

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, October 20, 1908.

Mr. Bryan's Speaking Tour.

Mr. Bryan's first night's meeting in his tour of Nebraska (p. 684) was at Wahoo on the 13th. He had already spoken at twenty-one places during the day, through a farming region and in Republican strongholds. His second day's evening meeting was on the 14th at Hebron, after a day's record of twenty-two speeches, making forty-five all told for the two days. The tour ended at Plattsmouth on the 15th, after a more notable day, according to the Associated Press dispatches, both as to the number of speeches made and the size of the crowds, than either of the other two. From Nebraska Mr. Bryan proceeded on the 16th to Colorado, speaking in Denver on the evening of that day, after making a large number of unscheduled speeches on the way through Nebraska and Colorado. At Denver he had a tremendous ovation, and at the Auditorium in the evening he spoke in this way on the subject of publicity of campaign funds, taking for a text, "Let there be light":

The Republican policies are without form and void. Darkness conceals their plans. The awakened conscience of an aroused people calls out, "Let there be light!" What evils are marshaled behind the Republican ticket? What debts are being contracted? What mortgages are being given? "Let there be light!" The Democratic committee has set the example. For the first time in our National history a National committee has taken the Nation into its confidence and given forth a list of its contributors. This is in the interest of honest politics and honest government. It opens a new era. Will the Republicans dare to defy a universal sentiment, and maintain the secrecy that has given predatory wealth its hold upon the Government? The Republican National convention deliberately voted down a plank pledging publicity, and the Republican candidate insists that the contributions should not be made known until after the election, when the information can be of but little service.

On the subject of the tariff, trusts, labor and banks, and in elaboration of the same text, he said:

The public demands light on the tariff question. The Republican platform deals in generalities. The language employed may mean anything or nothing, and the speeches of their candidate intensifies the gloom that the convention threw over the subject.

Let there be light that the people may know whether the tariff schedules are to continue to be made by a few beneficiaries in their own interests, or by the people's representatives for the people's good. What does the Republican party intend to do with the trusts? Let its plans be stated. Let its remedies be made known. Let there be light on this question also. We have seen one of the greatest of the trusts obtaining legislative permission to absorb a rival. Is this to be continued as a settled policy of the Republican party? It is not sufficient to find fault with Democratic remedies. What is the Republican remedy? The people are entitled to know. What is the Republican party going to do on the labor question? Here again there is need of light. The Republican party claims to be the friend of labor. Let it define the friendship that it intends to show. If it is going to oppose needed labor legislation let it boldly declare it and not betray the toiler with a kiss. What is the Republican party going to do for the restoration of confidence among the depositors? What assurance is it going to give that the savings of the people will be protected from loss? On every question the Democratic party announces its plan and sets forth in detail the remedies which it proposes. The Democratic party takes the people into its confidence and submits the policies to their judgment. Let the Republican party be equally candid and open its books and its plans. Let there be light.

Mr. Bryan's meeting at Omaha on the 17th was of enormous size. After a few hours at his home in Lincoln on Sunday, he left with Mrs. Bryan for an Eastern tour. Speaking at various points on the way, he arrived in Chicago on the afternoon of the 19th, making two speeches there to tremendously large meetings, after a street demonstration which is described by Republican papers as a solid mass of people from street car tracks to building line on each side of the way, and six miles long. Going on the 20th into Indiana, Mr. Bryan made thirteen speeches in that State on that day, and three at Louisville, Ky.

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Mr. Taft's Speaking Tour.

Having ended his tour of Ohio (p. 684) on the 13th, so far as night meetings were concerned, Mr. Taft spoke at Wheeling, W. Va., on the 14th after nine speeches in Ohio on his way to West Virginia. He spent the 15th in Kentucky, closing the day at Louisville. On the 16th he entered Tennessee at Chattanooga and after speaking there spoke during the day at Cleveland, Athens, Sweetwater, Loudon, Lenoir City, Knoxville, Morristown, Greenville, and Johnson City, closing at Bristol. In these Southern places his speeches, as reported through friendly channels, were amplifications of the following argument:

With the material interests of the South dependent upon continuance of Republican policies, with nothing but historic tradition demanding that its people vote the Democratic ticket—praying meanwhile for the success of Republicanism—with Southern De-

mocracy nothing but a tail to Northern Democracy's kite, then why not now take the first political cold plunge, go politically where the material interests of the country demand, and vote the Republican ticket?

