

THE OBSERVER

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ROOSEVELT AND THE PEACE TREATY.

It does not seem to me that the reported interview of Roosevelt concerning the proposed peace treaty will occasion any surprise, remarks Tom McNeal.

At heart, Roosevelt is not for peace. He is in favor of increased armies and navies, despite the fact that the ever increasing burden of militarism is fairly breaking the backs of the producing classes of Europe and making life harder for the producing classes in this country.

The colonel parades as usual as the arch enemy of shams and hypocrites, but a careful study of him

course leads to the conclusion that his pretended preachments for peace are mostly pretense and sham.

If only such differences are to be arbitrated as the nations by common consent agree to arbitrate then there is no occasion for any peace treaty, serves to itself the right to determine for that means that every nation re-what it shall consider an affront of its national honor and a cause for going to war.

Mr. Roosevelt says that he would rather cut off his right hand than see the United States adopt the attitude of either cringing before great and powerful nations who wish to wrong us or by bullying small and weak nations who have done us no harm.

If the colonel really means what he says he should at once apply to some surgeon to have his hand amputated, for if there was ever a case of shameful bullying of a weak nation it was done by the colonel himself in the case of Colombia.

Colombia had done us no harm. She was a sovereign state, supposed to be one of those protected in her integrity by the powerful arm of the United States government. Roosevelt was president. He had determined to have the government of the United States dig the Panama canal. It was necessary to get the consent of the Colombian government. That government bargled over the terms and was hindering the digging of the canal, or at least hindering the deal that was being arranged with the French company that had undertaken to dig the canal and failed.

With the full understanding and consent of President Roosevelt, the government of Colombia was ravished of her territory. A pretended revolution was organized in Panama and the independent government recognized before there was time to even complete the pretense of an organized government.

The government of Colombia had done us no harm. There was no excuse for a rebellion in Panama. The government of the United States organized the revolution, financed it and furnished the troops to do whatever fighting might be necessary to establish the pretended government of Panama.

Rarely, if ever, in the history of nations, has there been a case of such flagrant bullying of a weak power by a strong nation and the soul and genius and instigator of it was Roosevelt.

Suppose that Colombia had been a great, powerful nation like Germany, able to put into the field within a week more than a million armed men. Do you suppose that there would have been any move to organize a revolution in Panama? Nay, nay, Pauline. Not on your life.

But Colombia, while in point of territory more than twice as large as Germany, is a poor weak nation, with about our million half savage, poverty stricken inhabitants, excepting of course the ruling class. The marines from a single United States man-of-war were sufficient to whip all the armies that Colombia was able to muster and so her rights were disregarded. Her territory was taken from her because we were strong enough to take it and Colombia couldn't help herself.

It would have been better for the ultimate reputation of Roosevelt if

there had been no pretense of organizing the government of Panama. If we had simply taken the territory now known as Panama and commenced the construction of the canal, that would at least have been frank, openhanded robbery, but the plan that was pursued had all the viciousness of robbery was cloaked in the most transparent hypocrisy.

Under the terms of the treaties negotiated by President Taft an outrage like that perpetrated on the weak government of Colombia could hardly be put through, but just so long as each nation is permitted to decide for itself what differences are to be arbitrated and what are not, the powerful nations will impose on the weak.

President Taft has done a good many things that have not suited me but in his stand in favor of a world peace pact and the lifting of the military burdens from the backs of the people not only of this, but of all other nations, he is everlastingly right. I do not say that it is the only thing in his administration to be commended but I do say that it is the thing that is most to be commended.

A WIFE BARGAIN.

Colonel Green of Texas, son of the redoubtable Hetty, wants a wife—he says—and has looked the market over and complains of the offerings. He grumbles because contemporary women want "clothes—and then more clothes." automobiles, yachts, cottages at Newport and Bar Harbor. He sighs because New York women such as he sees about the hotels and restaurants are probably unskilled in cooking and laundry work. "Women," he says, "should marry with the idea of having children and caring for a home."

Shucks! says Life. Colonel Green ought easily to find a wife to suit him. If he wants an able woman, a skilled cook and laundress, well able to bear children and keep a clean house, let him make a careful tour of the intelligence offices in New York. Admirable women of the kind he praises are constantly passing through these offices, and if he is a presentable man and can give a good character, he ought to be able to engage one to marry him.

Colonel Green's mother has spent her life getting money together and avoiding expenditure. If that is his game too, he had better not try to marry at all. Single life is cheaper. Children are an expense. Wives are apt to feel entitled to some compensation for being wives. They are almost universally prone, the greedy things, to want their share of life, and some share of whatever their husbands have. Since they are as they are, Colonel Green, as he appears in his criticisms of women, will hardly seem to them an attractive partner. He is too much out for a bargain. He dwells entirely on what he wants of a wife and not at all on what he hopes to do for her. But marriage is not that kind of a trade. There is profit of a certain mean sort in over-reaching a customer, but no profit in over-reaching a wife.

