

THE OBSERVER

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THE HOUSE AND THE PRESIDENCY

The constitution of the United States provides that if the electoral college is unable to give any candidate for president a clear majority of votes, the election of national chief executive goes to the house of representatives.

If, for instance, both the old parties were to nominate conservatives for the presidency there would be a very strong inclination to organize a third party movement and put in the field a candidate of recognized progressive principles.

Were this to happen in the next presidential election, the choice of executive would fall to the present democratic house of representatives. And, strangely enough, it would not be able to choose a democratic president.

tion of president, the constitution stipulates that each state shall vote as a unit. Each delegation would cast one vote to be determined by that delegation in caucus. And, in spite of the fact that the present house is democratic by a majority of close to 70, it has only 22 democratic state delegations, while there are 22 republican delegations and four state delegations are evenly balanced, and could not, therefore, participate in such an election—granted, of course, that every representative proved true to his party affiliations throughout.

As a matter of fact, the question would not be so simple as that. The contest which the electoral college passed over to the house would not be merely bi-partisan. That progressive third candidate would intrude into the deliberations. There is a large and energetic progressive element in the present house and a wholesale desertion of party standards would probably follow were the unusual duty of choosing a president thrown upon it.

Thomas Jefferson was elected president in 1800 by the house of representatives. Again in 1824 the contest was transferred into the house and John Quincy Adams emerged the winner. Those were days of political simplicity. The nation had not learned then to interpret their constitution with so liberal a mind. In these days when the electoral college has been all but eliminated in spite of the constitutional guarantee of its existence, when the people in an increasing number of states are choosing their United States senators in the face of the requirement that their legislatures do it for them—in these days it is not at all likely that the election of a president will be decided in the house of representatives.

A citizen of Joliet, Ill., was held up by highwaymen and robbed of a pound of beefsteak. There seems to be no crime too heinous for the Illinois criminal.

Instead of hanging the 1832 treaty with the United States on the wall over the piano, Russia persists in using it for a doormat.

Vice President Sherman says he wants to retire from public life, not seeming to comprehend the purpose of the office of vice president.

The entire city of Philadelphia is now supplied with filtered water. But what Philadelphia needs even more is filtered politics.

"New York now has all-night banks, all-night saloons, and all-night restaurants." And many cases of all-day remorse.

King Alfonso is reported to have sold five costly tapestries. Is J. P. Morgan furnishing a new house?

Civilization has finally reach Indiana. A cat in Logansport has been buried in a \$50 coffin.

FOLEY KIDNEY PILLS always give satisfaction because they always do the work. J. T. Shelmut, Bremen, Ga., says: "I have used Foley Kidney Pills with great satisfaction and found more relief from their use than from any other kidney medicine, and I've tried almost all kinds. I can cheerfully recommend them to all sufferers for kidney and bladder trouble." Foley Kidney Pills will cure any case of kidney or bladder trouble not beyond the reach of medicine. No medicine can do more. A. T. Hill.

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"A EWNSBOYS LUCK". Lubin A deserving human heart is brought out of sorrow and difficulty into gladness. Strongly appealing and very convincing.

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"GOOD NIGHT DEAR" Sung by Laura Green Wills. Matinee daily from two to four

NAPOLEON'S DESTINY.

Summed Up In Four Mottos Bonaparte Learned at School.

In 1784 Bonaparte, then fifteen years old, arrived at the military school of Paris from Brienne, being one of four under the conduct of a minor priest. He mounted 173 steps, carrying his small valise, and reached, in the attic, the barrack chamber he was to occupy. This chamber had two beds and a small window opening on the great yard of the school. The young predecessors of Bonaparte had bespattered the whitewashed walls with charcoal, and the newcomer could read in this little cell these four inscriptions, which we ourselves read three years ago: An epaulet is very long to win.—De Montguyray.

The finest day in life is that of a battle.—Vicente de Tintoniae. Life is but a prolonged lie.—Le Chevallier Adolphe Delmas. The end of all is six feet of earth.—Le Comte de la Villette.

With the trifling substitution of the word "empire" for "epaulet" these four sentences contain the whole destiny of Bonaparte and formed a kind of "Mene, Tekel, Upharsin," written in advance upon that wall.—Victor Hugo.

Dangers in Paint.

"Turpentine and benzine," says a department of agriculture bulletin, "are very inflammable, and special precautions should be taken not to bring paint containing these substances near any light or open fire. Many pigments are poisonous, and the workman should be particularly careful to remove all paint stains from the skin and not under any circumstances allow any of it to get into his mouth. A man should not eat in the same clothes in which he has been painting and before eating should not only change his clothes, but wash all paint stains from his skin. It is not advisable to use turpentine or benzine in removing paint stains from the hands, but by oiling thoroughly with linseed oil or in fact with any fatty oil and then thoroughly washing with soap the paint may be removed, provided it has not been allowed to dry too thoroughly on the hands."

