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TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair; probably light frosts in early morning; warmer Monday afternoon and Tuesday; northwest winds.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, APRIL 23.

BY DIRECT VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

Senator Stewart, of Nevada, in the preliminary debate a few days ago on the House resolution for election of Senators by popular vote, said:

I want the committee to take into consideration and report, if this amendment should be adopted, what provision they can make for preventing political conventions from taking the place of the Legislatures. Will not turning from the Legislature to a political convention create a greater danger of extraneous influence than now exists? I want the committee to report how this amendment, or any that they may report, will avoid the control of the election of Senators by political conventions, and whether the control by political conventions will be much of an improvement on Legislatures. I want to have that point investigated and to have a parallel drawn in the report, so that we can form some idea as to whether we are not jumping out of the frying-pan into the fire. I want to be informed on that point before I vote on the measure.

There is a complete remedy for the supposed evil. It is a remedy always in the hands of the people, and it never can be wrested from them. If political conventions nominate for the Senate persons whom the people do not want, they can and will defeat the candidates. With this power in the hands of the people, there will be the surest possible guarantee against the nomination of objectionable and unworthy men, and corresponding improvement in all the ways of politics.

If Senators against whom there are real grounds of objection—and such are very often able to force re-election under the present system—or if other candidates to whom the people justly object, drive their nominations through conventions, they will have to run the gauntlet of popular suffrage; and unscrupulous and unworthy men will soon be taught the necessary lesson.

Under the present system the people virtually have no control, and against the intrigue of self-seeking and distrusted politicians no remedy. The member of the Legislature very often acts as if he were the representative of no constituency, and had nobody's interests or wishes to consult but his own. Many of the members of every Legislative Assembly never were there before; many of them think it doubtful whether they will ever be there again, and they resolve to use the office and the opportunity for all they are worth. So they dicker with the candidate for the Senate, and get from him promises of office, or other reward for themselves, for members of their family or for personal friends. Raids on the state treasury, through appropriation acts, are carried through the Legislature as a part of the deal; and as a result of all this barter and corruption a Senator is made whom the people never would have elected. In the general deal, legislation that is necessary for the public welfare gives place to legislation for local or personal objects, and the work of the session takes on a character of jobbery throughout. Even best measures are held up and their advocates forced to surrender, or lose every chance of getting their measures through.

Election of Senators by direct popular vote would change all this. It is the most important of all measures of political reform; and it would be most satisfactory to the country to learn that the Senate has sufficient regard for the need of this greatest of reforms to adopt the resolution with practical unanimity, as the House has done. But if action cannot be had through Congress, then the other method of proposing amendments to the Constitution should be employed—that is to say, through application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the states. If the Senate shall refuse or neglect to adopt the resolution that has been sent to it from the House, the Legislatures ought to take this action at their very next sessions. Nowhere have the evils of the present system been more marked than in our Northwest Pacific States, and The Oregonian believes these states will be among the foremost in pushing the reform.

BALLOUNACY.

A sermon noteworthy in more than one respect is briefly reported in another column. Dr. Hill's utterances on the limitation of creeds and on the public duty shared by the minister with all citizens alike, command the respect of all who have the interests of truth and right sincerely at heart. But it is to his reference to the power of law over human character that special attention is desired to be drawn. The preacher says:

When the last word has been spoken concerning the enforcement of law, the fact remains that society cannot be regenerated by government. The movement is from a righteous community to righteous officers, rather than from righteous officers to a righteous community. You sweep from office every man whose hand has been smirched by a bribe or whose sympathies are with vice, and put only elders and deacons in their places, and the scarlet woman will still ply her trade, and vice will skulk, only with stealthier step, up to your very doors.

