school teachers never pay taxes, two conclusions inevitably follow: teachers are so poorly paid for their services—the most important, by the way, that are performed by any class of our citizens—that it is impossible for them to save anything, and thus become a part of that enviable portion of our people, the taxpaying community; and the other conclusion is that the taxpayers, including all the best-todo people of the state and those getting all the benefits of the public schools through the education of their children, should be perfectly willing to reasonably compensate the teachers for devoting their lives to a profession which keeps them so poor that they

may never hope even for the privilege of paying taxes!

And, further, when the cost of living appreciably advances, it is the result of increased prices for produce and wages for labor. Who gets these prices? Certainly the taxpayers. Right now it is practically impossible to hire a carpenter or stone mason for a day. They are engaged ahead for months at wages that would have staggered a contractor ten years ago when the cost of living was small.

And all kinds of farm products are 25 and 50 per cent higher than then. Have these things been of no help to the taxpayer? The prices of manufactured goods have also advanced, but not by nearly so great a per cent as has been the case in other lines of products, save in a very few instances.

The increased cost of living has been caused by the increased price of things we buy and that the taxpayer has raised for the market.

The taxpayer is the individual upon whom the burdens of the state government fall, but he also produces everything the increased price for which, bought from him by the poorly paid teacher, makes it impossible for the latter to ever expect a promotion to the ranks of those fortunate people, the taxpayers and producers, who are the beneficiaries of the high prices paid by the consumers.

The correspondent's question really suggests a distinction that does not always exist, and, also, that the taxpayer is a sort of individual who has nothing, who produces nothing to sell, who only lives to buy the things that other people produce—who, of course, are not taxpayers—and who do nothing but pay taxes.

We all want an economical government as it is possible to have in conformity with reasonable progression, and unnecessary taxes are always to be avoided, but it should be remembered that the taxpayers of the country are those who prosper most when times are good and that times are best when prices are high.

This is really no excuse at all for paying our public school teachers a wage so low that they may never hope to become taxpayers—the people who own the property of the country.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND THE STATE FAIR.

The Statesman is informed that the Agricultural College at Corvallis has decided to not make its usual exhibit at the State Fair. The report may be unfounded. We hope it is, but it comes from a source that lends color to its credence.

This will be a mistaken conclusion, if true. The College is liberally supported by the state and will look to it in the future for many, many thousands of dollars. And these dollars will, of course, be forthcoming.

But, nothing would be so unsuccessful in the way of blocking a cheerful support by the state as the growth of an idea among the farmers generally that the College is an exclusive institution, teaching merely "book larnin'" and not devoted to the dissemination of knowledge pertaining to agricultural matters.

It is at the State Fair that 90 per cent of the farmers who know something about the work of the Agricultural College, obtain their knowledge. They get it from seeing what is done there through the exhibits on display at the State Fair. They meet in groups and examine and discuss the character of each product, compare it with what they see at home and otherwise comment upon the College and its work.

The annual exhibit at the State Fair is one of the very best and effective means of advertising the College to the farmers of the state and should under no circumstances be abandoned. The State Fair is as much a state institution as is the Agricultural College, and the helpful regard each has for the other should always be in evidence.

Of all places, the College should be fully represented at the State Fair as its best opportunity for showing to the farmers what it is doing and upon what ground it appeals to the people for continued support. Its exhibits have always been creditable to itself and helpful to the Fair. We trust, however, that the report of its "falling down" in this line of its particular duty is unfounded.

INNOCENT OR GUILTY.

Every good citizen of Oregon will wish that the McKinley land fraud case may be decided in a way that will bring punishment to the parties accused, if they are guilty; but it seems a little queer to read in the Washington dispatches that the Interior Department declines to prosecute the failure of the Benson trial. But

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why should the desire for the conviction of McKinley be enhanced by the partment is "doubly anxious to secure conviction in the McKinley case since acquittal of Benson, unless there is a spirit of mere vengeance at the bottom of "the increased anxiety at Washington?" Is McKinley any more guilty because the Benson trial failed? Why should not the Department say, rather, that it is anxious, not so much for a conviction, as it is for a fair trial, and that if the evidence shall show that no wrong has been done, the public may rejoice to know that there has been more noise than actual violation of law. A proper spirit would express an anxiety for a speedy and fair trial where justice may be done, without that anxiety for a conviction that is out of place when preceding a trial which is had for the purpose of arriving at facts. Good people would always prefer to discover that a man is innocent than that he is guilty of any crime.

