

# Bluefield Daily Leader.

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INCORPORATED.

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UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THOS. B. GARNER

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The Greatest Among all of the State's Varied Resources is the Pocahontas Coal Fields of this Vicinity.

The most awful accident in history was the fall of a Roman amphitheater in the time of Tiberius. Fifty thousand people were crushed.

Spain is the only country that has a coinage bearing a baby's head on it. Coins bearing the baby head of King Alfonso were issued in 1888.

The glitter of a presidential nomination, which the stand patters presented to the earnest gaze of Gov. Cummins of Iowa, was too great a temptation and he surrendered on the issue that had made him famous. Such is not the stuff of which presidents are made.

Writer describing a plague of rabbits in Australia: "A farmer barricaded himself in with miles upon miles of wire fencing solely to keep out the rabbits. They eat their way up to the barriers and in the fight for the green land within the wire they die in myriads. All around the enclosed land they lie in heaps of incredible size. Swarm after swarm follow on, and at last the heaps are so high that the late comers make their way over the fence and the farm is ruined."

"The bath of the next century," says T. Baron Russell in his book "A Hundred Years Hence," "will have the body speedily with oxygenated water delivered with a force that will render rubbing unnecessary, and beside it will stand a drying cupboard, lined with some quickly moving arrangements of soft brushes, and fed with a highly desiccated air from which, almost in a moment, the bather will emerge dried, and with a skin gently stimulated, and perhaps electrified, to clothe himself quickly and pass down the lift to his breakfast, which he will eat to the accompaniment of a summary of the morning's news read out for the benefit of the family, or whispered into his ears by a talking machine."

"How many democrats really believe that Mr. Bryan was 'cheated out of two elections?' And why should any well-informed man believe such a thing?—Washington Evening Star. Nevertheless, there are many intelligent people, nor all of them democrats, who, in view of recent revelations touching the millions of money used by the republicans in 1896 and 1900 have their doubts about what might have otherwise come to pass in the elections of those years. There is every reason to believe that, if the democrats had been possessed of that many millions, they, and not the republicans, would have carried the country, and some reason for believing that if they had been able to lay down dollar for dollar beside them, they might still have carried it. Partisans are always cock sure. But, as a general proposition the belief that the republicans have been buying the people with their own money is not ill-founded, and may exercise considerable pressure upon the popular mind in 1908.—Courier Journal.

Read the Daily Leader.

## HUNTING FOR THE DIFFERENCE.

Charles Emory Smith has been to Oyster Bay. We believe he was there between the visits of Boise Penrose. Mr. Smith began to discuss the succession to the presidency as soon as he reached the office of the excellent newspaper of which he is the accomplished editor. He assumes that Mr. Bryan will be nominated by the democrats, an event that is certain to be pulled off unless Mr. Bryan shall make more mistakes than any other human being has yet been guilty of in the entire history of American politics. But Mr. Bryan is no ordinary man, and has remarkable aptitude for misapprehension.

Mr. Smith thinks that it is going to be a big job to beat Mr. Bryan, and no republican can beat him unless he shall represent "the policies which President Roosevelt embodies."

Wherein do Mr. Bryan and Mr. Roosevelt differ? Did not Mr. Bryan give the democratic party in ward to Mr. Roosevelt when he went to foreign parts? Was there ever before a more dutiful ward or a more parental guardian? When the president went on chase of the octopus, did not Mr. Bryan's party join in the pursuit? If Mr. Bryan were president, wherein would he reverse the policies of Mr. Roosevelt?

Both of them are for regulating the railroads; both of them have it for standard oil. Both of them are down on the meat trust like ten thousand brick. Both of them are paternalists up to the handle. Both of them believe in government, and a heap of it. What has Mr. Roosevelt done that Mr. Bryan does not endorse? What has Mr. Bryan said that Mr. Roosevelt does not approve? What is all this row about? What is the difference between a Roosevelt democrat and a Bryan republican? And those are the two classes into which this people are separating.

True, there is the tariff. They were agreed on that when Mr. Bryan made his first whirlwind speech in congress and quoted Tom Moore's "Last Rose of Summer" as a buttress to free trade. Since then, however, things that went over the devil's back have come under the devil's belly, and Mr. Bryan stood on an exurgated platform touching the tariff, made to soothe the conscience of Henry M. Teller and Francis G. Newlands, both stronger protectionists than President Roosevelt.

Touching the tariff, at present Mr. Roosevelt appears to be little less than a standpatter, though there is nothing so uncertain and so astonishing as American politics. That is what makes the game so fascinating. Take the tariff out, and what is the difference between Mr. Bryan and Mr. Roosevelt?—Washington Post.

## BAD ENOUGH.

Some persons believe that it is the doings of late of the Pittsburgh millionaires that make the heavens weep so much.—New York Telegram.

## THE ELUSIVE DIME.

Maybe you have noticed the scarcity of dimes. Statisticians have discovered that, although more dimes are being turned out of the mints than ever before, there are fewer than ever before in circulation. It is said that there is now so great a demand for dimes and such a scarcity of them that the coin-rolling concerns, who make a business of putting up coins in packages, are saving them up, with a view to getting a premium on them. A famine in dimes would be a serious affair. Even now there are only three dimes per capita in circulation.

The modest little coin performs many of our most vital functions. It is with the dime that the fastidious person gets his "shine" and the hard-luck one his meal.

The dime buys a rose with which a man summons the flush of happiness to his wife's cheeks, and it buys the drink with which he drives hope from her heart and peace from his home.

The dime is to the child what the dollar is to the parent—the unit of his calculations and the goal of his desires. It sometimes seems as if the boy would rather have a dime than a quarter.

This brings us to the "dime banks," which are the real cause, perhaps, of the famine.

The penny-in-the-slot machines are held responsible for the scarcity of pennies; street cars and automatic music and picture machines accumulate the nickels; but there is no particular contrivance in general use that gathers dimes into the boxes of corporations.

An official in Washington suggests that the country is so prosperous that people keep dimes in their pockets to hear them jingle. But other coins jingle quite as well. Besides, the trouble is that the dimes are not in the people's pockets, but in mysterious hiding.

No doubt the "dime banks" hold most of them. And if the scarcity of dimes is the measure of saving, we can cheerfully grin and get along with the other coins.

Since 1792, when the dime was established, to the present, there have been coined 529,000,000 dimes. But the slight relation which the total coinage, or even the amount outstanding, bears to the amount in circulation is shown in the fact that it is reported by the Treasury that there are still outstanding about 800,000 half cents, 28,000,000 two-cent pieces, and 20,000,000 nickel three-cent pieces which no one ever sees.

## EVERYBODY GOING TO JAIL.

In 1850 the ratio of prison population to population was one in 2,443 inhabitants. In 1860 it was one in 1,647. In 1870 one in 1,171. In 1880 one in 853 and 1890 one in 757. In other words, in the forty years from 1850 to 1890 the prison population increased nearly five times as fast the population.—Courier-Journal.

# Vacation Time!

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