

NEED OF COUNTRY

TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES IS IMPERATIVE.

THE MAN AND THE HOUR.

With the Nomination of John A. Johnson, Progressive Democrat of Integrity, Ability and Achievement, Success is Assured.

Wearied of 12 years of overwhelming defeat in national elections, during which time the party has lost national political control of every northern state and has witnessed devastating inroads even on the southern states, hundreds of thousands of Democratic voters have in the last few months asked: "Who is the man who can lead the party to victory?"

The best of armies, military or political, require some measure of success to maintain their spirit and efficiency. Continuous and overwhelming defeat, even in the worst of causes, disheartens the strongest men.

Conditions are such in this year 1908, that a united Democracy, supporting a strong presidential nominee, can win the presidential office and open the way for a return of the Democratic party to power. Not only do the best interests of the Democratic party call for a victory this year, but so also do the best interests of the nation. Twelve years of almost unopposed government of the republic by one party, and for eight of those years practically by one man, have brought about conditions that are repugnant to the efficient and satisfactory administration of a government supposedly of the people.

Principle with Victory.

Victory can be achieved this year, without sacrificing one iota of the stand for principle that has been made with so much sacrifice by the Democratic party of the United States for the last dozen years. It is merely a question of changing leadership. Three times in succession our party has gone to defeat, because its leadership has not been able to inspire confidence in the masses of the voters, patriotic, progressive and sincere as that leadership has unquestionably been. The party is greater than its individual membership and greater than its leaders. The time has come when it should name its leader in a presidential campaign and no longer permit itself to be defeated by a sentimental, though heroic, devotion to a great name that has dominated it for a dozen years.

If in the ranks of the party there is a man whose principles, whose party fealty, whose success in political battles, whose actual achievements in legislation and statesmanship—and a man holding a commanding political situation—are such that victory under his leadership is indicated, is it not the duty of reasonable, thoughtful, devoted Democrats, desiring the success of their party, to turn to him?

Johnson the Man.

The friends of Gov. John A. Johnson of Minnesota, who have watched his remarkable career in recent years, as well as impartial observers and journalists throughout the country, believe that he is the man of the hour, the man in every way equipped to make a successful campaign, and afterward to be a chief executive of the highest order. Let us briefly review his career.

John A. Johnson was born in St. Peter, Nicollet county, Minnesota, July 28, 1861, of Swedish parents. His childhood and youth were passed in great poverty. At 13 years of age, he was compelled to leave the public schools of his native city, in order to support himself and the parental family. Though his formal education was thus early cut short, his self-education never stopped. A student at all times, a wide reader and a thoughtful one, Mr. Johnson, after some years of obscure toil as a drug and grocery clerk and railway time-keeper, became at the age of 24 editor of the St. Peter Herald. He soon became known as one of the ablest of Minnesota journalists and was recognized as one of the leaders of journalism in a state remarkable for the number, vigor and influence of its periodical press. As a country editor, he was gradually drawn into politics and in 1898 was elected a member of the senate of the Minnesota legislature, and his first public political work was as a member of that body. From the first, he was identified with various reform measures, which have since become law in Minnesota.

Wherever Gov. Johnson has gone, he has impressed men as being a man of the Lincoln type. He has the faculty of making many friends and few enemies.

Gov. Johnson's Legislative Results.

The governor recommended a permanent tax commission. The legislature gave it to him and the ink was hardly dry on the document before he appointed a commission so strong in its personnel that the Republican senate resolved by a rising vote to confirm the appointments without delay, while the equally Republican house, though without the power of confirmation, expressed by a rising vote its appreciation of the excellence of the governor's appointments.

In northern Minnesota are the greatest iron ore fields in the world. The state of Minnesota owns extensive areas of these lands. By leases they were largely in the hands of the United States Steel Corporation and the state was receiving only an insignificant income from its royalties. The governor advised the withdrawal of all such lands from mineral leases and the legislature concurred.

Minnesota has enjoyed but scant in-

come from the wealth of the privately owned iron mines. The governor recommended a royalty tax on the output of these mines. He did not get it, but the United States Steel Corporation bound itself as a substitute to establish a \$20,000,000 steel plant at Duluth.

