



Washington dispatches say that President Taft "is greatly worried" because rumors have reached him to the effect that corporations will fight the corporation tax in court.

In the primaries held in Nebraska the democrats nominated for justices of the supreme court, John J. Sullivan, B. F. Good, J. R. Dean. The republican nominees are Jacob Fawcett, J. B. Barnes, S. H. Sedgwick.

The Trans-Mississippi Congress, in session at Denver adopted resolutions in substance as follows: That the income tax measure become a law; that a tariff commission of experts be placed in service; that congress pass a law regulating the use of grazing lands; that Alaska be given a territorial legislature; that congress pass a law preventing the collection of federal liquor revenue in prohibition territory; that aid be extended American shipping.

The city authorities of Juarez, Mexico, have appropriated the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of providing a bull fight for the entertainment of Presidents Taft and Diaz on October 16.

The Kansas City Post has suggested that the democrats of Missouri hold a state conference this fall. Senator Stone has approved the suggestion.

A story of an important merger is told in a New York dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald as follows: "The elimination of the Vanderbilts from the New York Central lines and the complete ascendancy of Edward H. Harriman into the control of the more than 12,000 miles of railroad comprised in that system are declared to be the next important developments in the railway world. It is reported on what seems to be good authority that the Harriman brokers have secured an option on the greater portion, if not all, of the Vanderbilt holdings, and will soon close the deal in the interest of the 'Napoleon' of the railway world. The option, it is stated, is on \$50,000,000 worth of New York Central stock, which is to be purchased for Harriman at \$150 a share. The last report of the Union Pacific road shows that it has in its treasury \$14,000,000 worth of New York Central securities, and it is generally believed that Harriman and a few of his friends have a large personal holding in New York Central. The total capitalization of the New York Central is \$178,632,000, and it is understood that the option, if exercised, will give Harriman and his friends an absolute stock control of the company. This carries with it a control of the West Shore and a practical control, though not by stock ownership, of all the roads in the New York Central Lines system."

A "democratic state conference" is to be held at Saratoga, New York, September 9. Edward M. Shepard, one of the signers of the call referring to the proposed conference said: "In every county in the state there is an abnormally large element of the democratic party out of relation with, or even in hostility to the organized representation of the party within the state. The movement is not intended to build up a new party organization, nor is it antagonistic to any particular man or set of men. 'It has a far larger scope,' said Mr.

Shepard, 'it represents a widespread and unmistakable discontent of democrats with democratic party conditions.' It goes without saying that in many quarters the motives underlying the activity of Mr. Shepard and his associates will be subjected to misconstruction, some of which will be deliberate and some due to ignorance. Nevertheless, the central fact remains that the Shepard diagnosis is accurate and there is urgent need for prescribing for the patient. The most eminent democrats in the state have been called in consultation, following the example of the Brooklyn democratic county committee. Those who are looking for the 'man of the hour' must not be too precipitate. Conditions develop the man. The excesses of the terror produced Napoleon, the conservator of society. The crisis of the civil war brought forth Lincoln, the savior of the union. The democratic party organization in this state is in the control of wire-pullers and seekers after contracts. For ten years the democratic voters have vainly looked for leadership that was as incarnate of the party aims and principles as the white plume of Henry of Navarre typified the Huguenot cause in France. The republican party under Roosevelt, Taft and Hughes has drifted from its ancient moorings, as Cleveland said of the Bryanized democracy of 1896. The conservative forces of America have a choice between two evils. A centralized autocracy that wars on property, and a characterless and thoroughly commercial opposition. The former has seemed to it the least of the two. The democratic party under Tilden and Cleveland attracted the support of the conservative class, which is the backbone of every nation, because the leadership possessed ability and character. It is along these lines that party success lies, in the judgment of the Citizen, and most of the men who have promoted the Saratoga conference, are democrats of the school of Tilden and Cleveland."

The monetary commission composed of members of congress met at New York, August 16, for the purpose of drafting a new monetary system. A New York dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald says: "The secretary would not divulge what had taken place during the day, and said that no statement would be issued until after a morning session which is to be held tomorrow. Senator Nelson W. Aldrich of Rhode Island, chairman, and the others of the commission reached here early in the day and went direct to the hotel. At the meeting, regarded as one of the most important the commission has held, it is expected plans will be formulated for gathering the material from which recommendations will be made to congress."

The board of inquiry in session at Annapolis has given a decision declaring that Lieutenant Sutton committed suicide, and acquitting the accused officers.

The United States will get one-fourth of the Chinese loan. This will give the American financiers in the neighborhood of \$7,000,000 of this loan.

