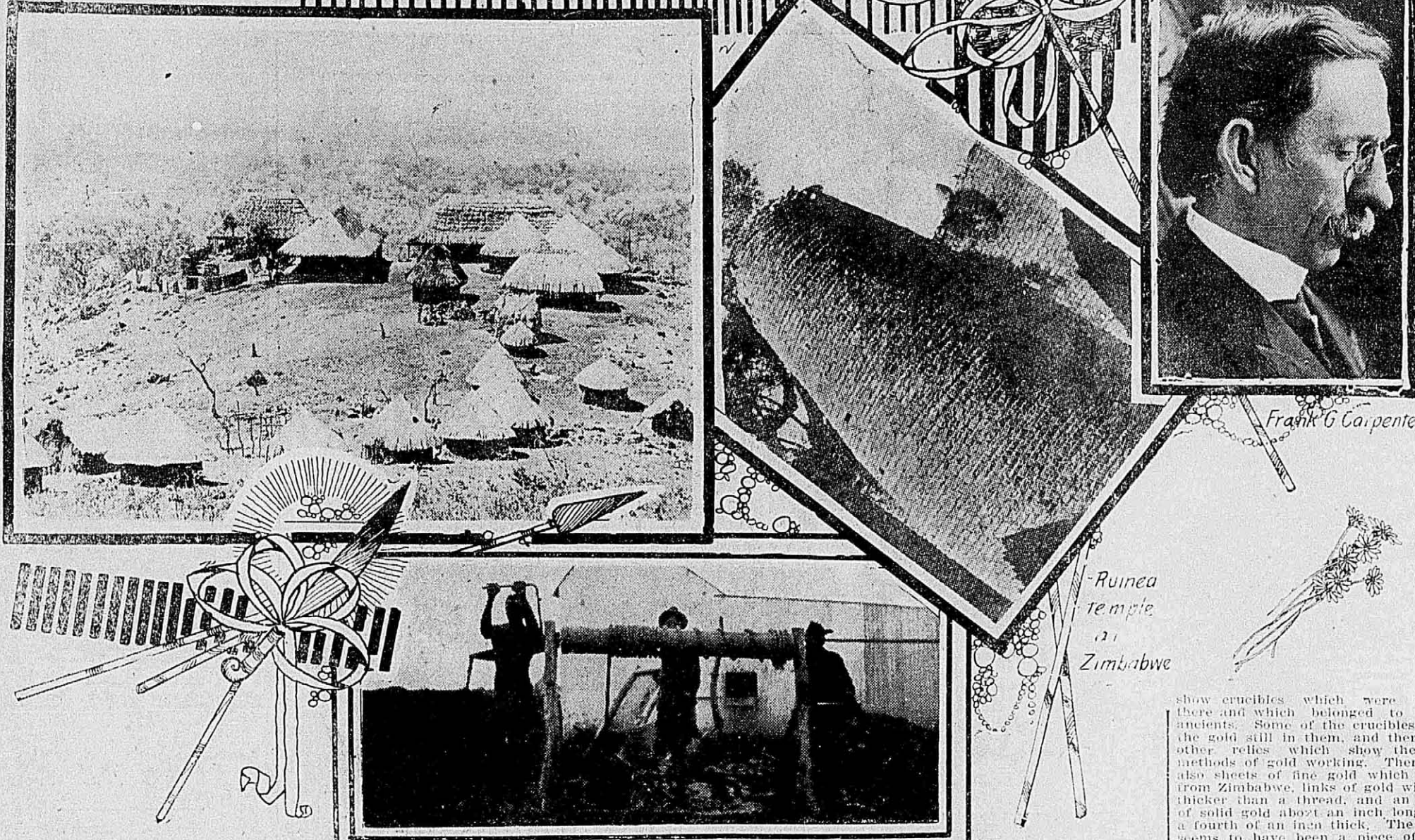


## KING SOLOMON'S MINES

How Their Old Workings In Southern Rhodesia are Being Reopened.

mining Camp in  
Southern Rhodesia—



Raising gold ore from workings of Solomon's day—

### Special Correspondence.

**B**ULAWAYO, Aug. 15.—Did the gold of King Solomon's temple come from Rhodesia?

Some noted archaeologists claim that it did. There are mighty ruins here in Matabeland which are said to have belonged to the ancient miners, and in Mashonaland are the ruins of Zimbabwe, which may have been built by the very men who dug out that gold. All over Matabeland and Mashonaland I find the remains of ancient workings, and the gold mines which are in operation today consist chiefly of the deepening of the excavations of the past. Last year more than \$10,000,000 worth of ore was taken out of this part of Africa and something like \$40,000,000 worth has been mined since the country was opened up. This is far north of and entirely apart from the great mines of the Transvaal, which are now yielding more gold than any other mines of the world. The workings there are on a gigantic scale. Here the mining consists of many hundreds of small propositions, and it is chiefly the development of the deposits discovered by the unknown races of the ancient past.