These words are true as gospel. They have a two-fold pertinence at the present time. One application of them Dr. Hill himself unhesitatingly makes. This is that the present local agitation over vice in Portland, as represented by those members of the perverted Good Government Association who are sincere in their purposes, is misguided in its assumption that suppression of vice is to be obtained by substituting for the present municipal administration one that is unfriendly to it. Elders and deacons in office, he says, do not make a moral or an orderly city. The way to reform men is to cleanse their hearts; not to put trust in the chariots and horses of statutes and ordinances.

The other application of the principle laid down is not made in the sermon, but The Oregonian will make it. What is the reason for this redoubled outcry against gambling, upon the eve of a municipal election, and after the nominations have all been made? The answer is that the object is political. It is hoped to defeat the Republican nominees with the Fusion nominees, the present city administration being Republican. The Good Government Association has doubtless achieved considerable results in its proper sphere, which is the suggestion of worthy names for local offices. The nominees of both parties are almost without exception men of known good moral character. Probably at no previous election have so many men of church affiliations been nominated. So far, so good.

Portland never had a more rotten and shameless police administration than was given it by the Fusion outfit the perverted Good Government Association, disowned by its honest originators, is now seeking to foist upon us again. It never had a better one than has been given it by the present Chief of Police. The Goo-Goos are playing politics, and mighty low politics at that.

TAKE IT EITHER WAY.

The Oregon fusion platform of 1900 starts out with this declaration:

We . . . do hereby reaffirm and indorse, in whole and in part, in letter and in spirit, the platform adopted by the Democratic convention held in Chicago in 1896.

Now, the Chicago platform of 1896 contained this paragraph:

We declare that the act of 1873, demonetizing silver, without the knowledge or approval of the American people, has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people.

The crime of 1873 is still in force, aggravated by the crime of 1900. There must be, therefore, a continued "corresponding fall in prices," or else the crime of '73 is wrongfully indicted. At the time the Chicago platform was adopted, cotton was selling in New York at 7 cents; now it brings 10. Wheat was at 65; now it brings 79. Or, to be specific, for the information of the producers of Oregon, here are the prices of our products at Portland today, compared with the prices on the day that Bryan was nominated, in July, 1896:

	1896.	1900.
Wheat, Walla Walla	$0 49 @0 50	$0 52 @0 54
Salmon	1 00	1 50
Rice	3 50 @4 00	6¾
Wool, Valley	08 @ 10	12 @ 13
Hops	02 @ 03	03 @ 08
Hides	08½@ 10	15 @ 15½
Hogs	3 00 @3 25	5 00
Veal	04 @ 04½	06½@ 07½
Mutton	3 00	3 50 @3 75
Beef	3 00 @3 25	4 00 @4 50

Another leading utterance of the Chicago platform is this:

We are unalterably opposed to monometalism, which has locked fast the prosperity of an industrial people in the paralysis of hard times.

This refers to the gold standard. The fusionists of Oregon declare that the gold standard is the cause of the present "paralysis of hard times." How about it? The Government records show that since 1896 the consuming ability of our people has increased remarkably. The amount of products consumed per head of population is the best test of prosperity or hard times. The record shows:

	Per capita consumption. 1896.	1899.
Cotton, pounds	18.40	27.14
Wheat, bushels	4.78	5.95
Sugar, pounds	61.6	61.7
Coffee, pounds	8.04	10.55

The cause of this present paralysis is the paucity of the money supply. The figures are these:

	Feb. 1, 1896.	Mar. 1, 1900.
Money in circulation	$1,506,434,966	$2,002,931,791
Per capita	21.10	25.93

Even poor old silver has come in for its share. Silver currency of all kinds in circulation July 1, 1896, was $538,023,793, and on March 1, 1900, it was $629,981,018.

We urge these figures upon the Democratic spellbinders who are about to elucidate and defend the Chicago platform in whole and in part, in letter and in spirit. We shall expect them to explain whether the crime of '73 has caused the changes enumerated, or whether their platform is a mass of stuff and nonsense. Otherwise, and perhaps in any case, we shall have occasion to refer to the subject again between now and June 4.

THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSFORMATION.

It must be admitted that the Republican party, in some of its own positions, is not strong. It has committed errors which have been subject of comment and object of censure by nearly the whole Republican press of the country. But it has committed no error that is not retrievable. Provision is made for correction of the mistake as to Porto Rico. The act will soon expire by limitation. The affirmative legislation on the gold standard atones for many omissions. After all, the main question in politics, when one is dissatisfied with a party, is this, "What is the alternative?"

In this case the alternative is the ascendency of the Democratic party, on the Chicago platform—for that platform is to be "reaffirmed, in letter and spirit." Upon it the Democratic party, as its present leaders admit, made a radical departure from its former course. This departure was in the direction of a socialistic creed, animated by a spirit of hostility to all existing institutions of property, of peaceful industry, of government with authority and power to enforce it, of conditions necessary to stable finance and industrial prosperity. In a word, that platform was, is, and will be, practically a platform of dangerous agitation, turbulence, riot and anarchy. This is its alarming feature. It is a menace to the prosperity and peace of the country.

It is the infiltration, into the Democratic party, during many years, of Socialist and Populist doctrines, with their natural anarchistic affiliations, that has produced this transformation in the character of a party that once stood out as the highest exponent of individualism, as the strongest adversary of the ideas of socialism and paternalism in government. And it is this change of character that produces such profound distrust of it in the minds of multitudes, including many who all their lives have been associated with it. You hear in every quarter from Democrats who recognize this departure, speak of it with regret, and even with alarm. They deprecate this deep infiltration of populist, socialist and anarchist ideas, and find themselves compelled to hold aloof from the party so long as this influence is uppermost in it.

Strenuous effort has been made throughout Oregon by these Democrats this year to sever this connection of their party with elements foreign to its historical character, but with little or no success. Many of these will act with the Republican party, not because they approve its course, but because they are compelled to oppose the tendencies and purposes of this fusion of populistic, socialistic and anarchistic forces with it—forces which, moreover, have taken direction of it.

Upon its own merit the Republican party would not be strong enough to hold these men; but the demerit of the Democratic party, under control of those who made the Chicago platform of 1896, and now will repeat it, will determine their action. After one more National defeat, there will be a chance for the Democratic party to get once more on safe and rational ground.

SUBSIDY SCHEME AS AMENDED.

"I'll take the turkey, and you take the owl, or you take the owl and I'll take the turkey," is the legended offer of the white man to the Indian. An alternative of equal fairness is now offered the American farmer by the shipping subsidy bill in its amended form. The necessity for hiring men to engage in the shipowning business never did appeal very strongly to the farming classes, who are paid no subsidies for following their calling. It was therefore but natural that when the bill in its original form failed to make any provision for the craft which actually carries the farmer's products to market, the opposition developed in the farming districts became so strong that something had to be done to pacify it. This end, in the minds of the subsidy grafters, has been achieved by what is known as the "cargo amendment," as neatly polished and as worthless a gold brick as was ever handed the farmer.

This innocent-appearing amendment provides that a steamer shall carry cargo to the amount of 50 per cent of her gross tonnage, in order to entitle her to the subsidy. It further provides that, "in ascertaining the percentage of the cargo required for passenger and mail steamers, the tonnage measurement of the space permanently devoted to the carrying of passengers and mail shall first be deducted from the gross tonnage of such steamers." The International Steamship Company, better known as the American line, is credited with the authorship of the bill, and in illustrating the beauties of the cargo amendment, one of their steamers can be taken to show the workings of the bill as it now stands. The St. Louis, of the American line, is of 11,629 tons gross register; but, after deducting the space for passenger accommodations and quarters for her crew of 550 men, the actual freight space which it would be necessary to half fill in order to earn the subsidy would be but 3500 tons.