The newly created tax commission, together with the state board of equalization, which preceded it (the members of which were appointed by Governor Johnson), have in the four years of Governor Johnson's administration increased the assessed valuation of the steel corporation's iron ore holdings in Minnesota from \$32,000,000 to \$190,000,000.

The sleeping-car companies of Minnesota had never paid taxes in Minnesota in proportion to their earnings. The governor recommended a change in the system of taxing these companies and a satisfactory law was enacted. Similarly, a rational law as to mortgage taxation was enacted.

Railway Regulation.

Taking up freight rates, Governor Johnson in a powerful speech so exhaustively and conclusively bared existing unequal and exorbitant rates that the railway companies voluntarily made a reduction of ten per cent. on grain rates on their lines in northern Minnesota. By order of the railway commission, reinforced by subsequent legislation, this voluntary reduction was followed by a horizontal reduction in maximum freight rates of about 13 per cent., and there was created a new class of merchandise tariff in which the rates were reduced about 20 per cent. The railways took these reductions into the United States courts, by enjoining the attorney general of Minnesota from enforcing the law. This action has opened up some of the most important litigation involving constitutional interpretation that has come before the supreme court in this generation.

The Two-Cent Law.

The enactment of the two-cent passenger tariff law was an example of Governor Johnson's celerity of action. Invited to address the Minnesota Editorial association, instead of making the usual platitudinous address on such occasions, "he exploded the two-cent bomb" and urged that an end be put to the giving of passes. He talked on the same subject to a convention of commercial travelers. Immediately the state was aflame with this innovation in railway legislation. When the legislature met, he asked for a law embodying this idea and the legislature quickly responded. Neighboring states followed with reductions, and now throughout the middle northwest the two-cent rate prevails.

About the time Governor Johnson came into office there was a widespread agitation for reciprocal demurrage laws, which would compel railroads to allow shippers demurrage charges for failure to deliver cars on time. Governor Johnson, ever abreast of popular progress, recommended such a law and got it.

Thanks to his initiative, the orders of the Minnesota Railroad and Warehouse commission are now immediately effective, pending appeal.

In Defense of Labor.

Governor Johnson, in consonance with his thorough democracy, and believing in equal rights, has not been neglectful of the interests of labor. He desired a free state employment bureau designed to eliminate the many abuses that have marked private employment bureaus in the great labor centers of Minnesota. Such a bureau was created and has been thoroughly helpful and widely efficient.

Since time immemorial, that relic of feudalism, the common law doctrine of non-liability of employer to employ for injuries occurring through the negligence of a fellow-servant has prevailed in Minnesota, as well as in many other states. "This ancient rule of the common law," said Gov. Johnson, "coupled with the other rule generally referred to as the doctrine of the assumption of risk by employees, has cast upon the individual laborer a risk and responsibility out of proportion to the wages he receives."

During his term of office Gov. Johnson has had to deal with one great conflict between labor and capital, namely, the strike of the miners on the Minnesota iron ranges. By direct personal intervention, by advice to the employers on the one hand and the strikers on the other, the governor succeeded, without the use of state troops, in preventing violence and bloodshed.

In the forests and prairies of northern Minnesota are great extents of fertile land, which, owing to lack of drainage, have not been available for cultivation. Thanks to Gov. Johnson, additional legislation on this subject was secured, and hundreds of thousands of acres of fertile land will be added to the rolls of the state's wealth.

Gov. Johnson believes in the municipal ownership of public utilities, and following his suggestion, a modified form of the Illinois Mueller law was adopted by the Minnesota legislature. Under its provisions a municipality may bond its street railways or other public utilities to pay the cost of the purchase and operation of the same.

Minnesota, a leading agricultural state, has long had to contend with the cordage trust, which has a practical monopoly of the binding twine used in harvesting. For many years the state has had a twine plant in which prison labor was employed. The trust erected a factory in Minnesota to compete with the state-made twine and Gov. Johnson's answer was, with the consent of the legislature, authorization for the state twine plant to sell its product outside as well as within the state. The cordage trust will now have to fight the cheap Minnesota state-made twine in other states as well as at home.