The miners are now looking for the old workings, and they find that the ancients usually abandoned their diggings when they had gone down 40 feet or so. They had crude ways of reducing the ore, and some of the waste

on the old dumps is being worked over. I saw and shaft near here which had been cleaned out and extended, and the miners of today are now continuing the work of the men of thousands of years ago.

I am told that nearly all of the old reefs, as they are called, grow better as they go downward. They are mostly made up of low grade ore, but such that it can be worked with small stamps. Much of the gold is fine milling, and it takes but little machinery to work it. I have seen mills which have only three stamps each, and there are many which are worked by a couple of white men and a dozen or more natives.

### KING SOLOMON'S MINES.

There is considerable evidence that King Solomon got his gold from South Africa. When Vasco da Gama first made his way around the Cape of Good Hope he found that the natives at Sofala, a port in Portuguese East Africa, below the mouth of the Zambezi, had gold which came from the northwest, and probably Rhodesia. We know that gold was being taken out of Africa hundreds of years before that time, and it is said that much of the treasure of the ancient Romans was brought in from this region. It is known that the Arabians controlled for years a large part of the east African coast, and much of the gold supply which was poured into Egypt came through them. Some of the ruins here

resemble those of the Sabaeans, an old Arabian nation, and it is thought that they may have been built by Sabaeans miners in the days of King Solomon. The records of history as far back as 120 years before Christ, cite the wealth of the Sabaeans, and there is an Assyrian inscription, dated B. C. 722, which speaks of Arabia as furnishing a rich tribute of gold, silver, and incense. Arabia has practically no gold itself, and its treasure must have come from other countries.

As to the enormous amounts which were sent to Egypt, the excavations all along the Nile valley have produced many gold ornaments and the museums of the world contain relics of the golden jewelry found in the mummy caskets from the tombs of the kings. While I was in Egypt a few months ago, I visited the great temple of Dahr-el-Bahar, in the desert mountains, near the site of ancient Thebes. On that temple there are pictures showing how, about 1,700 years before Christ, the land of Punt was conquered by the Egyptians, and how they brought back ebony, ostrich feathers and the skins of leopards, lions and giraffes, as well as elephants' tusks and ingots of gold. All these things came from Rhodesia, and it may be that it was the land of Punt and that the Egyptians made an expedition here. It is also said to be the land of Ophir, to which King Solomon and Hiram of Tyre sent out parties who brought back gold.

Before I describe the remains of the famous temples at Zimbabwe in Mashonaland, I want to tell you about the ruins of Khami, which lie within 12 miles of this city of Bulawayo, and which anyone may reach by horse, bicycle or automobile. They are right on the edge of a river, surrounded by hills in which are troops of baboons. There are antelope, leopards and squirrels among the rocks, and there is no sign of man's habitation nearby. The remains of the walls of the ancient buildings can be seen in many places. They are composed of granite blocks, some of which are laid together in a checker-board pattern. The houses of these ancient miners were circular, and they seem to have been formed by a granite paste which was hardened by burning. There are the remains of other circular buildings between this city and Gwelo; and the ruins at Momo are almost as interesting as those of Zimbabwe.

### THE TEMPLES OF ZIMBABWE.

The remains at Zimbabwe lie about 100 miles from Salisbury and between 200 and 300 miles from Bulawayo. They consist of a great temple, some large fortifications and an acropolis which is supposed to have been in existence when the mines were in full operation. South of the temple are steps which led to gold-smelting furnaces and caves, and in the museum here at Bulawayo they

show crucibles which were found there and which belonged to these ancient miners. Some of the crucibles have the gold still in them, and there are other relics which show the old methods of gold working. There are also small pieces of gold which came from Zimbabwe, links of gold wire as thick as a thread, and an ingot of solid gold about an inch long and a fourth of an inch thick. The ingot seems to have been a piece of the money of those days. There were also copper chains, beautifully made, and ingots of tin, although so far no tin deposits have been discovered nearby.