Badly Expressed.

"Yes, Aunt Mary went out without her rubbers, and now she is in heaven." "My, my! What dreadful things result from a little carelessness!"—Exchange.

The Wrong Man.

"Just a minute, old chap. You're just the man I want to see." "No, I'm not. I can't spare a cent."—Pittsburgh Post.

If your eyes are always cast down, cobwebs will gather on the ceiling.

WILDE CASE STARTS.

Conspiracy Will Be Shown by State Is Promise Made.

Portland, Jan. 24.—The opening statements in the Wilde trial were made today. Special Prosecutor Clark said he would show that Wilde and Morris, the former cashier of the defunct Oregon Trust and Savings bank, conspired to sell telephone stock at par and split the \$90,000 difference between the amount it sold for and the market value. Chief Counsel Dan Malarkey for the defense in his statement this afternoon said it was a business deal and not a criminal conspiracy.

NEW FADS AND FASHIONS

New York, Jan. 23.—Velvets and corduroys have become extremely popular for tailored costumes and are used a great deal. Now the French are adding plush, that soft, supple, rich fabric with a satin sheen, to the materials of the tailored class. This material lends itself most charmingly to handsome suits, particularly in combination with broadcloth. A distinctive model much admired by the friends of its charming wearer, was of a rich olive green plush in combination with broadcloth. The rather long coat of the plush closed to one side with a full length line of handsome enameled buttons. The wide-draping revers were of a similar shade of green broadcloth, as was the upper part of the skirt, lengthened by a knee depth flounce of the plush.

A negligee to be thoroughly practical should be washable, though cleansing is now so quickly and cheaply done that anything at all dainty is usually

sent to the cleaner, and for the cheap cold weather negligees of washable character outing flannels, fine French flannels, challis and albatross cloth are the materials usually chosen. Albatross is the material with which the designers secure the best effects. In pink and blu it is charming, and white albatross made up over a pink silk is perhaps even more effective. Unlined sacks and boudoir robes of pink or blue trimmed simply by embroidered scalloping of the edges and by an embroidered collar of the material, or possibly a collar of lingerie or lace, are exceedingly attractive and easily tubbed.

Without the hand embroidered scalloping models are sold at very moderate prices. A lining of India silk throughout the robe or merely from the waist line up adds something to the cost, but adds also to the warmth of the garment without interfering with its laundering qualities. If tubbing is not to be considered, more latitude is allowed in the trimming of the albatross robe, though the character of such a garment should always be unpretentious and simple. A heavy lace insertion and edge of Cluny, Irish or heavy torchon may be used as trimming, and bands of puffing in silk or in the albatross are sometimes used effectively. Much depends upon the collar in such a robe and, of course, upon the line. The modish negligee, like all modish garments of the season, has achieved a clinging narrowness, but needs also ample fullness for the ease and comfort of the wearer in her hours of relaxation.

Cashmere, too, is used for simple negligees and some smart looking simple robes in light blue or pink cashmere or broadcloth are trimmed in wide, flat white silk braid or in the white braid with an effective narrow line of black braid edging the white.

The flannels are warm but less satisfactory in other respects than the albatross, because they are rather more clumsy and show soil more readily.

Some of the simple boudoir robes in wool have narrow fringe borders as their only trimmings; but even narrow fringe is apt to tangle and mass, and of course the fringe makes laundering difficult, if not impossible. The challis are extremely pretty this season and some of them are very cleverly used by the designers of negligees, bordered effects being particularly successful. The material wears well, tubs well and has pleasant warmth without bungleous thickness; but for some reason it is not considered quite so smart as other materials and is used but little by French makers.

For the very warm robe wadded silk or zenana cloth is the thing, and both are offered in models more or less expensive, and more or less elaborate. Japanese hand embroideries lavishly adorn some of these wadded robes. The ordinary ready made robe of wadded silk is a comfortable but unbecoming thing, with its bulky turn over collar, and the handsome zenana robes with embroidered collars of lace and lingerie are usually very expensive. It is less expensive to buy the zenana cloth in the color wanted and have the robe made to fit well and with detachable lingerie and lace collars, which lend daintiness to the robe but may easily be removed and washed.

Among silks for negligees there are many weaves and many grades. Quaint kimono silks of Japanese designs come in varying degrees of beauty and quality, but the silks preferred by the French designers are the one tone crepes of dull or crinkled or satin finish. Some attractive models are made up in the India silks, but these silks are more popular for the summer negligee.

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