Good Jokes

AN EARLY TEST.

It was close to midnight, and although she had yawned a dozen times during the past half hour, he stayed on and tried to get up enough nerve to test his fate. As the clock struck 12 he took a long breath and reached for her hand and said: "Miss Bluntly—Maude—ever since I met you at the picnic last summer I have been madly in love with you."

"Is that so?" she replied, stifling a yawn and looking anxiously at the clock.

"Yes, Maude. Will you marry me? Say that you'll be mine and make me the happiest man in the world."

"Why—er—we haven't known each other very long," she said, as she continued to watch the clock.

"Long enough for me to know that you are the only girl I could ever love. Say the word and I'll do anything—anything—you may ask."

"You will?" asked the girl, beginning to show some interest in the matter for the first time.

"I will, Maude."

"Anything I may ask?"

"Anything, no matter what. I'd leap into a den of lions for you; I'd throw myself into the raging sea, or leap from a balloon were you to ask it. Will you put me to the test, dear?"

"Yes, Harold," she said, as she returned the pressure of his hand and uttered a deep sigh of relief. "I promise to be yours, and now please get your hat and make tracks for home. I've got to get up at five o'clock tomorrow morning and help mother with the ironing."—A. B. Lewis, in Judge.

WONDERS OF MODERN SCIENCE.



"Doctor, I have swallowed a stone."

"Yes; I have discovered it inside you. It is impossible to extract it, but, if you like, with the aid of radium, I can transform it into a superb amethyst."—Bon Vivant.

The Big Find.

"How does it happen that Brown is treating everybody in sight?"

"Why, you see, years ago he presented his wife with a little toy bank in which the children could keep their pennies."

"I see; and now he finds himself the head of a frugal industrious family."

"No; now he finds the bank."—Puck.

Manager's Idea.

"I don't think a person appreciates a thing when he gets it for nothing," said the man with the cane.

"You're right," replied the theatrical manager; "just look at those critics, how they're roasting my show!"—Yonkers Statesman.

A MYSTERY EXPLAINED.



"My wife and I never have a discussion before the children. If I see a quarrel coming on, I always send them out."

"I thought I had seen them in the street very often."

Nobility.

"Have you noticed the suits of armor which we have in the hall?" asked Mrs. Gottit lately.

"Yes," replied her neighbor. "Where did you get them?"

"They were all handed down to us. Every one of them was worn by my ancestors or my husband's in the revolutionary war."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Ever Notice It?

Church—Do you think women have a sense of humor?

Gotham—No, I don't.

"Don't think a woman can get off anything funny?"

"I didn't say that. I've seen 'em get off a street car funny."—Yonkers Statesman.

Thankful.

"I hope your constituents are grateful to you for what you have done for them."

"I hope so," answered Senator Sorghum; "but I must confess I am thankful for the arrangement which makes compensation for my services independent of the gratitude of my constituents."—Washington Star.

ONLY FIFTY PER CENT.



"If I were only half as pretty as Fraulein Mathilde!"

"But you are, fraulein!"

"You impertinent thing!"—Megendorfer Blaetter.

Different.

"I understand you have been telling Mrs. Nix a story?" said the mother to her eight-year-old daughter.

"Yes, mamma, I did," replied the child.

"But don't you know that is very naughty, my dear?"

"No, mamma, I don't think it was."

"But it is very naughty."

"But, mamma, she asked me how old you were, and I know you didn't want me to tell her the truth!"—Yonkers Statesman.

Unaccustomed Splendor.

"I see that you know how to enjoy your money," said the old-time friend.

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox; "I'm doing pretty well. I don't miss home cooking near as much as I used to, and am getting so I can walk into my own house without feeling as if I ought to walk up to a desk and register."—Washington Star.

FOR A CHANGE.



Barber (insinuatingly)—Your hair wants cutting badly, sir?

Patron—That's the way you cut it the last time. Cut it nicely this time.

Progress.

"Brains don't count for as much as influence," said the cynic, "and influence doesn't count for as much as money."

"My dear, sir," answered the sadly-practical person, "you disregard the fact that it takes brains to get influence and influence to get money."—Washington Star.

Premature.