The Zimbabwe ruins are on the high plateau of Mashonaland, about two-thirds of a mile above the sea. They are connected with other ruins which run the whole length of the western side of the Sabi river and are in almost all cases within a short distance of quartz reefs containing gold. At Zimbabwe itself the ruins cover a large area. There is a great temple 280 feet long, the wall of which at one point is 35 feet high and 16 feet thick at the base. This wall is made of small blocks of granite, with uniform faces, laid up dry. The stones fit so closely that there is comparatively no vegetation upon the ruins. There are without mortar or cement. This is so notwithstanding the floor is of a cement of powdered granite. There are two round towers in the enclosure, which seem to have been erected as monuments. They are solid, and the larger one is 35 feet high. The rest of the circular building is divided up into smaller inclosures, and some scientists say that the whole bears evidence of having been used by people like the Phoenicians.

The remains of another temple have been found not far from this, although the ruins are not so extensive. It is said when the excavators uncovered them. The floor was supported by underground walls. In its center was an altar made of granite blocks, and under the altar was found the remains of Phallic worship and fragments of soapstone bowls. Near it was a gold-smelting furnace.

There is no doubt but that there is a vast amount of gold in Rhodesia. This country, which is almost as big as the Mississippi valley, has minerals of one kind or another, so that there is bound to be gold. The gold fields already discovered cover more than 5,000 square miles and there are now more than 300 companies and syndicates working there. Considerable quantities of gold have been taken out and something like 8,000 tons of chrome iron, Rhodesia has diamond mines, which have already produced about 1,800 carats of precious stones, and coal mines, from which 200,000 tons of black diamonds have been taken. The chief mineral value of the country, so far, has come from its low-grade gold propositions, which are mined at small cost. The British South Africa company is doing what it can to help the small miners, and by the present laws the first license is issued for 1 shilling and nine others at \$5 a claim. A single miner can peg out 10 claims, 150 feet wide and 600 feet long each, for little more than the cost of the licenses. No royalty is paid to the company until the miners have been compensated for their labor and have had some profit on their work. There are a number of mines here which are being operated at a cost of \$10,000 per mine, but as a rule few of the mines pay enormous profits. There are a few fortunes which are so often made in our mineral regions are not to be had.

### THE MOUNTED POLICE.

The British government has the practical control of the natives of this part of Africa. The country is owned by the South Africa company, and it is governed by an executive council appointed by that company with the approval of the secretary of state of Great Britain. There is also a legislative council and courts, appointed by the government of Great Britain, on the nomination of the company. The head of the whole government is the high commissioner, and there is a military police appointed by the crown which is under his control.

It is a wonder to me how the British keep in subjection these hundreds of thousands of native Africans, who are actively few soldiers. The total police force consists of 500 whites and 500 natives. The whites are mounted, and they patrol the country just as do the mounted police of western Canada. There are white settlers living here away off in the wilds, and are nevertheless, comparatively safe. I met the other day Capt. McQueen, of the mounted police of Mashonaland. He has a territory as large as Illinois, which he keeps in order with 10 men, who ride on horseback from farmer to farmer and bring back reports as to the condition of the territory. Every European settler must be visited at least once a month, and the settler has to get from such a written report as to the condition of the country about him. Said Capt. McQueen:

"I believe Rhodesia is almost as safe as England, and if it were not for the lions and leopards a man might go over it without a gun. The natives are quiet, and our white settlers are a great deal better off than those of the ordinary frontier. The conditions will grow better than they now are as the country settles, as I believe it will rapidly do."

### A MID-AFRICA POSTOFFICE.

Speaking of the government, the British postal system is now being carried into every part of Southern Rhodesia, and the postal runners are taking mail as far north as the frontier with the German colonies. Last year two million letters were sent last year in and out of Southern Rhodesia, and there are now, something like 35 post-offices in the British territories above the Zambezi river.

