

1095) urged all the Democratic members-elect who intended to support Clark to declare that purpose without delay. It is now reported from Washington that Clark's election is assured. He has 160 pledges, a majority of 47 in the Democratic caucus.

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But let no democratic Democrat's vigilance drowse. As Mr. George said in his interview urging declarations for Clark—

The enemies of tariff reduction are not asleep. Defeated at the polls a week ago, they will yet resist at every step, since tariff reduction means taking from them the power of taxing the people. Their next stand is sure to be over the Speakership. It will be their policy to encourage all possible confusion and dissension, with the view of slipping into the Speaker's chair some "safe" man who can be depended upon to impede and, if possible, thwart the popular mandate for tariff reduction. It therefore behooves all those elected to the new Congress to beware of this danger, and to gather at once around the man who most clearly stands for a real fight against the high tariff. Who meets this description more completely than Champ Clark, the present leader on the minority side of the House? He led the fight against the Payne-Aldrich Act, and his pledges, character, great abilities and long and consistent legislative record give highest warrant for his continuing that fight, and fulfilling the people's mandate to reduce the cost of living by revising the tariff downward.

This warning is hardly less important, now that the necessary pledges have been made than it was when, less than a fortnight after the election, Mr. George urged his colleagues to make them. Between now and early December a whole year hence, every possible excuse for breaking pledges will be created by the kaleidoscopic agencies of Big Business.

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Champ Clark is the present touchstone of democracy in Democracy. Whoever of either party hates democracy, will plot against Clark's election to the Speakership. By the growing weakness or strength of the opposition to him shall the people be able to judge whether the Democratic party in Congress is to "make good" or make bad. Puck truly says, and Puck's humor is impregnated with sense:

Clothes do not make the man; neither does the label, Democrat, make of a man a working force for democratic Democracy. The announcement in a Washington dispatch that a number of Democratic Congressmen "did not cotton much to the program of electing Champ Clark to be Speaker of the House" was not an overwhelming surprise. The surprise would have been due if they had advocated Clark's elevation to the Speakership, for among the adherents of Cannon and Cannonism no members

of the House, not even the most stubborn Stand-Patters, were more steadfast in their loyalty to all that should not be than these same "Democrats." Champ Clark can get no better recommendation for the post of Speaker than the opposition of such a crew.

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The latest insidious attack upon Clark by the Interests is the statement that his election would be a Bryan victory. We don't profess to know about that, but we are sure that nothing could be more gratifying to most genuine democrats to have it so, nor anything so disheartening to all plutocrats.

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## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

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### ONE OR TWO THINGS AMONG OTHERS.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 24.

Upon this day one is to be thankful; for this purpose it is set apart, rather than for feasting.

I thank divine Intelligence that I believe Democracy is a possibility, even though I doubt it eight times out of ten perhaps, when unthinking and under fire—

That every Friday evening I dine at a "Public" table, now surrounded by 4,000 new spirits. It is good to forget one's own importance, the other fellow's ignorance of it, and one's obligations, in the broader horizon of this dinner and the growing throng of guests—

That I sit to give thanks under faces sun-impriated: one of a "Chain forger"—unturning; and the others the poets, warriors and knights bound by and binding with, this chain, by which one may be dragged to a firm possession of confident hope, a clearer understanding of divine Intelligence, and the "High destiny of co-operating with the Creator"—

That I live in a town having the "commission form" of government of the Des Moines brand; and that I do believe this instrument will bring us to a more just social life, even though the vehement way we talk about our municipal servants and their actions, suggests that we are unaware of the power of Direct Legislation under which these mere, if great, men act for us—

That this State has become more democratic by the Republican majority which it gave for the Governor, and United States Congressmen, and that it is not alone among the States in having increased its democracy—

That that broad-browed, dauntless-eyed, bearded poet did endite this among other gems:

"You've spread your empire out too thin  
With greed and violence and sin;  
Now let a stabler reign commence,  
Deeper, more lofty, more intense.

"Search for justice, not for gold,  
Boundless wealth your islands hold.  
Silver's but a doubtful good,  
Come work the mines of brotherhood.