Better not risk it, Colonel Green. You do not know this game of marriage. There is no something-for-nothing department in it at all. You have to give yourself and what you have and you get what you get and make the best of it.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

- September 19. 1356—The English under Edward, the Black Prince, defeated the French under King John at the battle of Poitiers. 1737—Gottingen university opened. 1739—Gen. Andrew Pickens, a distinguished soldier of the American revolution, born at Paxton, Pa. Died in South Carolina, Aug. 17, 1817. 1820—General assembly of Missouri met in St. Louis and organized a state government. 1864—Union forces under Gen. Sheridan defeated the confederates under Gen. Early at Winchester, Va. 1881—James A. Garfield, 20th president of the United States, died at Long Branch, N. J. Born in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1831. 1891—The St. Clair tunnel under the Detroit river opened to traffic. 1896—Dongola, in the Soudan, was captured by the Anglo-Egyptian expedition.

THINK IT OVER. It isn't so much the price you pay as the Quality you receive that counts in Clothes buying. THE QUALITY OF THE CLOTHES WE SELL IS UNSURPASSED AT THE PRICE. THE STYLES ARE RIGHT, TOO. WE CATER TO PARTICULAR DRESSERS. AND ARE SHOWING FOR THIS SEASON MANY NEAT, DRESSY PATTERNS IN THE POPULAR RED, BROWN AND BLUE-GRAY SHADES. ALSO HUNDREDS OF OTHER PLEASING STYLES AND SHADES. YOU WILL FIND OUR PRICES RIGHT. WE'RE EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR BENJAMIN CLOTHES FOR MEN. SINCERITY CLOTHES FOR MEN. SOCIETY BRAND YOUNG MEN'S SUITS. WOOLTEX SUITS AND COATS FOR LADIES. SEIGEL SUITS AND COATS FOR LADIES AND MISSES. LUCILLE DRESSES FOR LADIES. XTRA-GOOD BOYS' SUITS AND OVERCOATS. Benjamin Clothes Alfred Benjamin & Co. GAGE PATTERN HATS in our exclusive millinery department.

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"THIS IS MY 32ND BIRTHDAY." Marshall P. Wilder. Marshall P. Wilder, the well known humorist and entertainer, was born in Geneva, N. Y., September 19, 1859. As an infant he removed with his parents to New York City, where he has since made his home. Owing to physical disability his education was very limited, the whole of his school life being covered by three or four years. As a youth he found employment in a New York office, at a salary of \$2.00 a week. While thus employed he first used his abilities to entertain, appearing as a reader at drawing room entertainments. Soon he found it to his advantage to quit his other employment and devote all his time to entertaining. In 1883 he went to London, where he met with much success. Some years later he made a trip around the world, giving entertainments in Japan, China, Australia and other countries. Mr. Wilder has done considerable journalistic work and is the author of several books. TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the common council of the city of La Grande, Oregon on the 5th day of August, 1909, creating improvement district No. 1, and designating Adams avenue as such district, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted by said common council on the 6th day of September, 1911, whereby said council determined and declared its intention to improve all that portion of Adams avenue, in said improvement district as hereinafter described, by laying thereon cement sidewalks and macadamizing, the council will, ten days after the service of this notice upon the owners of the property affected and benefited by such improvement, order that said above described improvement be made, that the boundaries of said district to be so improved are as follows: All that portion of Adams avenue on north side from the west line of Alder street, to a point 200 feet west of Alder street. (A) And the property affected or benefited by said improvement is as follows: The property owned by the Grande Ronde hospital, described as follows: Commencing at a point 60 feet west of the southwest corner of block 14, of Grandy's second addition to the city of La Grande, Oregon, running thence west 380 feet to the west line of the southeast quarter of Section 6, Twp. 3, S R 38, E W M, thence north 212 1/2 feet, thence east 380 feet, thence south 212 1/2 feet to the place of beginning. Notice is hereby further given that the council will levy a special assessment on all the property affected and benefited by such improvement for the purpose of paying for such improvement. That the estimated cost of such improvement is the sum of \$651.90. That the council will, on the 20th day of September, 1911, meet at the council chamber at the hour of 8 o'clock, p. m., to consider said estimated cost, and the levy of said assessment, when a hearing will be granted to any person feeling aggrieved by such assessment. La Grande, Oregon, September 6th, 1911. CITY COUNCIL OF LA GRANDE, OREGON. By C. M. HUMPHREYS, Recorder of the city of La Grande, Oregon. 9-8-10t Grande Ronde NURSERIES (Trade Mark.) Foreign and domestic trees, roses and shrubs. We guarantee to give satisfaction. We do not claim our price to be lower than the lowest but claim the quality of the stock is the highest attainable. Therefore when comparing our prices with others please bear in mind that all trees are not alike. Our main specialty lies in satisfying a customer and filling his order with trees of the most excellent quality. Orders large or small will receive prompt and careful attention at our hands. L. W. HORNBECK & CO. Office—Grande Ronde Valley House La Grande.

Arcade Theatre. Eastern Europe—Pathe. A travelogue. Well photographed and very interesting. Slick's Romance—Selig. A western drama. Intensely interesting. Across the Mountain Passes of New Zealand—Pathe. Scenic. A series of carefully selected views. Sir George and the Heiress—Edison. One of those good strong Edisons. Nick Winter Turns a Trick (Photoplay goes will remember him) A lively comedy. Song by Miss Stephenson. "I Don't Want Any Other Sweetheart if I Can't Have You." Matinee every day from 2 to 4. Doors open at 7 in the evening. YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

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