
NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, June 9, 1908.

The Oregon Election.

Very little in definite detail is yet at hand regarding the Oregon election, further than we reported last week (p. 226), except with reference to the United States Senatorship. The next legislature will have 5 Democrats in the Senate and 9 in the lower house, the remaining 76 members being Republicans. But 52 members out of the 90, being 6 more than enough to elect the United States Senator, are pledged to elect Governor Chamberlain, a Democrat. This pledge was made in connection with what is known in Oregon as "Statement No. 1," which requires the legislature to elect for United States Senator the person who secures a majority of the popular vote for that office. The 52 members alluded to above are pledged to support the principle of "Statement No. 1," and Governor Chamberlain has received a popular plurality for Senator of 1,710 votes in a total of 101,950, with only a few precincts to hear from. Strong efforts are being made in behalf of the Republican candidate, Mr. Cake, to induce enough of the pledged members to repudiate their pledge and override the popular instruction.

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Although the full returns on the single tax referendum (p. 226) are not yet at hand, and will not be until the official count, the indications are that it was lost by about 10,000. At one time it seemed as though it had probably carried in Multnomah County (Portland), the vote for it running as high as 2 to 1 in some precincts; but it turns out probably to have been lost, although the official count will be necessary to determine the matter. The figures for this county, so far as reported, are 9,564 in the affirmative, and 9,866 in the negative. Five days after the election the Oregon Tax Reform Association, which originated and managed the Single Tax campaign, put out the following address, dated June 6th, and signed by Alfred D. Cridge as secretary, 704 Marquam Building, Portland:

To the Single Taxers everywhere: The first skirmish for the Single Tax in Oregon has been lost, and the little band of devoted adherents of economic justice compelled to fall back. They had little ammunition and much opposition. Not a daily paper in the State

gave them unequivocal support, and only one weekly paper stood by them. This does not mean that the people of Oregon are opposed to the Single Tax; on the contrary it indicates that they receive it with kindness and that in 1910 the Single Tax in its entirety can be enthroned in the hearts of the sovereign rulers of this democracy.

A little band of earnest workers, never numbering more than twenty, with a total of funds not exceeding \$3,700, came so near to carrying the chief city of the State, with nearly one-third the vote of the entire State, that it requires the official canvas to decide. True, the State went against them; but for the same reason that the Revolutionists fell back at Bunker Hill—they ran short of ammunition.

During the brief campaign the State talked Single Tax, debated it, read it in the State pamphlet sent to every citizen, and the people are still doing so on every corner. It will be easy to keep them doing so. Could this association have been assured of having \$10,000 on the first of last January we now know that it could have been carried. Those who aided with money deserve great credit. All we needed was more. They are honorary members of the Oregon Tax Reform Association.

What is needed now is a long strong pull all together to establish the Single Tax in the State of Oregon, where the people have the direct primary, initiative and referendum, recall, and election of United States Senators. If it can be established anywhere it can be placed on the fundamental statutes of such a State.

Two good organizers should be kept in the field from now on, increasing the number as fast as funds justified and interest in the campaign developed. The last twelve months of the campaign should be devoted to thoroughly combing over the State and allowing no farmer to escape a knowledge of how the Single Tax would affect him. During the entire two years statesmen and lecturers should be brought into the State from everywhere to tour its principal cities and towns on the proposed straight Single Tax amendment.

This requires money. Every effort will be made to obtain it in Oregon, but as the liberation of Oregon means the liberation likewise of every other State from the thralldom of land monopoly, it is no more than right that others should assist to the best of their ability.

We want 500 Single Taxers to come to Oregon and qualify for membership in our Legislature. They will all be eligible after a residence of six months.

What will each of you do for the Single Tax in Oregon?

"Once the welcome light has broken, who shall say
What the unimagined glories of the day;
What the evil that shall perish in its ray?"

Aid that dawning, tongue and pen;
Aid it hopes of honest men;
Aid it paper, aid it type,
Aid it for the hour is ripe,
And our earnest must not slacken into play.
Men of thought and men of action, clear the way."