At the American Prison Association convention held at Seattle, a committee on criminal law reported as follows: "Nothing in the admin-

istration of criminal law is so impressive as swiftness and certainty. Consequently, nothing so discredits it in the mind of the public as lame and halting procedure in theatrical courts and disagreements of juries and delays and reversals for apparently technical reasons on appeal. Such things weaken public confidence in the administration of the law, discourage sheriffs, policemen and prosecuting officers and encourages criminals and increases crime." The congress elected the following officers: President, Amos W. Butler, Indianapolis; general secretary, Joseph P. Byers, Randalls Island, N. Y.; financial secretary, H. H. Shirer, Columbus, O.; treasurer, Fred H. Mills, New York. The National Prison Physicians' Association elected officers as follows: President, Theodore Cook, Baltimore; secretary, D. P. Helan, Kingston, Canada.

Bids for the construction of two more American fighting vessels, the Wyoming and the Arkansas, were opened at the navy department. An Associated Press dispatch says: "These vessels are to cost \$6,000,000 each exclusive of their armor and armament and are to make a high rate of speed. The vessels are to be of 26,000 tons each, the largest ever undertaken by the American naval establishment, the increase in tonnage in this class of vessels being from 20,000, the size of the original American dreadnaughts, the Delaware and the North Dakota. The Utah, now under construction by the New York Shipbuilding company, and the Florida, now being built at the New York navy yard, are the two remaining dreadnaughts, their tonnage being 22,000. William Cramp & Sons of Philadelphia were the lowest bidders for constructing the battleships Wyoming and Arkansas, bids for which were opened at the navy department today. The submitted two bids, one at \$4,450,000 and another at \$4,475,000. Only one ship can go, however, to any firm of builders. The New York Shipbuilding company of Camden, N. J., made the next lowest bid at \$4,675,000. Bids for the vessels were made under two heads, class one being, according to the navy department plans and class two, the department's plans as to hull, but with machinery suggested by the bidder. As a result, there were propositions for the installation of turbine coupled with reciprocating engines and turbines combined with electric motors. The speed promised generally was 20½ knots under both classes, but the New York Shipbuilding company also offered to build a vessel at 20¾ knots at \$4,750,000 under class one and at \$3,875,000 under class two. Another bid by the same company was for a 20½ knot vessel at \$4,780,000. Bids submitted by the Newport News Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company were class one \$4,790,000 and two bids under class two at \$4,680,000 and \$5,010,000 respectively. Eight bids came from the Fore River Shipbuilding company, all under class two and ranging from \$4,747,000 to \$5,097,000."

In South Carolina local option elections, the dries won in seventeen out of twenty-one towns. A fight for state-wide prohibition will take place in the legislature which meets in January.

On September 24, at Chicago the prohibitionists will celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the founding of their party. The Chicago Record-Herald says: "On the program will be five men who have run for president on the prohibition ticket and three who have run for vice president. In ex-presidential candidates the party outnumbers the two big parties, a fact to which National

Chairman Charles R. Jones points with pride. The five surviving presidential candidates who will be present and the years in which they ran for the White House are: John P. St. John, Olithe, Kan., 1884; Joshua Levering, Baltimore, Md., 1896; John G. Woolley, Honolulu, 1900; Silas C. Swallow, Harrisburg, Pa., 1904; Eugene W. Chafin, Chicago, 1908. The surviving vice presidential candidates of former years who will be present are James B. Cranfill, Dallas, Texas, 1892; George W. Carroll, Beaumont, Texas, 1904, and Aaron S. Watkins, Ada, Ohio, 1908.

Colonel Le Roy T. Steward, who has been superintendent of letter carriers in the Chicago postoffice was made chief of police for the city of Chicago.

The Aldrich monetary commission has adjourned until October, and Mr. Aldrich has gone to Europe.

Mrs. Cullom, wife of Senator Cullom of Illinois, died at her apartments in Washington City.

The trans-Mississippi congress met at Denver. Gifford Pinchot delivered an address pleading for the conservation of national resources. He was given an ovation.

E. H. Harriman, the railroad magnate, is returning to America in improved health.

An interesting echo of the Orchard murder trial is found in the following San Francisco dispatch carried by the Associated Press: "After five years of litigation the San Francisco Gas and Electric Light company has accepted the confession of Harry Orchard, now serving a life sentence for the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg, as a perjured statement and today the corporation paid the attorney, Walter M. Linforth, \$13,904 for damages inflicted upon his property on Washington street in November, 1904. During his trial in Idaho Orchard told of his having attempted to kill Fred W. Bradley, an enemy of the Western Federation of Miners, by blowing him up with dynamite. At the time mentioned by Orchard, Bradley was living in one of Linforth's flats. The explosion, however, was attributed to defective gas fixtures and Linforth obtained judgment for \$10,200. The corporation sought to obtain a new trial, based upon the statement made in the Idaho courts."

A Cincinnati, Ohio, dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "Ignoring a warning in the window of a 'what not' store in the Kentucky highlands, across the river from Cincinnati, to beware of a burg-

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