

THE OBSERVER

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FRIEND BRYAN AGAIN.

We suppose that if Mr. Bryan goes to the National Democratic Convention determined to vote for the renomination of Mr. Wilson, he will have other purposes also, says the Democratic New York World. Having helped make the President once more the candidate of the party, his next and greater task will be the adoption of a platform repudiating the administration.

It is by tactics of this kind that the peerless leader God-blesses his friends who win nominations and elections to which he thinks he is entitled. Although Mr. Bryan is as much at variance with Mr. Wilson as Theodore Roosevelt, Elihu Root or Dr. Dernburg, it pleases him to cover the pretended object of his affections with rich, warm treacle the better to disarm him. He loves Woodrow as unselfishly as a fox admires chickens, and he is seeking the same high and noble ends as the President but in different ways, the chief difference being that Mr. Bryan's ways and aims are diametrically opposed to Mr. Wilson's.

Woodrow Wilson's renomination does not depend upon Mr. Bryan's favor. It ought not to be conferred by a convention under the influence in any degree of an enemy masquerading as a friend. Nominations being out of the question for himself, Mr. Bryan cares not who the candidates may be if he can write the platform. He has been writing platforms of retreat and surrender ever since he left the State Department, and everybody knows what they are. The Wilson platform should be Wilson himself, disassociated from Bryan and Bryanism, treacle, God-bless-you's and all.

WHAT IS AN AMERICAN NAME?

Writing to a New York newspaper, a person signing himself "A Naturalized Citizen" makes this suggestion: "Now is a favorable time to change foreign names for all naturalized or even born American citizens. Let us do that now for the sake of patriotism and our coming generation. Let us be Americans by name as well as by heart."

It will be remembered that shortly after the outbreak of hostilities in Europe in 1914 a wave of patriotism swept over Britain resulting in thousands going to the courts for permission to exchange foreign for English family names. Perhaps the New Yorker quoted had the English example in mind. But before it can be adopted we must determine what is an American name.

Of course, English is the ruling language in the United States. But all races bring their hopes, capital and names to the United States, and the language spoken in these states is deeply indebted to almost every other tongue on earth for new words and phrases and alternations of names. To set up a standard of American family names under the circumstances would prove no small, no safe task. To adopt names of purely English origin would please few not of English extraction. The Scott, the Irishman, not to mention the Teuton, the Slav or the Oriental would scarcely bow to the change with good will.

In the course of time family names may undergo revision. One generation slightly alters spelling, or drops a syllable or translates from one tongue into another. So the problem, in this as in most countries, gradually settles itself. Those individuals in whom pride of race is large generally cling longest to family names as spelled and spoken in lands of origin. But even they yield, as the generations pass, to the rules of convenience.

No wholesale changing of names can be brought about by argument or otherwise in America, made up as the population is of fragments of many nations. But those individuals who desire to change the difficult names of their ancestry—names equally difficult to spell or to speak

—can easily do so on application to courts or legislatures in the various states, or by marriage.

CONCERNING HEALTH.

There are more theories and fads regarding health than there are in religion. Next to the weather, health is the most general subject of conversation. Our ordinary salutation, "How do you do?" is a question as to health and not infrequently lets loose upon the inquirer a long story of personal ills.

Lyman Abbott, declaring himself in better health at eighty than at eighteen, is an instance of what sane living and continuous work will do toward preserving mental and physical vigor. Most of us are inclined to look for the world's messing in its meat and drink, regardless of the fact that nature exacts a penalty sooner or later—generally later—for over-indulgence. Americans are great believers in the magic of medicine. We violate the rule of health and pin our faith to pills. The doctor gives us good advice, which we disregard because it irritates by indicating our own responsibility. Next time we go to a physician who will "do some things." Scientists advise us that few laws are more simple than those which relate to keeping well, but to keep those laws demands the daily self denial and sacrifice of desire which are so difficult in these days of many luxuries and consequent temptation. Social conventions require us to eat and drink more than we ought and at improper hours; the automobile has cut off the healthy exercise of walking, and the business man has so many irons in the fire that he cannot sleep for fear some may become overheated. To evade these and other consequences of self-indulgence are some of the sacrifices required.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING CRITICIZED.