THE PORTAGE RAILWAY.

While there was considerable interest manifested in all the proceedings of the State Development League, it reached its climax when the resolution declaring for the immediate construction of the Portage Railway came up for consideration. The Eastern Oregon delegates were enthusiastically unanimous for the resolution and after earnest speeches by Judge Lowell and Henry Hahn of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, it was passed without any expressed opposition.

The situation at Celilo as to the conflicting propositions of the state portage and the government canal is to be regretted. When provision was made by the Legislature of 1903 for the portage road, there was no assurance that the government would begin the construction of the canal at any definite time, and, as may be well understood, the producers of Eastern Oregon want relief while they are yet living. They naturally want it now. They are in much the same situation as the Indian War Veterans who were compelled to wait for their pensions until most of them have gone where financial aid will be no relief whatever.

It is claimed that it will require at least ten years to construct the canal under the most favorable circumstances, and as much longer as the circumstances may be otherwise. The hard working farmer who is already well along in years looks with little patience and with less enthusiasm upon a proposition for relief whose arrival points to a postponement until he has gone hence. Nobody blames him for wanting a portage road, which can be built within one year.

But unless the road and the canal can be built and operated at the same time, the road will have to be abandoned altogether, unless it can be accepted as a permanent relief and the canal project given up. This, evidently, would not be a wise procedure, for, in any event, the relief furnished by the road will be but partial, since the cost of handling freight at both terminals will be immense, though less, of course, than rates charged by the present mode of transportation.

That great section of the commonwealth needs a permanent canal at the Celilo rapids in order that boats laden with its thousands of tons of produce can go unobstructed to the sea. Anything else must necessarily be of a temporary nature furnishing but temporary relief. This is the only solution of the problem.

But, in the meantime, the Statesman believes that, if it is possible to secure a right of way that will permit of the building of a portage road that will not conflict with the government's larger project of a canal, it is the duty of the state to construct the road at once. It should assist its citizens in Eastern Oregon to this extent without a murmur.

In this connection it may be said that the state board, under the unexpected circumstances which have arisen, is confronted with a puzzling situation, and, since nothing can be done now until the meeting of the Legislature in January, that body can take hold of the difficulty and authoritatively decide what to do. But we believe the road should be built, if a place can be found for it, before another year rolls around.

"ABUSE OF BRYAN AND HEARST"

In speaking of matters political, Senator McLaurin of Mississippi, says the Democratic party can succeed in electing Parker if Democrats will cease abusing Bryan and Hearst. It is pointed out that if this abuse continues many Democrats will become disgusted and refuse to vote at all.

And there is good reason for this apprehension. Bryan, especially, has ten friends and supporters in the West and South to one for Parker, but the Eastern Mugwump Independents, some of whom supported McKinley in 1900, and are now "rooting" for Parker, are still carrying on the war against Bryan.

Some of these papers have a wide circulation in states where the Bryan support is very large and their attitude in supporting Parker because of his gold standard telegram, and continually enlarging upon how it was the means of securing their support, quite naturally irritates that other kind of Democrats who do not fish in the same stream with Grover.

A week ago, Hon. J. B. Townsend, for many years a leading lawyer of Dallas, died at his home on a farm near Perrydale, the fact was announced in the papers, it attracted the attention of a few friends for a day, and the world moves on as placidly as ever. John Daly, a warm personal friend of Townsend's, the two living in the same town for many years, both leading lawyers and prominent in the councils of the Democratic party for twenty years, passed away a year or two ago much in the same manner. Nothing so impresses us with the unimportance of any man as the circumstance of his death. Daly and Townsend, who for years formed a large part of the life and public activities of the capital of Polk county, have passed on, their places are immediately filled and business feels no impediment nor the affairs of the bustling city any particular jar. Within a day the accomplishments of a lifetime are practically forgotten, reminding us of Bryant's lines:

"Earth, that nourished thee, shall claim
Thy growth, to be resolved to earth again;
And, lost each human trace, surrender
Up thine individual being, shalt thou go
To mix forever with the elements;
To be a brother to the innemate rock,
And to the sluggish clod, which the rude swain
Turns with his share, and treads upon."

The dispatches announce that in the disturbance the other day in Chicago, two strikers were "shot in the clash." A sympathetic public will anxiously await further reports as to whether such a wound must necessarily prove fatal.

