

ter it has reached its climax" they will "gradually begin feeling better, and by October will have recovered their normal composure and confidence." And he concludes:

On account of the belief which is likely soon to gain currency that Bryan has a fair chance, after all, the masses are sure to wake up and show genuine interest in the campaign. But all the travelers and observers with whom I have talked agree that at no time is there likely to be anything like the bitterness, the depth of feeling or the hysteria and fright we have seen in former Presidential struggles. The progress Bryan has made from a dangerous outsider into the class with the best of our public men of thought, action and leadership, is one large contributing cause of this national serenity.

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#### The Taft Campaign.

Judge Taft (p. 417) spoke to the Virginia bar association on the 6th, on "The Law's Delay." In regard to jury trials he is reported as saying:

Another method by which the irritation at inequalities in our administration of justice may be reduced is by the introduction of a system for settling of damage suits brought by employes against public service corporations through official arbitration and without resort to jury trials. Such a system is working in England, as I am informed, and has been successfully inaugurated in Massachusetts.

No one can have sat upon the Federal bench as I did for eight or nine years, and not realize how defective the administration of justice in these cases must have seemed to the defeated plaintiff, whether he was the legless or armless employe himself or his personal representative.

We cannot, of course, dispense with the jury system. It is that which makes the people a part of the administration of justice, but every means by which in civil cases litigants may be induced voluntarily to avoid the expense, delay and burden of jury trials ought to be encouraged.

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President Roosevelt has taken upon himself the full responsibility for the discharge of the battalion of Negro soldiers for alleged participation in the Brownsville rioting. General Corbin had stated that no credit or blame in the matter rested with Mr. Taft. After reading the interview the President gave out the following: "General Corbin's statement is absolutely correct, and it was entirely proper that he should make it. The substance of the message from the President, which he quoted, was made public long ago. In the Brownsville matter the entire responsibility for issuing the original order, and for declining to allow its suspension, was the President's."

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Gen. T. Coleman du Pont of Delaware has been appointed director of the speakers' bureau of the Republican national committee. Elmer E. Dover

of Ohio has resigned as secretary of the Republican National Committee, and will become the secretary of an advisory committee which is to work with George R. Sheldon, treasurer of the National committee. William Hayward of Nebraska City, Neb., who has been Republican chairman in his State for a number of years, has been appointed secretary of the National committee, and will be given charge of the Western headquarters at Chicago.

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The New York Herald reports that at a meeting of the Washington (D. C.) Taft-Sherman club on the 3d, several of the speakers, while enthusiastically indorsing Mr. Taft's candidacy for President, expressed a fear that over-confidence might beat him and elect Bryan.

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#### Judge Seabury Withdraws From the Independence Party.

Judge Samuel Seabury of the Supreme Court of New York, who has been regarded, according to the Chicago Inter Ocean's dispatch, "as the strongest single figure in the political movement headed by William R. Hearst," and "whose forceful efforts contributed materially to the large vote polled by the Municipal Ownership League and the Independence League in 1905 and 1906," has withdrawn from the Independence Party. Judge Seabury summarizes the reasons for his action as follows:

That there has never been a national convention so completely dominated by one man as the Independence convention.

That regularly elected delegates were denied admission and other delegates prevented from expressing views by threats of violence.

That a delegate who attempted to present Bryan's name was grossly insulted and ejected from the hall.

That Hearst considers the vote polled by the Independence league as a personal asset.

That Bryan's failure to support Hearst for President at St. Louis four years ago does not justify Hearst in using the Independence party to injure Bryan.

That the purpose of Hearst in nominating a ticket is to divide the opposition to Taft.

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#### Cleveland Traction.

Statements of failure of the three-cent fare experiment in Cleveland, widely exploited in the press of the country on the 8th and 9th, are best explained and answered by the following announcement given out by Mayor Johnson on the 11th:

It has been decided that beginning next Thursday The Municipal Traction Company will charge a fare of 5 cents for each passenger who does not provide himself with tickets.

I believe that a passenger paying one fare should

have the lowest rate without being required to invest in tickets, and recommend this temporary expedient only to meet a difficulty that will disappear with the general use of pay-enter cars.

