

both senators notwithstanding the democratic majority—and these senators are not only republicans but they are corporation republicans. There are 109 members in the Rhode Island legislature, forty democrats and sixty-nine republicans, but the forty democrats represent a population of 266,407, while the sixty-nine republicans represent a population of only 180,010 (two constituencies divide their representation equally.) The votes cast for democratic candidates for the legislature exceeded the votes cast for the republican candidates. If the election for senator had been by popular vote or had the state been fairly districted Col. Goddard would have been elected. What does Secretary Taft think of this? Will he make in Rhode Island the argument he made in Oklahoma? If not, why not?



**DR. R. T. TRIMBLE**

Dr. Rodney T. Trimble died recently at his home in New Vienna, Ohio. Dr. Trimble was, in 1896, a democratic elector for the Sixth congressional district. A friend of Dr. Trimble's writing in the Clinton County Democrat well says: "The high and splendid quality of his life was, in a sense, assured by the fine old Scotch-Irish blood that flowed in his veins. He was well born. Generations of distinguished people, refined and capable, were the channels through which had flowed the blood that made Dr. Trimble a gentleman 'to the manor born' and a man of distinction wherever he went."



**OHIO LEGISLATURE**

The Ohio legislature has unanimously adopted a joint resolution inviting Mr. Bryan to address the members of that body in joint session February 18 on the subject of "Guaranteed Deposits." The resolution follows:

**SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**STATE OF OHIO**

H. J. R. No. 84

Whereas, The subject of guaranteeing bank deposits is prominently before the people of the state and nation at this time, and

Whereas, There is pending in the Ohio legislature bills upon this subject, in both the house and senate; therefore be it

Resolved, By the general assembly of the State of Ohio, that Hon. William Jennings Bryan be invited to address a joint session of the general assembly, in the hall of the house of representatives, Tuesday, February 18, 1908, on the subject of "Guaranteeing Bank Deposits."



**THE WATCH TRUST**

The American citizen who buys an American made watch pays forty per cent more for it than the Englishman has to pay for the same watch in Great Britain. This, however, enables the watch trust to pay such high wages that the trust magnates go to the seashore in summer and the south in winter while the employes remain at home and wonder how the week's wage can be made to stretch so as to meet the week's expenses.



**"ANYTHING ELSE"**

The New York Evening Post admits that as between Taft and organized labor its sympathies are with Taft. The Evening Post wastes space in admitting something that is obvious to every one of its readers. As between organized labor and anything else, the Post sympathizes with the anything else.



**"THE GREAT EVIL OF OUR TIME"**

Stuyvesant Fish, former president of the Illinois Central railroad filed, January 24, with the superior court in Chicago, a brief which some newspaper dispatches describe as "sensational." This brief was filed in the injunction suit which Mr. Fish and his associates are prosecuting to prevent E. H. Harriman and his friends from voting, at the Illinois Central annual meeting, stock in that company which is owned by the Union Pacific and by the Railroad Securities company.

Following is one extract from the Fish brief:

"The great evil of our time, one which presents to the American people a tremendous problem for solution and one to which their attention is now being turned, because it is an

evil of very recent growth, is the monopoly of trade and transportation brought about by stockholdings of one corporation in another."

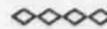
A Chicago dispatch carried by the Associated Press says:

"The brief is a reply to the brief prepared by the defendants in which they declared that a decision against them would disrupt many of the great corporations in the country. In reply to this statement Mr. Fish and his friends frankly declare that they hope it will have this effect and that the great majority of the American people are entertaining this same hope. It is expected to be the dominant purpose of the now famous Illinois Central injunction suit to make it possible for the people to rid themselves of grasping monopolies. 'We express, we believe,' declares Mr. Fish and his friends, 'the sentiment of the great majority of the people who hope that this case will go for the complainants, and that it will be the entering wedge which will finally dissolve all these monopolistic stockholding combinations and confine the piratical corporations of New Jersey and Utah to operations within the limits of the states which created them.' The attention of the court is called to the fact that the government has already struck one effective blow at the 'vicious system' in the Northern Securities case, which broke up one of Harriman and Hill's schemes to control parallel and competing lines of railroad, and that it is delivering another blow in the Standard Oil case. The opportunity which the brief asserts is presented to the court to do a great public service is thus stated: 'This suit presents to the court of Illinois the opportunity to join as a pioneer state in this righteous crusade against predatory corporations, and to declare, what is a manifest fact, that the Utah statute of 1907, which gives to Utah railroad companies power to own and control the stock of every transportation corporation by land and by sea in this country and in all parallel and competing lines outside of the state of Utah, is a practical attempt to evade the Northern Securities care and sets forth a policy which every other state of the union will use it whole power to strike down.'"



