

THERE is nothing in the Vermont election returns discouraging to Democracy.

DAVE BALL's late race reminds us of the school boy who got into trouble and took a whipping just to let the other boys know he could take punishment without crying. Dave hasn't done a thing, that could be discovered at this distance, to remind one of the fact that he "also ran."

It looks now very much like the elephant and the moose are running "neck and neck." The moose is certain of beating the elephant in several of the western states and, if the vote in Vermont is an index to what it will be in other states, it is hard to tell whether it will be moose or elephant.

Postmaster Flentje of the Cape was in Jackson Saturday, not so much to feast his eyes and ears on the home comers festivities as trying to give a certificate of legitimacy and good character to the Poplar Bluff convention. Hercules took a big job when he contracted to clean the Augean stables, but it was a light task to the one undertaken by Col. Flentje. The Jackson lime kilns are not in operation at present, but even if they were, not enough lime could be obtained in Cape county to white-wash that disgraceful product of machine politics and the steam roller.—Jackson Items.

In a letter from Hon. W. S. Cowherd, dated September 6, he states that during the closing days of the recent campaign his health was in such condition that he was compelled to cancel quite a number of his engagements, and that he has been wholly unable to attend to his correspondence. He desires to express thru The Press his thanks to the voters of Bollinger county who gave him their support and, while he was not successful in this contest, he wants us all to join him in lending our undivided support to the successful candidate, General Major, and the entire democratic ticket. There is no evidence of sore spots anywhere in this if there is we are too dull to discover them.

Our own Hadley—where is he at? His disastrous effort bandwagonward was piteous to behold, and his subsequent endeavor to avoid the flattening tread of the inexorable steam roller, excruciating. One of the historic seven Governors to pull the diffident and reluctant Theodore from his retirement at Oyster Bay, he surely ought have stood by him despite the utmost ills of malicious fortune, but he didn't. He isn't built that way, and the people will grant him ample leisure to ponder on the mutability of ambitious desire. "It might have been, but wasn't," is a text to call forth philosophical if regretful thought.

What sorrows would be saved the too aspiring mind
If one could see, before, the things he knows behind!

—Ironton Register.

"A young congressman who has rapidly forged to the front in power and influence is Walter L. Hensley, of the 13th district of Missouri. He is clear-headed and industrious and intensely earnest, and withal a courteous, sociable gentleman, who has won the respect and admiration of his colleagues. Every one who has become acquainted with him is favorably impressed with his rugged honesty and his devotion to his duties, and his praises are heard on every hand. He is a member of three important standing committees—Labor, Naval Affairs and Expenditures in the Interior department. His influence for good has been felt in the deliberations of all three of these bodies. He has served as the head of subcommittees and taken the lead in some important investigations and discussions. We have personal knowledge of the fact that no member of any of these committees stands higher with the chairman than Hensley. Although serving his first term, he has made some telling speeches on the floor and is pointed out by the old members as a coming man. Hensley takes a broad view of public questions and policies and hews straight along the



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line of right in all he does"—Centralia Courier

From the early reports, the election in Maine seems to have been close. The republicans claim a small majority over the democrats, and have probably elected their state ticket, but there does not appear to be a great deal of campaign ammunition in the returns for the g. o. p.

The St. Louis Republic is making an appeal for funds to aid in the election of the democratic national and state ticket and has called on The Press to co-operate with it in starting a similar fund in Bollinger county. The democracy is depending on the people to furnish the means to carry on the campaign, for certain it is that no big contributions may be expected from corporations. Any amount, from 25 cents up, will be received and acknowledged in The Press in the next issue after it reaches our hands and it will be forwarded to the Republic when it will be again published with the name of the donor. The Republic will turn it over to the state committee, except when it has been otherwise requested by the donor. Other communities are responding liberally to this fund and our people will not refuse we are sure. Send us your subscriptions as soon as possible so it can be turned over to the committee in time to be used in the early campaign work.

Taxation in Missouri

Nothing is further from warrant in fact than the anxiety of Missouri farmers over the single-tax amendment. Missouri is a rural state. As the farmers go, Missouri goes. The amendment would be beaten overwhelmingly if not a speech were made or a dollar spent in opposition to it.

It is, in fact, beaten already. But it will not be in order to forget the tax question when the vote shall have been counted. Back of the tax amendments there is much more than enthusiasm over the theories of Henry George. There is deep and just dissatisfaction with the present tax system of Missouri, which is chaotic, unjust and unreasonable.

The taxing power is the fundamental power of government, as the old colonial confederation found out to its cost before the adoption of the federal constitution. It is of the last importance to the well-being of industry and commerce and the happiness of citizens that it be wisely exercised. Unequal and unjust taxation breeds discontent and wars against prosperity.