During my stay at the end of the Cape to Cairo railroad, I took a photograph of the Broken Hill postoffice, which is now the station for the north. It is more than 2,000 miles above the Cape of Good Hope. The postoffice consists of a galvanizing iron shed, with a platform for the mail, and the postmaster sleeps in it, and he distributes the mails on the arrival of the trains. About 70 bags of mail come every day. After mail has been given it is carried by natives to all parts of the country. Sixty-four runners left during the day I visited the office. Fourteen of them went to the

Kishanshi copper mines, which are 250 miles away, and each carried a bag weighing 50 pounds on his head or back. The men are expected to make that distance in five days. Another set of post runners was loaded with the mail bags for Fort Jameson, which lies 200 miles due east of Broken Hill and they will reach there within 11 days, while a third has started out for the station of Mumbwa, which is 100 miles westward. At each of these far-away places there are branch routes going out in different directions, so that almost every settler and miner has his regular mail. There are altogether 250 runners to whom the king's mails are entrusted. They have been carrying them for some years, and so far only one has failed to make good. The men are paid 10 shillings a month, and their rations. They carry two days' food with them and enough call to go to purchase what they need for the balance of the journey, each being allowed one half yard a day for eating and lodging.

While at the postoffice I sent a letter to the United States. The postage was 8 cents and my letter will be about a month on the way. I asked as to the telegraph rates and was told that I could cable to New York for 37 cents per word. A telegram which I sent to Livingston, the capital of northwestern Rhodesia, 350 miles distant cost me only 25 cents, which was at least 15 cents cheaper than the rates in the States. It is through the settled portions of our own country. There are now 4,000 miles of telegraphs in Rhodesia, and there are a few telegraph offices. The African telegraph system, which has been extended northward as far as Ujiji, on Lake Tanganyika, so that one can now send a message via the Cape to the heart of Africa. There are telegraph lines running from the Mediterranean southward almost to Uganda, and within a short time there will be iron wires reaching from one end of the continent to the other.

### NORTHERN RHODESIA.

During the past few weeks I have been traveling through Barotseland in northern Rhodesia. I am surprised at the extent of the country and its possible resources. Our general idea of Central Africa is that it is a low jungle infested with fever. The truth is that a vast part of the continent is high and healthy. Algeria and Morocco at the north have as good climate as Italy. Abyssinia is as healthy as almost any part of Europe. A large part of British East Africa consists of plains which are more than a mile above the sea, and the same is true of parts of German East Africa. The most of southern Rhodesia is high, and so is a great part of the region from there down to the Cape of Good Hope.

The land between the Zambezi and the Kalahari watershed is composed of high plains with the Karoo valley running through them. I rode for 300 miles and more over open grassy plateaus spotted here and there with low trees and brushwood. Nearly everywhere the land seems fitted for cattle, and I am told that there are large numbers of the natives keep them in large number. One of the dangers is the tsetse fly, which kills the stock, but it may be that this can be wiped out by quarantine and other ways. In southern Rhodesia there is a spear-headed plant known as *asagal* grass, which kills the sheep. This grass has a sharp-pointed leaf which extends down toward the ground. When it gets into the sheep's wool it works its way through the skin, and finally goes through the heart. Just as a needle pierces the skin, so the sharp point of the leaf pierces the skin. This grass kills the sheep, but it is not injurious to cattle.

One of the chief towns in northwestern Rhodesia are: Broken Hill, Kalama and Livingstone. Broken Hill is a mining settlement. Kalama has been until recently the headquarters of the government, and it consists of the administrative offices, a few tin shanties and the seat of a branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa. Livingstone is a small settlement near Victoria Falls. It contains some offices, half a dozen stores and hotel which is patronized by a few of the white settlers of southern Rhodesia. During the hotter months of the year, northwestern Rhodesia has all told less than 1,000 white settlers.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

## Political Sidelights By News Washington Correspondent.

### Galling Western Reports.

#### Special Correspondence.

**WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.**—There have not been very many developments this week which have caused any great amount of jubilation. On the western states are even more galling than they were last week. For instance, a political snarl has developed in Iowa which has caused great embarrassment. "The Young Turks" of that state had made up their minds to kick over the stand-patters, or the followers of the sultan, who in this instance appears to be Senator Dolliver, and to elect Gov. Cummins to the senate and to succeed the late W. B. Allison. And all this in spite of the protests of the so-called stand-patters. On the other hand, the stand-patters are reported to have declared that they will tie up the Iowa legislature until after election, rather than submit to the election of Cummins, who shows far more political sense in his ability to read the signs of the times than do the followers of Dolliver, Perkins, et al.