The St. Louis is a 21-knot boat, and comes in for the highest subsidy classification. She receives 1½ cents per gross ton for each 100 miles traveled up to 1500 miles, and additional compensation of 2.3 cents per ton per hundred miles. On the round trip from New York to Europe the St. Louis will receive $15,989, and to earn this she is compelled to carry but 1750 tons of freight. Senator Frye, in reporting the bill to the Senate, said: "This bill is thus primarily for the benefit of our exports, and as agriculture, in bulk and value, furnishes much the greater part of our exports, the bill is essentially a bill to promote the exports of agriculture." The St. Louis is a high-speed express steamer, and carries high-priced freight, and the grain and cotton of the American farmers goes foreign in slow-moving tramp steamers. Here is what the subsidy bill does for them.

The Belgian King, now in this port, is a fair representative of the type of vessels that carry the commerce of the world. She is 3379 tons gross register, and will carry over 5000 tons of cargo. She employs a small crew, and has no passenger accommodations; and accordingly, in order to become eligible for the subsidy, she must carry as much freight as is taken by the St. Louis. It would bother the Belgian King to go faster than eleven knots, and for this reason she takes the lowest of the classified subsidies offered—four-tenths of a cent per ton per hundred miles, in addition to the amount granted for the first 1500 miles. This would make her compensation for the round trip between New York and Europe $1436, and to earn that sum she would be obliged to carry practically the same amount that was carried by the St. Louis in earning $15,989.

The American line, however, with a constantly increasing demand on the space of its steamers for passenger and express accommodations, does not care to be forced to carry any freight in order to secure a good, big subsidy. For this reason, apparently, a "joker" appears in the last paragraph of the cargo amendment, which provides that "any shortage in the amount of cargo required shall diminish the amount of the compensation 'in this paragraph provided for,' in the proportion that such shortage bears to the total cargo or its equivalent, so required." The compensation "in this paragraph provided for" is the 1½ cents per ton for each hundred miles traveled, the 2.3 cents per ton per mile appearing in a following paragraph. By filling her cargo space with passengers and baggage, the St. Louis would thus forfeit $2616 per trip, but would still be paid $13,373. The Belgian King, if it were possible for her to take up all of her cargo space with passengers, baggage, etc., would, under the provisions of the "joker," lose $760 27, and would receive but $675 80. If, as Senator Frye has stated, the shipping subsidy measure is a "bill to promote the exports of agriculture," it will need to be equipped with some amendments provided by somebody less interested than the American line officials.

It is doubtful if any Army reorganization bill will pass Congress the present session, even so simple a reform measure as the one prepared by the military committee of the House. The proposed change in the composition of staff departments is an important one. It was here our greatest military weakness developed during the war with Spain. The reorganization of the artillery to meet present conditions is also important. But the whole question of the Army will come up again at the next session, and it is doubtful if Congress will give it attention until then. The act under which the present Army of 65,000 regulars and 35,000 volunteers is maintained expires by limitation July 1, 1901, and the Army will be reduced to the old limit of 25,000 men at that time, unless more are provided for by legislation at the next session. That more than this will be needed seems certain, and Congress will undoubtedly meet the demand in one form or another.

In the State of Washington Senator Turner's combination with Governor Rogers will probably give the latter the renomination for the office of Governor. The office of Lieutenant-Governor, only a useless appendage, has significance merely as material to trade on. It is not likely, they say, that "the little feller, Dannels," of Vancouver, now this fifth wheel of the Populist state government, or perhaps, more accurately, the dog under the wagon, will be taken as the candidate again—though he was taken before only for the reason that it was not thought at the time there was any chance of winning the election; and this motive may now bring him the nomination again. Washington's vote four years ago surprised everybody. The causes of the slump were very complex, but have since disappeared; and the state this year will go heavily against the Demo-Populist party. Washington is for National expansion and for industrial and commercial development, and the opponents of this policy will have a hard road to travel in that state.