Organized labor and interests more revolutionary, will find their stand on vocational training in public schools strongly backed up by Prof. Wm. C. Bagley, director of the school of education, University of Illinois, who says that those who urge the teaching of trades and crafts to children below the teens are those whose own offspring are "destined to follow the white collar callings."

Vocational training, says Prof. Bagley, jeopardizes democracy. To determine just what a child is fitted for before its own judgment is shaped cannot be done. The child's ambition, or even his aptitude, affords no sure guide. A compass in the hand may be handy in the lathe.

Selective training, technical and cultural, is the direct reverse of what is intended by vocational training. To give the fullest development to every talent, manual or intellectual, that a pupil has is the ideal of modern pedagogy. Vocational training would make for a flat level of accomplishment, the obligation of initiative and a sharp line between the opportunities of the children of well-to-do parents and the children of laborers.

Ed. Wright's candidacy for Public Service Commissioner is growing every day and apparently he will be named at the May primaries by a large majority. This is as it should be for Mr. Wright has demonstrated by his faithful work in Union county his extraordinary ability for the position that he seeks. Although not admitted to the bar he knows more law than a great many practicing attorneys; he comes from pioneer stock; has held responsible positions for many years and has always made good to the people in every trust. He is at the right age to take up the work of Public Service Commissioner, which is the most important job to business in the state, and he is going to win because the general public views his capabilities much as do the people of Union county where he was born and raised.

Thomas A. Edison says he would as soon see a man with a revolver as a boy with a cigarette. Well, we wouldn't, and we don't believe in boys smoking cigarettes, either.

An eastern woman suing for divorce says her husband won her by telling her a lot of "lies." We're all guilty of that charge.

Jerome K. Jerome says the war will end in "peace without hate." We fear Jerome doesn't understand human nature very well.

Mr. Bryan says he doesn't like cartoonists. We suppose the target doesn't care much for the sharpshooters either.

Yale's new director of athletics is to receive \$10,000 a year. Why do men choose to teach Greek and Latin?

Every year this country produces a martyr. Somebody has to be nominated and elected vice president.

Boston is advertising for a cheap dog catcher. Is there any other variety?

PECULIARITIES OF WAR.

With the British battle cruiser Squadron, somewhere in the North Sea, Feb. 18.—(By Mail)—Standing placidly at anchor, but in formidable battle array, the British navy's "fighting veterans" of the battles of Heligoland Bight and Doggerbank were still waiting for the Germans to come out today.

Great, long gray war ships, their engines ready to turn the propellers; like the greyhoundish scout cruisers and swarms of diminutive black destroyers and torpedo-boats, all fully manned and ready for action, appeared anxious and willing today to be off in chase or battle.

By courtesy of the British Admiralty I was able to see at close range the real reason why there has been no naval warfare in the North Sea since January 24, 1915, when the German Blucher was sunk and the Derfflinger, Moltke and Seydlitz were forced to run to cover in the German minefields. Since that time the German fleet has remained at home.

Preparedness personified in ships and men, the British Squadron is

ready to remain thus for years, if necessary, according to the officers and men with whom I talked.

Well ahead in the battle line is the Tiger, 700 feet of the same fighting cut that showed her teeth to the Blucher in the Doggerbank action. A dented armor plate just above the waterline, mark of a final shot from

the Blucher, is a lasting memento still carried by the Tiger. The shell was from one of the Teuton's 11 inch guns, the Tiger's officers declare. It failed to penetrate the nine inch belt of Krupp armor while the Tiger's 13 1/2 inch guns were perforating the equalled "krupp-armor" German battle cruiser. Berlin still believes the Tiger was

sunk in this action. A possible forecast of future German naval warfare in the North Sea and an explanation of why the German belief is firm that the Tiger went down was given by one of the Tiger's officers. When the Blucher turned her massive hull to view, a Zeppelin appeared 10,000 feet above and dropped bombs in the vicinity of the boats of the British fleet busy picking up the Blucher's survivors.

Observers on the air ship saw the Blucher's death struggle and assumed that it was the Tiger. The word was carried back to Berlin and officially announced to the world before Germany saw fit to announce that the Blucher was sunk. It was the same old Tiger, however which the writer inspected from stem to stern today; and seeing is believing. Not far astern the Tiger stood the other member of the Battle Squadron's cat family. It was the Lion, bristling with guns, big and small, primed and ready for any emergency. Nearby lay the New Zealand, a gift to the navy from New Zealanders in 1910 and which made a record trip around the world just before the war. The Princess Royal, 700 trim feet of fighting ship, also was nearby, keeping silent company with the other fleet units, the identities of which must remain Admiralty secrets.

