

cans of Washington were alarmed about the next house. Republican senators and members openly expressed the belief that the democrats would secure a majority. Since Bryan spoke there is no more chance of the democrats securing a majority in the next house of representatives than there is of their electing a majority of the British house of commons or of the Russian дума. When William J. Bryan ascends the platform to proclaim campaign issues and declares party principles, republicans exult and democrats despair. It strikes us that this is a pretty grave defect in a party leader."

Well, it would seem as though the "dissevered members and fragments" of the party in Maine had pretty much all got to the ground and with strength enough left to get up and walk to the polls in such fulness of numbers as has not appeared before in over twenty years. If republicans at Washington were fearful last winter about the congressional elections, they are more fearful now. If democrats were hopeful then, they are more hopeful now—unfortunately so, perhaps, in the view of the Times' brand of democracy.

We are not, of course, attributing the almost unprecedented decline of republican majorities in the Maine congressional contests to Bryan's speech and restored leadership. Very far from it. But simple truth obviously compels the statement that the result covers with ridicule the conclusion that Bryan's speech and new lead-

ership had wrecked the party and thrown it out of the congressional race. The speech reached Maine ten days before the election, and was read there as widely as anywhere. If it is a bomb exploding in the vitals of the democracy, the explosive effects should be observable there as elsewhere.

And they are not at all observable there, and appear to exist nowhere else except in the wishes of those who have been secretly or openly opposed to the Bryan restoration all along. The Maine congressional result is not

of course certainly indicative of a democratic sweep in the November congressional elections; but we are not to conclude that the local issue of prohibition was the sole determining factor in contests where it was wholly out of place. Rather must it be inferred that a spirit of discontent is abroad among the people on general questions of public policy, which has not been satisfied with republican achievement in the way of radical reforms and which will not resent very sharply the more extended radicalism of Bryan

and in the District of Columbia, Arizona and New Mexico, though in some states it is not a statutory holiday.

December 25, Christmas Day—In all the states, and in the District of Columbia, Arizona, New Mexico, and Oklahoma.

Sundays and fast days are legal holidays in all the states which designate them as such.

There are no statutory holidays in Mississippi, but by common consent the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas are observed as holidays. In Kansas Decoration day, Labor day, and Washington's birthday are the only legal holidays by legislative enactment; other legal holidays are so only by common consent. In New Mexico, Washington's birthday, Decoration day, Labor day, Flag day (June 14) and Arbor day are holidays when

MR. BRYAN'S ITINERARY

On Thursday, October 4, Mr. Bryan began his campaign tour of Nebraska, speaking at Geneva in the afternoon and at Hastings in the evening. On Friday afternoon he spoke at Kearney and in the evening at Grand Island, completing the initial tour by speaking at Columbus Saturday afternoon and at Central City in the evening. Monday, October 8, he began his tour of Kansas, making the first speech at Pittsburg. On Tuesday he spoke at Wichita. Wednesday, October 10, Mr. Bryan began his tour of Missouri, where he spent four days, speaking

at Nevada, Clinton, Sedalia, Columbia, Lebanon. Springfield, Monett, Joplin, Kennett, Sikeston, Flat River, Macon, Brookfield, Carrollton, Cameron and Maryville. On Monday, October 15, he began his tour of Illinois, speaking at Pittsfield, Jacksonville and Carrollton on Monday and at Vandalia, Centralia and Mt. Vernon on Tuesday. Wednesday, October 17, was spent in Wisconsin, where he spoke at Madison and Milwaukee. On Thursday he spoke in Sioux Falls, S. D. From Sioux Falls Mr. Bryan will go to Denver, Colo., where he speaks on October 20.

Holidays, Legal and "National"

A Zanesville, Ohio, reader of The Commoner writes: "Will you please name the national holidays and tell something of their origin and history?"

So far as actual law is concerned there is no national holiday. Several anniversaries, July 4, for instance, are made legal holidays by many of the states. Several years ago congress passed a law designating Labor day as a public holiday for the District of Columbia, and as a writer in the World Almanac says, "Congress has recognized the existence of certain days as holidays for commercial purposes," but with the exception named there is no general statute on the subject.

The proclamation of the president designating a day of thanksgiving only makes it a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories and in those states which are provided by law for it.

Legal holidays in the various states are described by the World Almanac as follows:

January 1, New Years' Day—In all the states, including the District of Columbia, Arizona, and New Mexico, except Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi and New Hampshire.

January 8, Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans—In Louisiana.

January 19, Lee's Birthday—In Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Alabama.

February 12, Lincoln's Birthday—In Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Washington (state), and Wyoming.

February 22, Washington's Birthday—In all the states (including the District of Columbia, Arizona and Oklahoma), except Mississippi, where it is observed by exercises in the public schools only.

March 2, Anniversary of Texan Independence—In Texas.

March 7, Mardi-Gras—In Alabama and the parish of Orleans, Louisiana. In Florida in all the cities or towns that have a carnival association for the purpose of celebrating Mardi-Gras.

April 19, Patriot's Day—In Massachusetts.

April 21, Anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto—In Texas.

April 21, Good Friday—In Alabama,

Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

April 26, Confederate Memorial Day—In North Carolina and South Carolina.

May 10, Memorial Day—North Carolina and South Carolina.

May (second Friday), Confederate Day—In Tennessee.

May 20, Anniversary of the Signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence—In North Carolina.

May (last Friday), Pioneer Day—In Montana, observed in public schools.

May 30, Decoration Day—In all the states and territories (and District of Columbia), except Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas. In Virginia, known as "Confederate Memorial Day."

June 3, Jefferson Davis' Birthday—In Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and South Carolina. In Louisiana, known as "Confederate Memorial Day." In Virginia, in public schools.

June (first Monday), even years, general state election in Oregon.

July 4, Independence Day—In all the states, District of Columbia and territories.

July 24, Pioneers' Day—In Utah. August 16, Bennington Battle Day—In Vermont.

September (first Monday) Labor Day—In all states and territories and District of Columbia, except Nevada, North Dakota and Wyoming. In Louisiana, observed in Orleans parish.

September 9, Admission Day—In California.

November 1, All Saint's Day—In Louisiana.

November — General Election Day—In Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio (from 5:30 a. m. to 9 a. m. only), Oklahoma, Oregon (vote for presidential election only), Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming, in years when elections are held therein.

November, Thanksgiving Day—(usually the fourth Thursday in November)—Is observed in all the states,

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* * *

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