Sold at a discount, the use of tickets is encouraged to such an extent that conductors have time to collect crowded cars more or less thoroughly; but where tickets are sold without discount their use is limited, and the necessity for making change to a rate of fare not represented by a single coin takes so much of the conductors' time that even the most expert find it impossible to collect a full car, and before the conductor has reached them or they have reached the conductor many passengers have arrived at their destination and are obliged to leave the car. I should have foreseen this particular difficulty attending the operation of a street railroad at 3-cent fare, and I assume whatever blame there is for not having foreseen it.

I did anticipate most of the other difficulties that have arisen. I knew that the hardest time would be the first few months, if not the first year, and that the period of reconstruction and reorganization would require both earnest and faithful effort on the part of the management and patience at the hands of the people.

The particular difficulty here dealt with will disappear with the general introduction of pay-enter cars, but it has not been possible to get them more quickly than is now being done.

It has been apparent to us and to the general public that we were losing from ten to twenty per cent of the fares, a loss which amounts to from a thousand to fifteen hundred dollars a day, and if saved this sum would have shown a surplus in the operation of the road.

While we are making a cash fare of 5 cents, we do not feel that any large number of passengers will pay the extra two cents, and it is not done for the added revenue from that source but for the added revenue which will come from the conductors being able more efficiently to collect fares. The additional charge of 2 cents is put on to induce passengers to provide themselves with tickets, but no passenger need pay, with or without transfers, more than 3 cents.

We have promised the people better service at the lower rate of fare. Our first duty, however, is to prevent a deficit that would lose the people the railroad, and after that our duty is to improve the service, to the extent of using the entire surplus if necessary.

A number of temporary causes which affect the revenue unfavorably will soon disappear, and we all look for relief from the general business depression.

The improved facilities which we are introducing will enable us constantly to increase the service without the slightest risk of a deficit.

This is the first street railroad that has accounted to the people for all of its income and outgo, with the pledge of giving the best service and the lowest rate of fare, so that whatever disadvantages there may be at the beginning of the enterprise they will be swept away by the progressive improvement that is to follow.

The management of the railroad can have no other

desire than to save this great property for the people and to give them satisfactory service on it. In this object it will, of course, have the sympathy and assistance of the public. While some inconvenience and dissatisfaction may attend the change from the private to the public method of operating the road, the continuous improvement of the property by the people who own it will result in a service so excellent that these inconveniences will be forgotten, as the people have already forgotten the much grosser and more exasperating conditions caused by the daily blockade at the Public Square.

TOM L. JOHNSON.

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#### A Free Speech Skirmish Won in Portland, Oregon.

With C. E. S. Wood for their lawyer, five socialist street speakers of Portland, charged with refusing to "move on" when ordered to do so by policemen, were discharged on the 29th by Judge Van Zante. The judge held that citizens have a right to the use of the streets to stand in and talk in and peaceably assemble in, provided they do not interfere with the superior right of the public to use the street as a highway, and that a complaint of a police officer that citizens did not move on when so ordered, without proof that they were obstructing the highway, does not define an offense. The deputy city attorney suggested that the complaints could be amended, but Mr. Wood protested, according to the Oregonian, that the law had had its chance at them and failed, the Court thought new complaints would hardly be merited, and the case closed with a ripple of laughter.

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#### The Advance of Constitutional Turkey.

Under the pressure of the Young Turks the Sultan has given way on the right he reserved to himself of appointing the ministers of war and marine (p. 446), and a new cabinet, practically composed of nominees of the Young Turks, and commanding public confidence, has been appointed. The Young Turk committee has published an appeal calling upon the people not to attempt to satisfy personal vengeance, on the ground that indulgence in personalities is opposed to its sublime ideal. It calls upon all the government officials to do their duty, and to report to the committee any difficulties which they may encounter in so doing. The document prohibits all private communications with the palace, and urges the people to trust the committee and obey it implicitly.

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#### Russia.

The Rech published on the 8th statistics, compiled from newspaper reports, of the persons who had been condemned to death in Russia during the first half of the current year. The total of condemnations was 876, an average of five a day. In January there were 116; February, 122; March, 184; April, 106; May, 217, and June, 131. While