Some years ago the late E. G. Dunnell, one of the most astute political observers who ever wrote for a newspaper, in a tip through Iowa saw the evidences of revolt against the high protective policy of the Republican party. He wrote an article for the New York Times, in which he advised the politicians of the east to "keep your eyes on Iowa." Mr. Dunnell was laughed at unmercifully and his implied prediction that Iowa would go over was not borne out by the results. But Iowa has seen a light since those days and the farmers who have been compelled to pay tribute to the Harcourt Trust, the Twine Trust, the Standard Oil Monopoly and all those great aggregations of capital which have been built up under the Morrill-Kelly-Dingley-McKinley high protective policies no longer depend upon campaign speeches and biased political newspapers for their ideas. They have eyes on Iowa.

Senator Burroughs carried back with him the information that, owing to the crowded condition of the court calendar, the so-called contempt cases against Samuel Gompers et al. will be finally disposed of until after election. If there is anything the Republicans do not want, it is a decision on that case before the end of November. Consequently, when Senator Burroughs carried back with him the information that there was no danger of a decision one way or the other, which decision, whatever it might be, would work embarrassment, he lifted from the brains of the Republican national committee a weight which was almost as great as old Atlas himself ever staggered under. And this accounts for the fact that the countenances of Chairman Hitchcock and all those associated with him no longer wear that "automobile face."

### Samuel Gompers' Case.

#### Special Correspondence.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.**—There is joy in the Republican camp. Senator Burroughs visited Washington a few days ago. He talked with all sorts of people. He talked with lawyers. He even conversed with jurists. He even descended to holding conversations with politicians. Then he went back to New York and talked with members of the national committee and he carried with him information which lifted a load from the minds of those gentlemen the estimated pressure of which was five tons to the square inch, which would utterly crumble any reinforced concrete construction that could possibly be put into a floor, even two-inch cold-rolled twisted lug bars when used for reinforcements would scarcely sustain such a strain.

Senator Burroughs carried back with him the information that, owing to the crowded condition of the court calendar, the so-called contempt cases against Samuel Gompers et al. will be finally disposed of until after election. If there is anything the Republicans do not want, it is a decision on that case before the end of November. Consequently, when Senator Burroughs carried back with him the information that there was no danger of a decision one way or the other, which decision, whatever it might be, would work embarrassment, he lifted from the brains of the Republican national committee a weight which was almost as great as old Atlas himself ever staggered under. And this accounts for the fact that the countenances of Chairman Hitchcock and all those associated with him no longer wear that "automobile face."



SAMUEL GOMPERS, LABOR LEADER, IN POLITICS.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, who has stirred the political and industrial world to the depths by endorsing Bryan and trying to throw the organized labor vote to the Democratic candidates, was born in England and was a cigar maker by trade. For many years, however, he has been internationally famous as a labor organizer. As head of the American Federation of Labor he is the executive representative of more men than any other man on earth. Mr. Gompers has, for years been urging workmen to get into politics as a class. This campaign, however, is the first attempt by Gompers to put his idea into practice on a national scale.

### Difference in Campaigns.

#### Special Correspondence.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.**—There is a vast difference between the methods of conducting the campaign between the two great

political parties this year, at least so far as the Washington end of it is concerned. The Democrats have adopted the brass-band policy and are doing all the shouting up to the present time. They are apparently jubilant, cocky and confident and every man who returns from

a trip across the Maryland or Virginia line comes back with glittering stories of the glowing prospects of Bryan and Kern. The Republicans, on the other hand, who more actively engaged in saving wool, so to speak, are apparently content to permit their opponents to enjoy the music of their wind-instrument without attempting to start a counter-revolution in political melody. But occasionally there appears on the scene one who has no reason to govern his conduct by the wishes of either of the managers of the great political parties. Among these is that fine old Confederate veteran, Col. Hunter of Virginia, who was on the staff of General Gordon during the Civil war. Col. Hunter has just returned from Toledo, Ohio, where he took part in the ceremonies incident to the dedication of a monument to commemorate the deeds of the Americans in the war of 1812, near Toledo. Col. Hunter is an old-time southern Democrat and he does not hesitate to say that he will support Bryan in 1908, just as he did in 1860 and in 1896. "But," he added this evening, "I failed to find that the Republicans of the west which I had been led to believe was apparent in every cross-roads town in the state of Ohio. I do not believe that Mr. Bryan has the ghost of a chance to carry the Buckeye state any more than I think Taft will carry Virginia. I shall vote for Bryan and I am for his election, but during my trip through the west I failed to gain any encouragement and I am by no means enthusiastic when I express the hope that the National Union will be elected to the presidency."

