

posed for Negro disfranchisement was decisively defeated.

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Success of the "Grand Junction Plan."

The most pronounced novelty of the "Grand Junction plan" of commission government for cities (p. 1043) was put to the test at the municipal election on the 2nd in Grand Junction, Colorado. This is the first actual experiment in preferential voting in the United States, and it appears to have been completely satisfactory.

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Under the recent "home-made" charter of Grand Junction, candidates are nominated by petition only. Primaries have no official recognition. The number of candidates thus nominated were six for "Commissioner of Public Affairs" (the head of the commission, or Mayor), one for "Commissioner of Water and Sewers," two for "Commissioner of Finance and Supplies," five for "Commissioner of Highways," and three for "Commissioner of Health and Civic Beauty." The nominees included Democrats, Republicans and Socialists, but no party designations appeared on the ballot. The arrangement of names was alphabetical. In the campaign the issue was over the charter plan itself, and it was hotly fought. Charter advocates campaigned not for a particular candidate, but for all the candidates who favored the plan; and this involved their supporting, for Mayor for instance, a Socialist as well as a Democrat. Each voter had a first, second and third choice for each office.

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In the outcome, an anti-charter man, a Republican, had a plurality for Mayor on first choice but not a majority, and a Democratic pro-charter candidate was close behind him, a Socialist being third on the first choice vote. It became necessary to have recourse not only to the second choice votes but to the third choice to determine the election for Mayor, which was determined in favor of Thomas M. Todd, the Socialist. Ex-Senator Bucklin, who was president of the Grand Junction charter convention and through whose energy and influence the charter was adopted—a Henry George man of national reputation—discusses the test of its preferential voting feature in Editorial Correspondence in this week's Public.

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President Taft's Journey.

At Birmingham, Ala., in the course of his journey (p. 1064) President Taft made speeches of no special significance on the 2nd and 3rd, and left in the afternoon of the 3rd for Macon, Georgia, where he spoke on the 4th on statutory limitations with an allusion to the Pinchot-Ballinger controversy (pp. 969, 985) in which he bore down indirectly upon President Roosevelt's

methods by saying that the people "should not leave it to the Executive to disregard the written law because what he proposes to do is the law of higher morality." Mr. Taft was at Savannah later on the 4th and at Charleston on the 5th. He spent part of the 6th at Columbia, S. C., and arrived in Augusta, Ga., in the evening. Having spent Sunday the 7th at Augusta, he started for Washington on the 8th, stopping on his way at Florence, S. C.

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Republican "Insurgency."

Senator Cummins of Iowa spoke on the 7th before the Marquette Club of Chicago, a Republican organization, while Senator Aldrich was speaking before the Commercial Club. Referring to Speaker Cannon's reading of the "insurgents" out of the Republican party, Senator Cummins said:

Let it be understood, once for all, that we accept the challenge and are ready for the fight. Our struggle will not be to exclude anybody from the Republican party, but upon the principle involved we ask no quarter and shall give none. . . . The day has come for an inquiry into the qualifications of a Republican. I am willing to accept an arbiter, but it will not be Aldrich, it will not be Payne, it will not be Cannon. They all are Republicans and I hope they will continue to be Republicans. I assume they voted according to their consciences; and while I differ from them materially and emphatically, I have no disposition to enter the business of expelling men from the Republican party so long as they yield even a nominal allegiance to Republican platforms and support Republican candidates. I say of them (and I say it with the utmost good feeling for them personally) that the Republicans who are in sympathy with the course pursued by the insurgents intend to take away from these men some of the power which they now exercise, and intend to reduce their influence to that point at which they will feel it necessary to consult rather than to command. . . . We do not intend to accept as final the revision of the tariff against which we voted and we do intend to tell the people of the country from time to time why we could not and did not give the bill our approval.

The remainder of the speech was given over to a criticism of the Payne-Aldrich-Taft tariff law from the point of view of reduction of duties by the Republican party.

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Senator Aldrich's Tour.

The Western trip of Senator Aldrich for financial proselyting purposes, which President Taft announced early in his own journey (pp. 915, 919), began at Chicago on the 6th under the auspices of the Commercial Club, at the Congress Hotel. Theodore W. Robinson, vice-president of the Illinois Steel Co., presiding. Senator Aldrich, speaking for the monetary commission of which he is chairman, said that no plan will be presented at the coming session of Congress, but that it may