The Battle Cruiser Squadron is waiting for something out of the air which will set dozens of engines racing toward the open sea and cause hundreds of officers, gunners and stokers and thousands of seamen to jump to their battle stations. Less than ten minutes after the "prepare action" comes from the flagship the leading scout cruisers will be tearing out to sea. Close behind, a few moments later, will come the speedy battle cruisers, primed for the long awaited but ever welcome

Dangers of Draft. Drafts feel best when they are hot and perspiring, just when they are most dangerous and the result is Neuralgia, Stiff Neck, Sore Muscles or sometimes an attack of Rheumatism. In such cases apply Sloan's Liniment. It stimulates circulation to the sore and painful part. The blood flows freely and in a short time the stiffness and pain leaves. Those suffering from Neuralgia or Neuritic Headache will find one or two applications of Sloan's Liniment will give grateful relief. The agonizing pain gives way to a tingling sensation of comfort and warmth and quiet rest and sleep is possible. Good for Neuritis too. Price 25c at your Druggist.

MEN! They Have Just Arrived New Spring Suits at \$15.00

These suits at \$15.00 represent the highest worth it is possible to put into clothes at this price. All wool, good tailoring, perfect in fit and finish. Satisfaction always assured. A big Portland store sells these suits at \$16.50. Come in and see them—All sizes are here in desirable Spring weaves, mixtures, checks, stripes and blue serge—Smooth or rough finished goods. Priced \$15.00



Mighty Big Values!

These Boys' Suits With Two \$5.00

NEW SPRING SUITS JUST RECEIVED.

For Style, Low Price and Goodness, we will match these suits against any other \$6.00 or \$7.00 suits in town. Coats in Norfolk style. 2 pair Knickerbocker pants with patent knee buckles, all seams taped; sizes 6 to 16 years. Made by the manufacturers of the "Best Ever" Suits for Boys—Special values at \$5.00

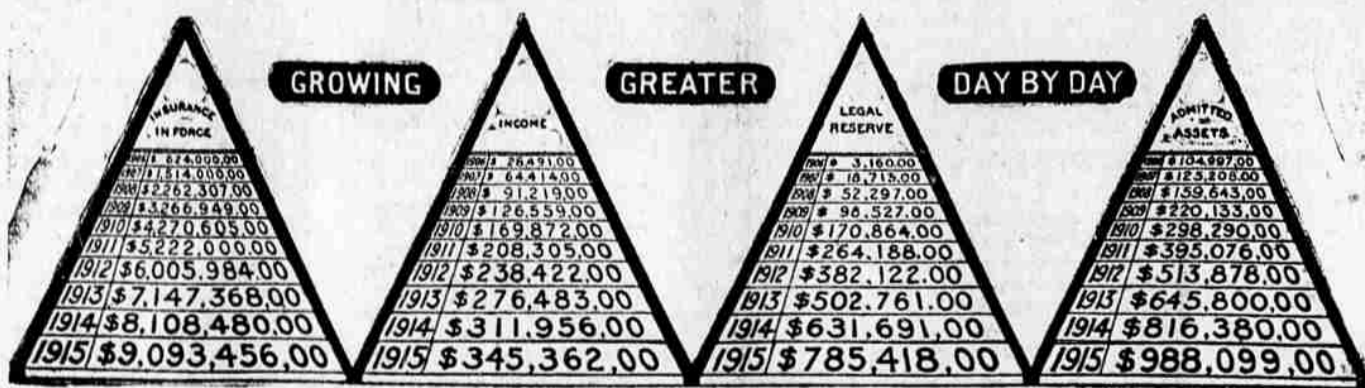
Boy's "Kaynee" Blouses—guaranteed color—no tapes or strings, special values at 50c. Boy's Caps, always at 50c. Boy's "Black Cat" Hosiery, triple knees, pair 25c.

Boy's Medium Weight Union Suits for Spring 50c Up. Boy's Spring 4-in-hand Ties 25c. Boy's Suspenders, good ones 25c. Boy's Fancy Leather Belts 25c.

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