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### THE POPULAR VOTE

VOICE OF THE NATION NEVER MORE CLEARLY EXPRESSED.

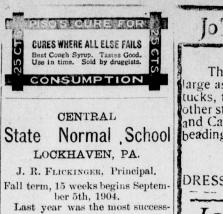
Its Decisive Character Cannot Be Be-littled by Suggestions of Apathy and Indifference-The Shrinkage In the South.

The tabulation of the popular vote for president shows that fewer ballots were cast for presidential electors in 1904 than were cast for presidential electors in 1900. For candidates on total vote this year was 13,507,249. For candidates on the same tickets in 1900 the total vote was 13,904,702, showing a deficit in the vote for 1904 of 457,453. Various explanations have been given of this "slump." In some quarters it has been assumed that President Roosevelt's extraordinary victory was due simply to popular list-lessness. We are told that the Repub-lican electoral ticket won by default that it owed its success to the break-down of the Democratic canvass and to the absenteeism from the polls of to the absence of the stands of Democratic voters. Such an explanation finds some support in the fact that the vote cast for Parker and Davis fell 1,280, 975 below the vote cast for Bryan and Stevenson. This enormous defection, it is assumed, must have been caused as much by popular indifference to the questions at issue as by active disaffec-tion on the part of Democrats.

Yet this explanation fails to take ac-Yet this explanation fails to take ac-count of one of the most striking facts disclosed by a study of the election re-turns—that is, the shrinkage in the electorate which has been effected in the southern states. Assuming that the popular vote should bear a certain ra-tio to population—1 to 5½ for instance —It is easy to prove that the vote of 1904 was a "low water mark" one. But such an assumption is altogether falla-cious in view of the restrictions imcious in view of the restrictions im-posed on suffrage within the last six years in most of the former slave states. The presidential vote in those states bears no natural and normal rastates bears no natural and normal ra-tio to population, and each year the ratio, minute as it now is, seems to un-dergo a shrinkage. In some of these states—Florida, South Carolina, Geor-gia and Mississippi—the limit of sup-pression was reached by 1900, and in these four commonwealths the total vote of 1004 showed a slight net in-crease. In Georgia where Thomas E crease. In Georgia, where Thomas E. Watson made an active canvass, the total vote increased 7,152, rising to 129,867, a ratio to population not of 1 to  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , but of 1 to 20. In South Carolina there was a gain of 6,097 in the tetal vote, in Florida a loss of only 104 and in Mississippi a loss of only 120.

and in Mississippi a loss of only 120. In nine other southern states there was, however, a marked decline in the popular vote. In Louisiana the shrink-age was 13,997, in Arkansas 11,445, in Kentucky 31,715, in Tennessee 31,-020, in Maryland 40,367, in Alabama 50,738, in North Carolina 87,535, in Virginia 135,367 and in Texus 187,852. In these nine states there is a loss due In these nine states there is a loss, due largely to restrictions on suffrage, of 500,246 votes. The Republican vote shrank proportionately more than the Democratic, but the loss was general and will be no doubt more or less per-

Taking into account these artificial abridgments of the suffrage in the south, the total vote of 1904 is really south, the total vote of 1504 is really greater than that of 1900. Outside the south there was no extraordinary in-dulgence in absenteeism. The Bryan column of 1900 melted away, but the vote of the minor parties—Socialist, Prohibition, Socialist Labor and Populist-showed an increase of 423,267, and the Republican vote was 400,000 greater than in 1900. The south's elim ination of 590,246 votes more than balances the apparent deficit for 1904 and proves that last year's contest was not



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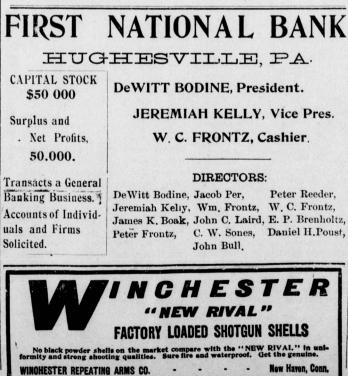
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igh absenteeism. The of the nation was never more clearly expressed. Looking beneath the sur-face, the vote of 1904 is seen to be a thoroughly representative one, and its decisive character cannot be belittled or explained away by any suggestion, of popular apathy or indifference.-New York Tribune.

Morley's Mistake. When Mr. John Morley tells the When Mr. John Morley tells the American people they have prospered despite a protective tariff and not be-cause of it, his opinion is, of course, while the trader. But is not the opinion of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain equally valuable? And the Birming-ham philosopher is doing all he can to induce Greet Britain to adout the fisced induce Great Britain to adopt the fiscal policy of the United States. Moreover, how does Mr. Morley account for the fact that depression in business has invariably accompanied a low tariff in this country, while prosperity has always returned with protection? A re-duction of unnecessarily high duties is undoubtedly desirable, but the foundation principle of protection for native industries will not be violated by the Republican party.—Brooklyn Standard-

All answered at Vernon Hull's Large Store. Hillsgrove, Pa. CONDENCED REPORT of the condition of The OFIRST National Bank at Dushore, in the State of Pennsylvania at close of business November 10th 1904. RESOURCES.  $\begin{array}{c} 179,965\ 60\\ 50,000\ 00\\ 2,000\ 00\\ 46,700\ 00\\ 1,000\ 00\\ 95,031\ 94\\ 2,500\ 00\\ 27,449\ 69\end{array}$ Total. \$404,647 2 LIABILITIES, Solicited. 4 0. 283,079 3 tion principle of protection for native industries will not be violated by the Republican party.—Brooklyn Standard. Thar She Stands. Out of the wreek of matter and the glad that he can at least point with pride to Kentucky.—Chicago News. Total \$404,647 23



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