

## THE OBSERVER

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## THE NEEDS OF ALASKA.

It is generally conceded that Alaska needs a larger share of self government and to carry out this idea there is a bill pending in congress to give Alaska a territorial governor and a legislative body armed with sufficient authority to provide and enforce legislation dealing with the strictly internal affairs of that territory. Such a plan, carefully safeguarded, would unquestionably be for the benefit and advantage of Alaskan citizens and interests and while congress may not take the necessary action before the close of the present session, it is highly probable that Alaska will get the concession soon, probably when another session of congress convenes.

It is now a well recognized fact that Alaska was a fine bargain for this nation. When it was purchased in 1867 for \$7,200,000 the price of a good down town block in New York, Russia was obviously glad to get rid of it, and there was much grumbling among the people of the United States, even though they understood that the motive of the national government was to prevent England from obtaining control of any more of the Pacific coast than it already possessed. But the territory has produced, since its purchase, over and above the price paid and the cost of government service, at least \$410,000,000. And only the surface of a small part of its mineral deposits has been scratched.

Private capital discovered that Alaska was a rich prize before the country and the national government realized the truth. Owing to its wealth making opportunities and the powerful interests that seek to monopolize them the territory presents intricate problems in government. Corporate greed must be held in check and the common American citizens given a chance. There is a considerable population in Alaska now and it will increase constantly. Surely the people who live there are entitled to as much self government as may be possible without jeopardizing national interests. And as surely they have a better understanding of their own needs and those of the territory than senators and representatives thousands of miles away, most of whom have never seen it.

As for the "interests" that seek to seize Alaska's mineral wealth, the national government can continue to keep a strong hand on them, even with home rule established.

The government states that it is going to charge the full duty on punk hereafter. It's a pinch that will bar out a lot of the European nobility.

Noah collected all the wild animals in the world, but he never made moving pictures of them and gave a refined and elevating Chautauqua lecture about the films.

A magazine writer says Woodrow Wilson has a highly-developed sense of humor. But it is the vice president who needs that.

It is to be hoped that there isn't much in a name, after all. Dr. Wiley's successor is Dr. Doolittle.

Of course it was a bachelor judge who told the man he must kiss his wife twice a day.

## ROOSEVELT POEM.

(Written by a La Grande Lady.)  
Through man's influence,  
Are gained the kingdoms of earth;  
Through a woman's influence,  
Man proves that kingdom's worth.

To the fearless, brave-hearted Roosevelt,

Champion of right-living, champion of homes;

All honor for what you have done,  
For Mothers, and their children, kind man.

Mothers, whose barks are heavily laden,

With jewels of humanity,  
Give to you, your full meed of praise,  
For acknowledging their equality.

"Equality," that pleasure will never be man's;

Equality, indeed! Men are striving  
To govern the world, with policies,  
With tariff and standards of gold.

While Mothers are ruling the world  
With purity, with love, with God-given power

The world's people to mold.

And when the cry "Woman is not strong,"

She could never face battle,  
Knows nothing of wars or of strife,"

Answer them, and say—  
Woman faced death, and battled for strength of endurance,

When she gave man life.

So I bid God-speed to you—O Roosevelt!

Mother's admirer, children's lover—  
And a safe return to the arms of your own,

—Come back to your country before 'tis noon.

For executiveness and power among statesmen,

Has won for you the esteem  
Of your fellow brother,

It is your being an ideal husband and father,

Has won the admiration of the Western Mother.

(The above was written by Mrs. E. C. Moore, when Roosevelt left for Africa and he acknowledged it by a personal letter.—Editor.)

## ROOSEVELT A GUEST

(Continued from page one)

spondents and their papers were:  
L. F. Curtiss, Associated Press; C.

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Bandanas were the popular neckwear and thousands were sold during the morning hours, making a big cleanup of that popular insignia. Roosevelt-Johnson banners were flaunted at all stages of the game, too. La Grande today as a city appears on the front page of every daily newspaper in the United States, and tomorrow morning again will be in the news items of every paper likewise.

The event of national importance in connection with the coming of Roosevelt alluded to above is the arrival of a special train carrying men who are going to trail Roosevelt to the finish with opposition fireworks. The party consists of John Maywood Harlan, son of the noted ex-chief justice, J. Adam Bede, the Minnesota congressman who has been in the political arena these many years, and John P. Ryan, representing the national committee and Oswald Schulte, representing the press. These will speak here tonight and then go on to Boise following the colonel throughout the trip now before him.

"We are after this guerrilla of the political woods," said Mr. Harlan today. "We intend to refute the statements that are being made by him and shall certainly follow him to the end, spending a day or so later where he stops."

Becker Wins Point.

New York, Sept. 11.—A sweeping victory for Police Lieut. Becker, accused of complicity in the murder of Herman Rosenthal, was gained here today when Supreme Court Justice Charles Butler on the application of

Attorney John McIntyre, counsel for Becker, to postpone the trial which was set for tomorrow to October 1st. District Attorney Whitman fought to have the trial at the original date set.

### THOUSANDS GREET TEDDY

(Continued from page 1)

Standard Oil for 1904 campaign expenses, and of allowing his lieutenants to go back and demand money without getting it, was dealt with in considerable detail. "Of course we all know the Standard Oil was not blackmailed, but just the same that was asserted, yet, when that grand old couple, Penrose and Archbold, the latter doing most of the talking at the investigation, came before the committee, they did not bemoan that they had contributed as they alleged, or that they were blackmailed but did bemoan that they didn't get the goods.

These men testified one year after the man was dead against whom they were testifying—they were not testifying against me but against Cornelius Bliss.

"He died a year ago but now they have a great duty to perform, after he is dead. He was alive seven years but they spoke not. However, these men testified on a Friday and Saturday and wired Chairman Clapp of the com-

mittee that I wanted to go before them and testify on the following Monday, yet the committee had scattered to the four corners of the globe and Archbold himself had gone to Europe."

The ex-president concluded

speech with a brief recapitulation of his address, the reasons why he appealed for support, and the panacea the Progressive party presents to the present situation. A rousing cheer was tendered him at the close from the 6,000 or 7,000 people present.

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