While the fighting spirit against Russia is said to run high in Japan, the unprecedented immigration of Japanese to the Pacific Coast ports of the United States and British Columbia is held to indicate that this spirit does not extend to all the subjects of His Majesty the Mikado. It is probable, however, that this rush is due to commercial rather than political or military causes, since the little yellow men who are swarming across our Western borders seem to come with a definite purpose to go to work. Japan will not lack soldiers, so far as numbers are concerned, to throw into the field against Russia, if it should come to that. The few thousands that are coming hither will not be missed from the populous Island Empire. Whether the Japanese can compete in vigor and endurance with the sturdy Muscovites in campaign duty is another matter, which only the shock of battle and the tremendous strain of war will decide.

It is useless to expect action on the Nicaragua Canal bill at this session of Congress. The House will pass the bill, but the Senate will not. The Senate is helpless to do anything but indulge in endless talk under its ridiculous rules. Anybody can knife any measure, if he is determined that it shall not reach the point of final consideration. All he needs is nerve and sufficient wind capacity. The bill will be killed this time on the pretext that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is not disposed of, and great international questions are thus left unsettled. And any earnest and statesmanlike endeavor to settle them is blocked by the same sort of trifling and grubbing dilatoriness in the Senate.

It is not "overproduction" that has caused the American Steel & Wire Company to shut down its mills. There would have been a steady market, for absorption of the entire product, had not the trust made prices so exorbitant as to arrest consumption. Only a little while ago this trust made a dividend of $12,000,000 to its stockholders. Everybody wants iron, steel, wire and nails, and building operations everywhere have been arrested or greatly checked by unconscionable prices made by the trust. Yet the trust has sold for lower prices abroad than at home. Here is a case where the tariff ought to be abolished. It helps to sustain this great abuse.

Senator Lindsay is accredited with saying in regard to Dewey's candidacy: "Oh, this is only a woman's affair; Dewey was named at an afternoon tea." An astute politician, after what had gone before, would have foreseen the general disposition to ascribe this change of heart on the Presidential candidacy to Mrs. Dewey's influence, and would have avoided the humiliation which has followed. For, say what we will of woman's equality with or superiority to men, no man—so insistent is manly independence—likes to pose before the public in leading string or drawing harness manipulated by his wife.

Senator Morgan will have 116 out of 120 votes in the Legislature of his state. He stands for expansion, the Nicaragua Canal and a Democracy that has not descended to the low Bryan plane. The most determined fight in the history of the state was waged on him, and the result is the utter rout of the ultra-Bryanites. A delegation not particularly friendly to the Nebraskan will be sent to Kansas City. Alabama is the very embodiment of the new South. It never sent any pitchfork Senators to Washington; but it gave Joe Wheeler for Cuba and the Philippines.

The Cape Nome rush is imminent. It is to be said in its favor that it is a mere Summer excursion to the Arctic Seas compared to the appalling hardships of the original Klondike journey. The goldhunter who leaves Portland travels in a comfortable vessel and is landed directly on the gold-bearing beach. If he finds no gold, which is likely, he can get aboard ship and speedily return home—if he has taken the precaution to provide himself beforehand with a return ticket.

The "Citizens" Legislative nominees, if elected, would go to Salem unembarrassed by pledges, platform or principles or party. It was selected as a result of a private arrangement between the Democratic ring and certain Republicans, about whom little is known except that they are disgruntled. It represents nothing but the personal ambitions of the several candidates and the personal purposes of their creators.

Mr. Nottingham professes to be as good a Republican as anybody; and he is especially strong on the gold standard and the McKinley Administration. To prove it, he "connubiates" for a Legislative nomination with a lot of Democrats and ex-Populists and sorehead Republicans, whose chief aim is to upset the gold standard and defeat the McKinley Administration.