It is a high stake the pack strikers in Chicago are after. The packers have had an exorbitantly high steak for several years. Between them it must be mighty tough on the customer.

With an unconcealed vein of disappointment, the Boise News says "the most serious thought in the strike situation is the ease with which men can be secured to take the place of the

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strikers. It bespeaks that there are many thousands of idle men in the large cities. What a damper this is to Democratic hopes! All the helpful results that were expected in the Democratic campaign from the disarrangement of business consequent upon an unrelieved strike will go aglimmering as long as men can be found to take the places of the strikers. But then the fact that idle men can be found at all shows that we are not as prosperous as the bloomin' Republicans have claimed. Even if the strike fails we'll exploit that fact and carry the news to Esopus.

A Democratic exchange says "the Republican leaders are greatly disappointed to find that Tillman can carry something besides a pitchfork." Oh, no. Nothing that Tillman can do would surprise even a Democrat, but the Republicans are surprised to see that a national Democratic platform can carry an outspoken gold standard candidate for President while "the money of the constitution" is still trampled under foot. But disappointed, nothing.

A Democratic paper which has severe spells of abdominal irritation every time it contemplates the fate of this country if it shall remain under the control of the Republicans, with Roosevelt as its "dangerous" head, says, while speaking of the Russian capture of neutral vessels, "when the United States speaks, the world hears, and regards." The Statesman is of the opinion that the people admire precisely that kind of a government.

There is no prettier custom than for the ladies to go with their heads uncovered while promenading or riding on these summer evenings. They always remove their hats in the theaters, also, but perhaps nothing under heaven will ever induce the lovely creatures to give the men a chance to get a glimpse of the preacher on Sunday. That is the actual reason why half the men in Salem do not know who are the pastors of the different churches.

This is my taste,
Bucolic and chaste—
Green grass, with blue sky above me,
An Elberta peach
Forever in reach,
And an Elberta girl to love me!

—Dallas News.
A yearning like this for two peaches at the same time stamps the yearner as a covetous monopolist—of the clingstone variety—whose blushes evidently will never startle those who know him.

The public should take notice that unless Bourke Cochran changes his mind, which he is quite likely to do, he will have supported the same party for two Presidential campaigns in succession.

In the merry rivalry which developed at the League meeting at Portland between the different counties as to their varied resources, it was dis-

covered that four of them took the first prize for the best wheat at the Chicago Fair in 1893, seven of them has each the largest amount of good timber, three the richest and most extensive gold mines, while each of ten claimed to have raised more alfalfa to the acre than could be stacked on the ground where it grew. The particular county having the biggest prevaricator was not determined, since the matter had to be postponed until the adjourned meeting in March.

Judge Parker will be notified of his nomination on the 10th of August. In the meantime he will have an abundance of time to formulate his reasons for becoming a gold standard man in a way that will catch the Bryan vote. In any event, however, the party will have to be reorganized. Even a victory this fall would not put it in good standing with Mr. Bryan. He says so.

While the Democratic state convention was being held in Missouri recently, the name of Bryan was boisterously cheered every time it was mentioned, while upon the naming of Parker, voices would shout from all quarters of the hall, "Who is Parker?" The reply might have been made that Parker is a Fellow Gold Bug.

The St. Louis Republic says "a big idle navy and a pithy, impulsive President forms a dangerously explosive combination." But not nearly so much as the Republic said the gold standard was four years ago—and now look at it shouting the praises of the candidate who says McKinley was right at that time.

"If the Chicago convention had been held a little later, the Republican platform might have claimed the credit for Mrs. Maybrick's release," Atlanta Constitution. But if it had, Judge Parker would have sent a telegram to the St. Louis convention "unequivocally" disputing the Republican claim.

Although Indianapolis is an inland city, there is a general feeling that through some secret agency Fairbanks had heard of his nomination at Chicago before the notification committee arrived.

The Atlanta Constitution says Georgia has 6,000 cars of peaches this year. Oregon peaches discarded such long trains as that years ago.

The Red Sea never was a very promising location for the exploitation of questionable undertakings.

If Port Arthur doesn't fall in the fall perhaps it will fall in the spring, and if it should—well!

Barrett's arrival at his post in Panama designates him as Johnny on the spot—finally.

Although earlier than was expected, the heat of the campaign is certainly here.

Hair Splits

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