"Then at last—but who can tell  
Such miracles as ne'er befell?  
Then England will be great indeed,  
And all the world will cry, 'God-speed!'"

"Dear old England, how I hate  
The things that now have made you great!  
Still I love you for I see  
Your greatness that is bound to be."

GEO. HUGHES.

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## POLICE CENSORSHIP.

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 23.

While reading with interest Mr. Norton's article on "Labor in Los Angeles" (p. 1093), I feel there is a comment on his account of the parade which must be made.

To the spectator, two features were significant; the first being that police flanked the marchers throughout their journey, and the second that a large number of transparencies bore a query mark and nothing more.

On inquiry it turned out that the unions themselves invited the authorities to police their parade, and that the chief of police had censored such mottoes as the following: "Workers, unite;" "Join the union and at the same time better conditions;" "They did it in Milwaukee: We can do it in Los Angeles;" "Capital organizes to keep labor from organizing;" "Los Angeles for the workers in 1911;" "Labor united industrially and politically is invincible;" "Unionism and Socialism a united force;" "Join the union and demand the label."

Observing these things, the autocratic insolence with which the police recently dispersed a labor meeting at San Diego, and similar occurrences, I wonder at the folly that led me to give up my British citizenship and enroll myself under the Stars and Stripes.

Such action as that taken by the Los Angeles police, and tamely submitted to by the unions—for not a whimper of protest has been heard—is unthinkable in England.

WM. C. OWEN.

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## FORWARD.

Chestnut Hill, Mass., Nov. 23.

Perhaps it is not too late for an observer in this northeastern corner of the land to say a word upon the result of the late election. Wherever I go I am impressed with the fact that we are moving.

I meet few conservatives so solid as not to have been affected in opinion by the current unrest. On the night of the election I dropped in at a Boston Club that certainly would not be quoted as radical, a purely social club, somewhat carefully censored as to membership, including artists, men of letters, newspaper writers, and well-to-do amateurs of many kinds. I found a strong sentiment of satisfaction with the result in Massachusetts, and encountered opponents of Mr. Roosevelt who were not friends of Cannon or of Ballinger.

A day or two ago I met a conspicuous Republican of Maine who was far from discontented with the Democratic victory there, and who expressed in plain words his satisfied conviction that the people of this country clearly apprehended the necessity

of continuing the battle against Privilege. I found him at heart a free trader, and favorable to immediate trade relations with Canada approaching free trade. He specifically instanced the abuse of power and privilege by the great corporations controlling the timber lands of Maine as something that would be remedied by freer trade relations with Canada.

In New York I talked long with an important business man who is a Roosevelt Democrat, but in sympathy with much for which The Public stands, and who sees in the general result no backward step.

Among active newspaper men here in conservative Boston I find much the same sentiment, and all the indications I am able to gather seem to prove that the conservatives who see in the New York result and the check to Roosevelt there a sign that the country is hesitating in the face of its great task, have rejoiced too soon.

I received on my way over to New York in a luxurious train that I permit myself only when in great haste, an illuminating hint from a Standpatter, who admitted his belief that Big Business must and should rule the country politically for the present, but confessed behind all this his realization of the fact that democracy must and should eventually triumph.

EDWARD N. VALLANDIGHAM.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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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.

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Week ending Tuesday, November 29, 1910.

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### Single Tax Movement in Oregon.

After numerous reports contradicting the original report of its adoption (pp. 918, 1024, 1035, 1090, 1094), the county option tax amendment to the Oregon Constitution was authoritatively found on the 21st to have been adopted by a majority of 1,655. This amendment was proposed by Initiative petition and is as follows:

Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Oregon shall be, and hereby is, amended by inserting the following section in said Article IX, after Section 1 and before Section 2, and it shall be designated as Section 1a of Article IX:

Article IX. Section 1a. No poll or head tax shall be levied or collected in Oregon; no bill regulating taxation or exemption throughout the State shall become a law until approved by the people of the State at a regular general election; none of the restrictions of the Constitution shall apply to measures approved by the people declaring what shall be subject to taxation or exemption and how it shall be taxed or