Scorchers are making a mistake when they attack the babies and arouse the mothers to the defense of their offspring. This may be the last thing necessary to bring the people to a realization of the perfectly clear proposition that the sidewalk is made for pedestrians and the street for vehicles, even in muddy weather.

With $100,000 to spend, it should not be difficult for partisan fury in Kentucky to get testimony to convict any person upon whom it might be desired to fasten the murder of Goebel.

The bankruptcy law is a great convenience to the theatrical profession. Minstrel Haverly has just been acquitted of $174,179 debts. Art comes high, but we must have it.

CHRISTIANITY'S FALSE FRIENDS.

Pleas for Catholicism Insincere and Hostile to All Religion.

New York Tribune.

A curious outcropping of dilettante agnosticism is its opposition to the Protestant principle of free and independent inquiry. For years certain writers in England and America who personally accept no form of Christianity as divinely authoritative have gone out of their way to expose the inconsistencies into which the right of private judgment is supposed to lead Protestants. With a great show of concern for the fundamental teachings of Christ they denounce this right of private judgment as subversive of Christianity, and declare that the only bulwark of the Christian religion today is to be found in the great and venerable communion which denies that right—namely, the Roman Catholic church. Were such a view put forth merely as the academic opinion of closet philosophers it would deserve little attention, though even then the mystery would remain why men who themselves stand for the most untrammeled free thought should condemn others for exercising the same privilege. Is it possible that the explanation of their attitude is to be found in the answer made by one of them to the question why he, an agnostic, constantly sneered at Protestantism and eulogized Roman Catholicism? "Oh, that is easy," he replied. "I don't in the least care for any form of Christianity; my only object is to put all the churches in a hole and see them squirm." Yet the specious and insincere pleas for a hidebound orthodoxy made by such men as these are hailed with joy by many unthinking Christians!

Because good and loyal Presbyterians differ on these questions and because the church permits such differences of opinion to exist, the cry is raised that the Presbyterian church is no better than a club of infidels, and every opportunity is seized to make the same charge against every other Protestant denomination. They are all rushing down the steep incline of unbelief, we are told, and only one church, the Roman Catholic, remains true to the teachings of Christ. Outside of its pale all is confusion, unrest, contradiction.

Especially should the Roman Catholic church frown on these self-constituted defenders of the faith, for the argument which they employ might easily be turned against Catholicism itself, and doubtless will be when it suits the purpose of those who are now exploiting it against Protestantism. The argument by which they prove Protestantism false to the teachings of Christ proves the same of every form of Christianity now existing. For, variant as they are, they have all grown out of the original form of Apostolic Christianity. The tendency in Protestantism to recast its theology and restate some of the forms of its belief is a fact of momentous importance. The causes that have led to it and the results to Christianity that will follow from it ought to be studied by all who call themselves Christians with the most open-minded honesty and with the one object of learning the truth. For flippant sciolists to caricature this tendency in order to gain the cheap applause of the unthinking for their forcible feeble banalities is an offense against good morals and good manners.

Dewey's Platform.

OREGON CITY, April 22.—(To the Editor.)—Having lately seen some mention of Dewey as a possible candidate for President, if I may be allowed to speak of great things in connection with small, I will say that his attitude recalls to my mind a trifling incident that occurred in those pre-historic days when Oregon took her politics straight and a man was either a solid Republican or an out-and-out Democrat, and there was less fusion and confusion than at present.

It was on the eve of an election, and party spirit was at high tide, even among the school children, and I remember that in my childish enthusiasm I entreated our cook, a sturdy girl, who might have enforced any opinion she held by main strength, had occasion demanded, to tell me whether she was a Democrat or a Republican.

With a meekness that is sometimes characteristic of her sex and with a faith in the future that was sublime, she replied: "I am not anything now, but I will be whatever my husband is."

Dewey has not actually declared the foregoing to be his policy, but a man may commit himself by what he leaves unsaid, and he should insist on there being an equal rights plank in the platform, when Mrs. Dewey decides which one he is to stand upon.