### Stampede of Voters.

#### Special Correspondence.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.**—The Republican national and congressional committees do not propose that the voters employed in the departments here shall be deprived of the privilege of casting their votes in the coming election because of any lack of effort on the part of the political managers. There are somewhere between five and ten thousand voters employed in the departments of Washington who have the right of suffrage in practically every state of the Union. Some of them, of course, are too far away from their homes to think of proceeding to their legal residences just for the sake of casting a vote. But all of the northern, middle western and eastern

men who desire to do so will have facilities afforded them by which they can exercise the right of franchise. For this purpose, a committee has been organized, which is taking preliminary steps towards securing every possible facility for these voters. The railroads have been asked to give special rates, and the state has made every sympathetic disposition to comply with this request. It is more than possible that satisfactory terms will be made before the middle of October. There are now in the State Department occupying minor places in the departments with small salaries to whom a journey costing \$10 or more would prove a great hardship. These men will doubtless be provided with tickets which will enable them to go home without cost. The great difficulty arises, however, from the fact that it is impossible for the department to spare all voters at one time, so that at the very best not more than two-thirds of those who are entitled to vote will be able to get away. But every possible effort is being made to smooth the pathway of every man who can leave, so that he may not be deprived of his right of franchise because of the fact that he is employed by the Federal government in the District of Columbia.

### Is a Veritable Utopia.

#### Special Correspondence.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.**—Years ago the "bloody shirt" was frequently waived by over-zealous patriotic orators. Last winter Congressman J. Hampton Moore waved a bunch of rags, spotted clean, which 48 hours previously had been a shirt. He painted a ghastly word picture of the tortures to which linen wearing apparel is subjected when consigned to a Washington laundry. The commissioners made an investigation and found that more acid than soap was used in some of the cleaning establishments, and they prepared a bill which is still pending which is designed to provide washing regulations which, in turn will extend the life of shirts, collars and ties. If this thing goes on Washington will soon become New Utopia. We already have our dogs officially muzzled. The proprietor of an eating house who lets a fly drop into the beer is liable to a fine of \$10 and the garbage man who leaves the top of his wagon open may spend 10 days in jail for his crime. The milk dealer who neglects to pour all

the water after rinsing his cans states a pentenary sentence in the fine and the interstate commerce commission is preparing a code which will make the punishment for a violation of the interstate railroad law fit crime; in case the electric railroad fails to furnish a seat for a fare.

It is a misdemeanor to own a rooster which crows before 6:30 a. m.; a high crime to spit on the sidewalk and a most a felony if you serve a free lunch and leave a handful of forks in a glass of dirty water available for your customer. It is a crime to throw oneself to the cold beans and sauerkraut or the pickles.

These questions are attracting almost as much attention just now as the speeches of Messrs. Taft and Bryan.

### Loan Sharks at Capitol.

#### Special Correspondence.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 17.**—Loan sharks will come in for a great deal of attention during the next session of Congress if present plans are carried out. It is the common belief in Washington that fully 1 per cent of the salaries and wages paid to Uncle Sam's employees in the national capital finds its way into the pockets of the loan companies and money lenders. Clerks who are housekeepers in many instances pay 3 per cent a month for the privilege of sitting at the tables eating from the dishes, and sleeping in the beds, for which they once paid the regular price and subsequently mortgaged. Unmarried men and women with no "collateral" pay anywhere from 5 to 10 per cent per month for loans ranging from \$5 to \$50, and they generally die or resign before they succeed in "getting square." Although cases are reported where principal and legitimate interest has been paid five times over. There are a score or more former officials located in the national offices who live well, own autos, or horses, and never do a lick of work. They don't have to. Leaving his office in the interior department, one of these thrifty gentlemen had a bank account of about \$2,000. He started in to live upon the interest on the money he had loaned to his employees. He had a 10 per cent on that original investment in any year of the 10 that he has been "in business" for himself. Now the banking authorities propose to get after the usurers. They can do nothing until authorized to do more by Congress, but will try hard to get that authority.