The democracy should stand for something definitely constructive on this taxation issue. The certain defeat of single will leave us as badly off as ever unless advantage be taken of the interest which the discussion has excited to move for sane and well-considered tax reform. The ghost of the single-tax proposition cannot be laid by a mere negative vote. Its advocates are enthusiastic and it will continue to come up again and again, so long as the inequalities of the present system remain uncorrected.—St. Louis Republic.

Organize Against Single Tax.

We have been requested to announce that a meeting will be held here on September 21, for the purpose of organizing against the single tax commission and amendment. Come and bring your neighbor with you and assist in defeating this unjust and iniquitous proposition.

Circulate Letter No. 35.

To Rural Teachers—You are now beginning another year's work. There are some things I feel that I would like to talk about with you. Our schools seem to have reached the dawn of a great awakening. Our duty is to hasten its coming and to leave no proper step untaken to make the fulfillment equal the promise.

Two important amendments to the constitution are to be voted upon in November. It rests largely with you to secure their enactment. Amendment No. 1 adds a year to the school life of needy children in cities without expense to the state. Amendment No. 9 will furnish needed money to promote many pressing wants in the state. Advise your friends and patrons to vote for both.

The county superintendents and many other school men are now studying the wisest use of this mill tax fund when it becomes available. Better buildings, better libraries, better sanitation, and better heating are some things hoped for. More rural high schools within reach of the rural boys and girls are a necessity if we would not train them away from the farm by a town education. These are all ends that may be hastened by the passage of amendment No. 9.

All teachers want their salaries to more nearly approach their worth. Each should therefore strive to be worth more. I want to name, briefly, a few things tending in this direction. Does the order of your school room need to improve? Discipline is valuable as a means to an end and not in itself. Look to it.

Do you prepare your lessons daily or are you depending upon your last year's preparation?

Are you reading the reading circle books? You need them not only for examinations but to keep abreast of the times.

Get the outbuildings cleaned up and keep them so. Most of the boys are pure-minded and will help you to better the shocking conditions prevailing in so many places.

Help to improve social conditions. In many places there is nothing uplifting going on. You can help. Get your pupils to give an occasional entertainment. They will like it.

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Filling The Silo

Corn is ready to be cut for silage when the grain is in the dent and glazed, but can still be broken with the thumb nail. At this stage under normal conditions the two or three bottom leaves wilt turning brown and the shuck will be turning yellow at the end. There is greater danger of putting up silage too dry rather than too moist. In a stave silo the staves should be tightened up to exclude the air and generally loosened a little after the silage swells the staves. The inside wall of a concrete silo should be washed with a thin mixture of cement and water every two or three years. This fills the pores and keeps the air from the silage.

It will take at least six teams to keep the average silage cutter busy. Corn should not be cut down too far ahead or it will dry out too much. Two men should work in the silo distributing the silage with forks. Where a silage distributor is used one man is sufficient. They should keep the silage higher at the walls than in the center and should continually tramp the silage next to the walls. The tramping is especially to keep out the air. When possible allow the machine to stand two or three days and refill to make use of all the capacity. Finish filling the silo by running in a load of grass or weeds. This will rot and seal the top and prevent having to throw out the same amount of spoiled silage.

The silage should feel wet after it is cut in the silo. If the corn is very mature when cut and is therefore too dry add water. A small stream may be run into the blower from a barrel or tank. It is especially important that the silage be well tramped. The blower should be run a few minutes every morning in order to clear the atmosphere before anyone enters the silo.

The above instructions cover the important points in filling a silo. For further information write to the Dairy Department, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.

Do Not Sow Alfalfa

Do not sow alfalfa until all conditions are just right. The mature alfalfa plant can stand lots of grief, but the young plant is a tender thing, intolerant of weeds and lack of moisture. If the seed bed is right, it does not need to rain for weeks after the seed is sown and if the seed bed is not right the best thing to do is to keep the seed in the sack—just wait.

An ideal seed bed for alfalfa differs very little from an ideal seed bed for any crop. The ground after being plowed deep wants to be well packed and reunited with the sub-soil. Disking and harrowing enough times will do this, a heavy rain followed with harrowing does the work much easier. This gives the condition of seed bed we are trying to duplicate when we use disk, roller and harrows. The seed can best be put in the ground with a drill having press wheels. Cover the seed lightly and have the press wheels firm the ground enough so the moisture will come up to the seed from the sub-soil.

Now, an ideal seed bed for alfalfa is an ideal seed bed for crab grass and all other grasses and weeds that smother the young plants. This is the reason alfalfa is sown in September. During the fall and early spring weeds do not interfere with its growth. Alfalfa wants to be sown early enough so it can have five or six weeks of growing weather before a killing frost. A light frost injures the plant before the third leaf forms, but after that it takes a hard freeze to even stop growth.

SETH BARCOCK, Department of Agriculture, Missouri State Normal School, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

If a lighted brimstone match be held close to paper, books etc., which have been stained with berries, it is said that the sulphur fumes will remove all stains.

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