"Billger eloped with his cook, the unfeeling wretch!"

"Well, I don't know. Why shouldn't he if he wanted to?"

"But his wife was just going to give a dinner party."—Life.

A DESERVING CASE.



He—Don't you think, darling, that out of respect for your dear husband we ought to wait a year before we are married?

The Widow—But don't you think, dear, we should have the usual allowance for good behavior?

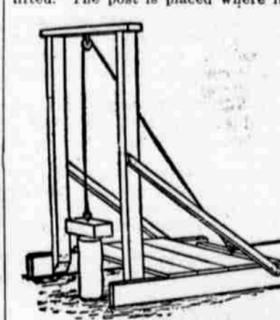
ROAD AND FARM IMPROVEMENT

HOME-MADE POST DRIVER.

It Can Be Used to Drive a Well Also.

Posts may be driven with speed and economy on many farms, if well sharpened and the right method is followed. A real post driver is one of the most easily made things and one of the most useful that a farmer can get up. Uprights are bolted across to a sled, or a rough plank sled may be made for the purpose.

The standards may be 12 or 15 feet high. To them is bolted a cross bar which supports the hoist for the weight. For this a block of iron or lead weighing not less than 25 pounds must be obtained, and it must have a staple or ring in it so it may be lifted. The post is placed where it is



Easy to Drive Posts with This.

to be driven and the weight lifted and allowed to fall on it. A little practice will enable one to drive posts in soil that seems too hard. The rig is useful also in putting down driven wells.

To drive a well, says the Farm and Home, 1 1/2-inch pipe is preferred. The length should not be over six feet. The first pipe to be driven must have a point of iron or steel. Any blacksmith who is an expert at welding can readily make a point sold in the end of the pipe, and then bore numerous one-fourth-inch poles in it for the first 18 inches of its length above the point. Before driving, a coupling must be screwed down tight and fast on the thread that is to connect it to its mate, so the thread may not be injured. Also on top of this coupling must always rest a block of lead or seasoned hickory, to receive and distribute the concussion, to preserve the pipe from destruction.

The pipe is driven the same as a post, another length being attached as fast as one is sunk in the ground. One rule must never be forgotten: Each length of pipe must be threaded so long as it screws into the coupling and rests (but, they call it), on the end of the pipe beneath it. This prevents splitting the coupling and leaky joints.

DRAG THE ROADS.

Not Too Late Yet to Do Much to Improve the Highways.

An Illinois farmer says of the drag: "The drag is making more good roads than any implement or machine ever invented. The nice thing about the drag is that it is inexpensive, and it utilizes the material at hand for filling up ruts and depressions. I have traveled extensively during the year just passed, over Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska. It is no trick at all to pick out every stretch of road where the plank drag has been used. The secret of making good, hard road-beds, well rounded, is starting the drag on the outer edge of the road, and working the dirt toward the center of the road. In this way all ruts are filled, and the crown of the road is so high that it drains perfectly and the best part of the dirt is in the center, where there is the heaviest wear. Those who have undertaken to keep the roadway adjacent to their farms in condition say that the time required to do the work is practically nothing. Roadmasters in many townships are now using available money to provide drags and keep them on the roads at the right time. Look up the good points of the King drag. Make one and have it ready for business when the proper time comes in early spring."

THE BARNYARD.

Clean It Every Day and Keep It Looking Tidy.

The barnyard is often the most unsightly spot on the farm, but it need not be so. If the habit is formed of cleaning the barnyard each day it can be kept as tidy as any other part of the farm. It should be cleaned as soon as the cattle are out of it in the morning. The droppings should be thrown into a portion of the barnyard that is set off from the rest of the yard and which should have a cover over it that can be easily lifted and lowered, says the Farmers' Review. The parts of this receptacle can be made adjustable, so that it can be enlarged on demand. The cover over the manure keeps the latter just moist enough so that the fertility does not get out of it. The drying up of the manure when the latter is left in piles is a very wasteful process, as much of the nitrogen works off into the air unperceived by the farmer. When the droppings in a barnyard are allowed to lie about they dry up and most of their first value is dissipated into the air.

MINES AND MINING

At Neal, Idaho, the old properties and some of the new ones are enjoying an era of development.