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The "recall" amendment, the proportional representation amendment, the amendment requiring legislators to choose United States Senators according to popular vote (probably invalid under

the Federal Constitution), the corrupt practices act, the grand jury amendment, the Port of Portland bill, and the University appropriation bill, were all adopted. The referendum measures defeated were the equal suffrage amendment, the single tax amendmnt, the amendment increasing legislators' pay, the armory appropriation bill, the bill increasing the number of judges, that requiring free passes for officials, and the "open town" measure. Returns on all the questions are coming in slowly, and details will not be known before the official count. The vote on the equal suffrage amendment was about 5,996 for, and 14,264 against in Multnomah county, which includes the city of Portland.

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Republican Politics in Iowa.

At the Iowa primary of the Republican party on the 2nd, at which Senator W. B. Allison and Governor A. B. Cummins were opposing candidates for the United States Senatorship, Senator Allison is named by a majority of 9,373 in a total vote of 194,945. These primaries are of national, and even of international interest; for Iowa is overwhelmingly a Republican State and protection was the issue between these Republican leaders at their party primaries. Senator Allison is a "stand patter," believing in leaving the protective tariff alone; Governor Cummins is the leading representative of the "Iowa Idea," the idea of having the tariff modified by Republicans in the direction of free trade.

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Labor Politics in Illinois.

At the meeting on the 7th of the Chicago Federation of Labor, further steps in the direction of entering politics (p. 226) were taken by the selection of delegates to the political conference of the State to be held at Springfield on the 21st. Two Socialists refused to accept on the ground of their allegiance to the Socialist Party, and the delegates named were E. N. Nockels, F. G. Hopp, John C. Harding, J. J. Brittain and W. M. Rosell.

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The political action committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor adopted resolutions on the 8th favoring a full labor holiday on the 8th of August, when the direct primaries are to be held under the new law.

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Presidential Politics.

The nomination of Mr. Taft by the Republican convention, which is to meet in Chicago next week (p. 225), seems now absolutely assured. It became a finality lacking only formal indorsement by the convention, when the national committee began to pass upon contests. Convening on the 5th, this committee proceeded at once to the ad-

judication of contests for the purpose of making up the temporary roll of the convention. The business was done in secret session. Some excitement was reported upon the discovery that Frank H. Hitchcock, the Taft manager, had gone into the committee on the proxy of the member from New Mexico; that Senator Lodge, an intimate of President Roosevelt and a distinguished Taft leader, had done so on the proxy of the Philippines' member; and that Arthur T. Slatter and Charles G. Phelps, employes of the Taft campaign management, held the proxies, respectively, of the Alaska and the North Dakota members. A protest against these proxies was laid on the table upon the ground that the committee could not inquire into the validity of regularly executed proxies. The first case heard was the contest from Alabama. This involved a controversy between the returned delegates, who were instructed for Taft, and the present member of the national committee, who headed an anti-Taft contesting delegation. The returned delegation was sustained with only one dissenting vote—that of the Alabama member. A decision was made on the same day, the 5th, against the contesting delegation from Arkansas, and in favor of the returned delegation, which is instructed for Taft. On the 6th decisions against anti-Taft contests were made to the number of 16, bringing the total up to 40, and precedents had been established which assured Mr. Taft's nomination on the first ballot. On the 7th and 8th further additions were made to the list of Taft delegates, and his nomination on the first ballot is now conceded.

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It appears that the successful delegates from Alabama were representatives of the white Republicans, known by the faction of mixed races as "Lilywhites." This fact, together with Negro hostility to President Roosevelt, and by reflection to Mr. Taft, in consequence of the peremptory dismissal by the President of Negro troops in connection with the Brownsville affair, has precipitated a revolt within the Republican party. A speaking campaign was begun in the Negro churches of Chicago on the 8th under the auspices of the Constitutional League, composed of Republicans of both races, which exists for the purpose of fighting unconstitutional discriminations against Negroes in the South. The following petition was circulated at all the meetings for purposes of presentation to the Republican convention:

Gentlemen: Colored citizens of Chicago at a meeting _____ in _____ church assembled, having in view the systematic and flagrant violations of the Constitutional rights of colored citizens by legislative enactments of many States of the Union, respectfully petition you to secure a pledge by the national Republican convention to maintain and enforce the Constitutional rights of all citizens of the United