

national committee contributed \$15,000 in 1904, and the members of the national committee who had charge of the fund, have stated that the contribution was made from the general fund of the committee, and was not contributed to the committee by any one for the purpose of being sent to Nebraska."

ONE BILLION!

One billion dollars! This is now the cost of the national government for one year. It looks big to the ordinary taxpayer, but it probably seems quite moderate to the men who have been permitted to issue and dispose of about a billion dollars' worth of watered stocks a year for the past ten years.



All the robberies committed by all of the insurance companies in all times in the past does not amount to one-fifth of the robberies committed under the Dingley law in one single year. —Governor Cummins, republican governor of Iowa.

"The Republican Party is on the Run"

Under date of Chicago, September 24, N. O. Messenger, special correspondent of the Washington (D. C.) Star (Ind. Rep.) sent to his paper the following:

That dark-looking, lowering cloud which you see on the horizon upon approaching Chicago is not the smoke and grime usually denoting the nearness of the windy city. You will observe that there is an added grayness, sullenness and gloominess which does not characterize the every-day pall hanging over the city.

No, dear friend, what you see is the gloom settling over republican national headquarters.

But that rainbow above the mark? Ah, true, there is a rainbow. It signifies Mr. Taft's personal entry into the campaign with a valise full of ginger. He is on the job at last, much to the relief of the waiting republicans, who have chafed under the enforced restraint of a campaign which up to this time has shown none of the force and fire which Mr. Bryan has infused into his efforts.

DRIFT TOWARD DEMOCRACY

But, to leave this idle figure of speech and get down to facts, it is not to be denied that the republicans are in very anxious state of mind at this time. Things have not been coming their way in the past two weeks, not by a long shot, and they can not help but realize it. Ugly situations in a number of states are confronting the republicans, and the present drift of affairs seems to be against them.

This is not to say that they are in a panic, or that sort of thing. It is not to predict what may be the condition when the voters go to the polls November 3, nor even to forecast the state of feeling which may exist two weeks hence, when Taft and Hughes have stirred the west. It is the purpose of these dispatches to describe the conditions as they exist for the time, to call the cards as they fall, and not to forestall the cash-in.

The fact remains that republican reports of actual conditions in several states which ought to be regarded as safely republican indicate that the republicans will have to make a fight, and a mighty competent, strenuous and skillful fight, before they can claim the states, unless they would be like the man who cheats himself in playing solitaire. Here in Chicago you get hold of the strings which lead into a number of these middle west states, and as a spider in the center of the web, feel the vibrations from the outermost rings.

The buzzing does not sound good to the republicans.

There is Indiana.

INDIANA COUNTED LOST

Well, if you get an honest avowal for publication from the republican managers in that state it probably would be that Indiana is already in the discard; that as indications now point the state is framed up to go democratic on the state ticket and that Taft will have to fight, and fight hard, for the electoral vote. There is Illinois; the state torn with local factional troubles, the labor vote in doubt, the negro vote vacillating, apathy ruling among farmers and business men and a general state of dissatisfaction, hard

OR IT MAY BE—
A magazine writer who seems to be "groping blindly in the darkness" says: "The thing which has made Bryanism again possible may be a mere spinning ecstasy in the nerves of an over-wrought people; it may be a slow moral revolution, swinging tidelike from party to party; it may be a recognition of the enduring power of an unsullied manhood, coupled with an incomparable tongue; it may be a mere habit, or it may be a mood of despair in which all candidates retire in favor of the one man who has learned how to make defeat pay."
Or it may be that the American people have grown weary of the impositions put upon them by trust magnates posing as "defenders of the national honor."

to particularize, but regarded as inimical to republican prospects at this time, mind you. There is Ohio. Well, about Ohio, one republican of prominence in the state said to me today: "The situation in Ohio is just about as bad as it could be." However, that statement coming from the particular person in question should be taken with a grain of salt, since he differs with the Roosevelt idea of dealing with Senator Foraker and may be unduly discouraged. But from other sources comes the information that the labor vote is sullen and secretive, that the trend is against the republicans, but that salvation may be found in the great farmer vote, which is inclined to be in the main republican. The natural deduction is that Ohio is a doubtful state, the result depending upon the relative of the farmer vote to the labor disaffection, and at this stage no one can frame a definite prediction.

WEST VIRGINIA "ROTTEN"

There is West Virginia. The republicans who talk honestly, but not for quotation, summarize the situation in one word, "rotten." There is Maryland. The best indication of the republican feeling is the fact that the managers have scheduled Governor Hughes for a number of speeches, beginning at Cumberland and ending at Baltimore. This was announced today. For weeks the republicans counted Maryland as a sure republican state. They now consider the state as reasonably to be counted in the Taft column.