Mr. Taft spoke at Salisbury, N. C., on the morning of the 17th, and at Richmond, Va., in the evening, making the following intermediate points: Statesville, Greensboro, Reedsville, and Danville. The Richmond meeting of the 17th was the last of the Southern tour. Mr. Taft spent Sunday, the 18th, with President Roosevelt, as his guest at the White House, and on the 19th renewed his speaking tour with a morning meeting at Newark, N. J., going through New Jersey to Baltimore and thence through Maryland and into West Virginia on the 20th.

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The Democratic Campaign Fund.

Pursuant to Mr. Bryan's promise in its behalf (pp. 391, 466, 467) the Democratic national committee published on the 15th in detail and with names of donors, all contributions to the Presidential campaign of \$100 or more. This, says the Chicago Daily News, an independent Republican paper, "makes a new epoch in American politics;" and "not only is the occasion the first time in political history when one of the two great political parties has made public its contributions and expenditures, but the Democrats have published theirs before election." An analysis of the publication shows that the number of contributions is about 50,000, that nearly \$91,000 was given in amounts of \$100 or more, and that the smaller contributions aggregated a little over \$115,000. Adding to these contributions \$42,500 left over from the Denver convention fund, the committee had received altogether \$248,567.55, of which it had disbursed \$225,962.88, leaving a balance on hand on the 15th, of \$22,604.67. Among the larger contributors were Charles J. Hughes, Senator Patterson and John F. Shafroth of Colorado, with \$5,000, \$1,000 and \$250, respectively; W. J. Bryan with \$4,046 (the profits of The Commoner); Senator Clark of Montana, and Norman E. Mack of New York, with \$2,000 each; M. F. Dunlap, ex-Mayor Dunne, Judge Thompson and Ervin A. Rice, with \$1,000, \$200, \$100 and \$100, respectively; Roger C. Sullivan and John P. Hopkins of Illinois, and Thomas Taggart of Indiana, with \$1,000 each; E. S. Corser of Minnesota, with \$100; James K. McGuire and Edward M. Shepard of New York, with \$1,000 each; M. E. Ingalls and George W. Harris of Ohio, with \$1,000 and \$200, respectively; Joseph Fels of Pennsylvania, with \$500; and Senator Tillman with \$200.

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The committee promised frequent further re-

ports during the remainder of the campaign. Pursuant to this promise it reported in detail receipts for the 16th as 6,294; for the 17th \$3,250; and for the 18th \$4,337, and 2,776 for the 19th.

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The Congressional Committee of the Democratic party, following the example of the national committee, reported in detail on the 16th, with names of all persons contributing \$100 or more, a total of less than \$16,000.

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A Campaign Within a Campaign.

Cleveland is passing through a curious political experience—a non-partisan local campaign within a partisan national campaign. The local campaign is over the referendum on the traction settlement (p. 685), which is to be voted upon this week, the 22d.

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The first meeting for the settlement, held on the 12th, was opened by Mayor Johnson to an audience of over 1,200. The other speakers were Peter Witt, Senator Schmidt, and Newton D. Barber. The next was on the 13th. On the 14th there were Republican as well as Democratic speakers in behalf of the settlement, as there were at succeeding meetings. The Republican speakers include F. H. Goff and William H. Boyd. The latter was Mayor Johnson's adversary at the mayoralty election prior to the last, and Mr. Goff was the mediator for the business interests in effecting the settlement, with Mayor Johnson as the city's representative. The open opposition comes from the remnant of the street car strikers and from Samuel Scovill, the head of the lighting company, which comes next in the way of the movement for municipal ownership.

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Part of the campaigning for the settlement is done by distribution of The (Cleveland) Public, the third issue of which, dated October 15, is now out. This explains definitely the whole referendum situation and the purpose of the holding company. Among the things it enumerates as having been done are the following:

Taken the street railway question forever out of politics.

Purchased and rebuilt 150 of the finest cars in the United States.

Put an end to the congestion in and about the Public Square which caused a loss of from fifteen to thirty minutes each day to every passenger.

Expended over one million dollars in the repair, betterment and improvement of the property.

Introduced pay-enter cars, which will increase the earnings of the system from three to five hundred thousand dollars a year, all of which will go back into the service.

Put on trailers to take care of the rush hour traf-