Activity in the American Fork mining district of Utah has started and preparations are under way for a lively season at a large number of properties.

The very late season has somewhat discouraged placer miners at Placerville, Idaho. The snow has been disappearing but without producing sufficient water for mining purposes.

Coal and coke plants of Indiana county, Pennsylvania, have shut down for an indefinite period, throwing 1,000 men out of employment. Coke to the value of \$80,000 is stored awaiting a market.

There has been no exaggeration of the richness of the properties at Boyd basin, the new camp in the Pine Forest range, that have been previously published in this paper, says the Humboldt (Nevada) Star.

Rumors have been rife at Wallace, Idaho, recently to the effect that hundreds of miners from Missouri were on their way to the Coeur d'Alenes, or soon will be. The rumors are unconfirmed and, in fact, are denied by the mine owners.

The sensation of the past week in Goldfield was the official announcement of an important strike in the Great Bend, the next door neighbor of the Daisy at Diamondfield, which has long been considered one of the best prospective mines in the district.

With the realization that straight ahead into the mountain within their lines are resources of splendid merit, all that is needed being work to get at them, the officials of the Indian Queen Consolidated company are figuring on installing more powerful equipment, says the Salt Lake Tribune.

A protracted session of the leading pig iron interests of the country was held in New York on the 16th at the office of the United States Steel corporation. After a full discussion it was the unanimous opinion of all present that the present prices of foundry iron should not be changed.

The Silver King Coalition company has filed its answer in the suit brought by Colonel Nicholas Treweek early in the year, in which he alleges that the King company had mined 10,000 tons of ore, worth \$400,000 from the Conkling and Arthur mining claims and demanding an accounting and judgment.

The annual report of the Utah Consolidated shows that the output of refined copper for the year was only 13,987,661 pounds, a decrease of 4,546,423 pounds; of silver, 390,296 ounces, a decrease of 67,516 ounces; and of gold, 24,554 ounces, a decrease of 8,047 ounces. The net profits for the year was \$1,179,412.

The Mohawk, Red Top and other claims at Goldfield are being developed preparatory to their operation on a broad scale, which will be entered upon about six months hence, when the new 600-ton mill will go into commission, and when the company is confidently expected to show net earnings of \$2 per share.

Deer Lodge, the Nevada mining district which is causing considerable favorable comment these days, is just seventeen miles from Modena, Utah, the railroad point, from which a daily stage is now carrying people. The roads between the two points are fine, and around Deer Lodge is an abundance of wood and water.

March was the best month in the history of the Valcaldia mine in the way of remunerative returns, says the Tonopah Sun. Recently a new body of ore was struck, which returns assays from \$32 to \$200. This ledge has been penetrated to the present time a distance of forty feet, and the tunnel is still in ore.

A strong body of ore has been 'encountered' in the south drift of the Prior & Chadbourne lease on the Mazuma Hills ground, at Seven Troughs, Nevada, a series of assays indicating an average value per ton between \$1,600 and \$1,700. It is said that from one to three feet of the vein will maintain this high average.

Following a warning received through an anonymous letter that unless the Chal Pion coal mine of the Royal Coal & Coke company at Durango, Colo., was made safe by repairs, the mine would be blown up, an explosion occurred in the mine which completely wrecked the workings and perhaps fatally injured three persons.

Developments in the Black Hornet district of Idaho continue most satisfactory, in the iPeckel Pie mine, on the north side of the gulch, a very large ore body has been opened. The mill at the Celtic is running smoothly on ore that carries \$130 a ton in gold.

The Deer Lodge district of Nevada is picking up fast. Many claims had been allowed to lapse during the past few years, for the owners grew desperate in the face of the neglect to which the camp was subjected. But all these old claims are being re-staked.

The Veteran mine of the Cumberland Ely should be in shape for production during the coming month, when its new operating shaft will be afforded connections with the active workings, and bins will be provided to better facilitate the hoisting of the output.

In the newly discovered district at Lime Point, Nevada, a woman has made one of the richest discoveries so far reported, in digging a well a rich quartz ledge having been encountered. She has another prospect which shows horn silver running over 1,000 ounces.