Nebraska and Kansas can not be reasonably and honestly counted upon by either party at this time for the reason that the voters have not "lit." The issue of bank guaranty is a burning question yet to be solved. The electorate is said to be undecided and the republican campaign is surely undecided upon this score.

Iowa has been regarded as safely republican by a reduced plurality, and it was something of a surprise when the Iowa folk demanded that Mr. Taft should alter his schedule to make a speech in that state. However, it is only frank to state that the best republican judgment is that Iowa is for Taft at this time, and I have not found any democratic opinion worthy of consideration to offset this view.

TREND IS TO BRYAN

But the main cause for anxiety among the republican managers is not so much a specification of particular cases of dissatisfaction, but the general trend of public opinion in the west is in favor of Bryan, in favor of a change and anathy toward all politics and all politicians. This apathy of business men is very pronounced. Up to this time it has not been possible to scare them about Bryan's election. They refuse to be alarmed. They say that times are hard; that they have been hurt as much as they can be, and they don't really care very much who is elected. They are not inclined to contribute to campaign funds, and that is regarded as a very bad sign.

Referring to the Messenger article and quoting it at length, Colonel O. O. Stealey, Washington correspondent for the Louisville Courier-Journal, says:

"Now I am quoting good republican au-

thority. I know that Messenger is too good a republican and stands too high in journalism at the capitol to falsify the political situation as he sizes it up. If he did otherwise the republican owners of the Star would not hesitate to remove him. That which he tells the people in his dispatches is the truth and nothing but the truth. The republican party is today on the run."

A 1908 CABINET MEETING

Washington, September 29.—Special dispatch to the Louisville Courier-Journal: The republican administration cabinet held its regular political meeting today. Among the matters discussed were the following:

Shall the scorching of Chancellor Day be answered? Shall we give the department employes as much right to engage in a partisan campaign for Taft as ourselves? Shall Glasscock be allowed to run for governor on the republican ticket in West Virginia and still retain his internal revenue collectorship? Shall the West Virginia postmaster be removed in defiance of his Hitchcock letter of immunity? Shall the cabinet officer under the pay of Standard Oil make an explanation? Shall any attention be paid to the facts proven by the official records that Arthur I. Vorys, chief of staff to Candidate Taft, was disbarred from practice in the interior department for fifteen years for withholding the pension money of a soldier's wife? Shall the high-salaried officers of the government go home and stir up their republican friends, with their expenses paid, charged up "as away on official duties?" Shall all the members of the cabinet take the stump for Teddy and Taft, or just work the press in "official reports" and interviews? And, in conclusion, shall Theodore the First, deliver another lecture to the American people of what they should do or not do in the present campaign?

It can be said that not anything connected with the affairs of the government and the good of the people was given any attention. After the cabinet meeting adjourned the president gave them a luncheon fit for a king. After the luncheon prominent republicans from a number of doubtful states filed in and told the president that he was the greatest man on earth since the beginning of the Christian era and that Bryan would only carry a dozen states in the election. This is the kind of officeholders and office-seekers—men who want favors from the chief executive of this government—that constantly visit the White House and offer up their praise and fulsome flattery to its occupant. Does he take it all in? Yes, he smiles and smiles and drinks down his praise with the greatest glee and gusto. He is not parading for Taft only to glorify himself.

His ambition is this: "See what I have done. I refused the crown that my people were determined I should wear. Instead, I named the man whom I desired to succeed me. I had the officeholders at my beck and call, at my command. I had a smart, keen man in the treasury, Cortelyou, who, after I gave him a 'good talking to,' abandoned all his hopes in the direction of the presidency. I had Frank Hitchcock in the postoffice department—another bright and alert young man, who I knew would organize the postmasters, especially in the south, for 'my man.' After I had 'called down' Cortelyou he was compelled to submit and go in with me. I treated other heads of my departments the same way. They all had to swing into line for my man, and that is all there is to it."

I do not quote the president in the above. I only quote what he has said to his friends and what he has said and done since the nomination of Mr. Taft. It's wonderful to me that he should make such a plain, personal campaign for himself without the people taking notice and resenting it at the polls. For audacity and egotism it stands unparalleled in American politics.

O. O. STEALEY.



HOW TO DEFEAT CANNON

Republicans who are anxious that Mr. Cannon be defeated for speaker should remember that the way to defeat Cannon is to elect a democratic house. Some republican candidates for congress are promising to vote against Cannon in the republican caucus, but such a promise is useless so far as the defeat of Cannon is concerned.

When a republican candidate for congress promises to vote against Cannon, ask him if he will vote against him in the contest in the house as well as in the contest in the republican caucus.