**THE REPUBLICAN CONTEST**

It looks as though there would be a spirited contest for the republican nomination for the presidency, and Mr. Foraker of Ohio is not to have a monopoly on the opposition to Taft. Governor Hughes and his friends have entered the field and they seem to have given the Taft boom a distinct setback so far as New York is concerned. It will be remembered that when, several weeks ago, a resolution endorsing Governor Hughes was introduced in a New York republican organization, the Roosevelt and Taft forces fought it so bitterly that they were able to lay it on the table. Subsequently they successfully opposed the proposition to consider that resolution. It was freely predicted by representatives of the Roosevelt and Taft forces that Taft would have the New York delegation and for a time it seemed that Governor Hughes was to have no standing in the party councils of his own state, but finally Governor Hughes was persuaded to write the letter announcing his willingness to enter the contest. This letter created quite a commotion in New York republican circles. Secretary Taft wrote to Herbert Parsons, the Roosevelt leader in New York, that he did not desire any contest made against Governor Hughes for the New York delegation. The Taft forces expect that this attitude in New York will aid in keeping down opposition to Taft in his own state of Ohio. In pursuance of this policy Mr. Parsons issued a statement declaring that he was not opposed to a Hughes delegation. The Cannon and Foraker forces manifest great pleasure because of the setback to the Taft boom and they declare that the republican contest is now "anybody's fight."



**OREGON DEMOCRATS**

Following are extracts taken from the Portland Oregonian of January 19:

"For president of the United States, William Jennings Bryan."

This is the ticket and the slogan of the democrats of Oregon as made manifest by the indorsement of the democratic state central committee at the Imperial hotel yesterday afternoon.

Central committeemen from all the counties of the state except Columbia, Coos, Crook, Grant, Klamath, Lake, Lincoln, Tillamook, Union and Willowa gathered at the Imperial yesterday at 2 o'clock in answer to the call

**ETERNAL VIGILANCE**

J. M. Babb, Clayton, Ill., an old soldier seventy-one years of age, writes: "Enclosed find sixty cents for Commoner from now to November, 1908. I cheerfully sign the one million army as a private, and will do some recruiting if you will send me eight or ten membership certificates. Also send me the Commoner that contained Mr. Bryan's lecture on 'The Prince of Peace.' My copy got misplaced that contained that great lecture, and I desire to read it again and show it to my neighbors. Rejoicing at the bright prospects of the success of W. J. Bryan in the coming campaign of 1908, I have had the honor to vote in two campaigns for Bryan and am anxiously waiting to vote the third time for him, hoping with all my heart that victory will perch upon the banners of true democracy for which I pledge myself to do all in my power to accomplish success of the party, that favors the masses not the classes, the party that favors putting down the trusts, monopolies and the great octopus money power, the party that favors a government of the people, by the people for the people, equal rights for all and special privileges to none.' Let the people organize for victory in 1908. For no victory will be won without thorough organization. Let the non-partisan voters of all parties think and ponder well, use all fair, honorable tactics to win, remembering that 'eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.'"

issued by State Chairman Sweek some time ago. The deliberations of the organization were short, but things were doing while the session was on.

Perhaps the most important action taken was the indorsement of Bryan as the choice of the Oregon democrats for the next presidential candidate. Senator Milt Miller was the one who brought the question up, and in a short speech brimming with enthusiasm he asked that the committee give its indorsement to the famous Nebraskan. Senator Miller contended that the fortunes of the democratic party were on the flood tide and he predicted a presidential victory for the party in November.

His motion that Bryan be indorsed met with the unanimous support of the committee and the delegates voted the indorsement with a whoop. Senator Miller, Lark Bilyeu and D. M. Watson were appointed as a committee to make known to Mr. Bryan the action of the committee by a fitting communication sent to him.



**WHY NOT NOW?**

Stirred by democratic attacks upon the high protective tariff Senator Hansbrough (rep.) declared on the floor of the senate "there will be tariff legislation or the preliminaries thereto will be started in April 1909." The Washington correspondent for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says that Speaker Cannon approves Senator Hansbrough's statement. But why wait until after the presidential election? Why not have tariff legislation now? At least "the preliminaries thereto" might be "started," say in February, 1908.



**WARDER OF MARIAN**

Hon. W. H. Warder, of Marion, Ill., has been nominated to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman Smith. Mr. Warder is a democrat loyal to the principles of the party and advocates all ideas of Jefferson. He deserves the support not only of democrats but of those republicans who have been aroused to the necessity of remedial legislation.



**THAT'S WHY**

Judge S. F. Prouty opened the campaign for Governor Cummins who hopes to succeed Senator Allison by declaring that Mr. Allison had "neglected opportunities for serving the people." Does Judge Prouty imagine that that charge would defeat a man for a republican nomination? The entire republican congress has habitually "neglected opportunities for serving the people." In fact that is what a republican congress is expected to do.