J. L.

It Is Merely a Sham.

Baltimore is between the North and the South, but it is nearer in touch with the sentiment of the latter section, and the opinion of one of its leading banking houses doubtless reflects the view of Southern financiers who prefer the teachings of experience to free lessons from politicians. This circumstance gives timely interest to the warning words addressed to Southerners by Hambleton & Co., of that city, in their market letter, against believing that the Bryan of 1900 is not the Bryan of 1896. They say:

The money question in the last Presidential contest was paramount, because it was realized that the election of Mr. Bryan meant the placing of this country upon a silver basis, and the consequent destruction of the credit of the Nation with all of its resulting evils.

The passage of the gold-standard bill precluded the possibility of any immediate danger to be apprehended should Mr. Bryan be elected. But, every one knows that Mr. Bryan still favors free silver coinage, and that not making this a major question in the coming contest is simply a sham.

Spring Styles of Weather.

Indianapolis Press.

She—I wonder why we always have so much disagreeable weather when it is supposed to be Spring?

He—Spring is represented as feminine, is she not?

"Yes."

"Exactly. Well, my idea is that just before Winter goes out of business he holds a bargain remnant sale."

The Test of Merit.

Philadelphia Press.

Tom—Of the two, Scribbler is undoubtedly the more clever poet.

Dick—What? You've admitted yourself that Tenson was really inspired, while Scribbler's stuff was rot!

Tom—I know; but Scribbler sells his stuff.

Pleasing Reckonings.

Detroit Free Press.

"It is queer about Cousin Valeria's old admirers."

"What is queer?"

"Why, the further she gets away from them the more numerous they appear to her."

Anything Will Do.

Boston Commercial Bulletin.

"Is not Smorkins a rising man in politics?"

"Naw; he is one of those fellers that would take the nomination for Vice-President if it was offered him."

LATEST ATTACK ON ROOSEVELT.

A slight ripple has been stirred up in the calm pool of New York's contemplation of Governor Roosevelt as the hero of Santiago. Colonel Alexander S. Bacon takes up his pen in defense of the Seventy-first Regiment, which retired from the Cuban campaign with a somewhat inglorious record, and makes a direct assault on Colonel Roosevelt's military career. Colonel Bacon has issued a brochure addressed to "all intelligent Americans." He introduces maps, sworn statements and personal assertions to show that the Seventy-first did two things on that famous 1st of July no other regiment did, namely, to enter an unknown trail, and, secondly, to stay there under fire without running away. They stayed there so firmly that a colored infantry regiment—the Twenty-fourth—passed over them to reach the front. Colonel Bacon, who characterizes Roosevelt as the oppressor of the Seventy-first, gets right down to personalities, and quotes as follows from Roosevelt's book:

Lieutenant Davis' First Sergeant, Clarence Gould, killed a Spanish soldier with his revolver, just as the Spaniard was aiming at one of my Rough Riders. At about the same time, I also shot one. I was with Henry Bardear, running up at the double, and two Spaniards leaped from the trenches and fired at us, not 10 yards away. As they turned to run I closed in and fired twice, missing the first and killing the second. At the time I did not know of Gould's exploit, and supposed my feat to be unique, although Gould had killed his Spaniard in the trenches, not very far from me, I never learned of it until weeks after."

And then Bacon makes the astonishing comment:

His slaying the fleeing Spaniard less than 30 feet away sounds much like murder. . . . Colonel Roosevelt stands out against the lurid horizon of war as the solitary biographer from the days of Caesar till now, to write himself down boastingly as a slayer of his fellow man, and that, too, at such close range.

It would seem that no person ought seriously to question the right of a soldier in the open field of battle to kill an enemy who has just shot at him. The fact that the Spaniard had turned to run did not alter the situation, nor was he then any the less a dangerous and deadly antagonist. He could cease to be an enemy only when he threw down his gun and up his hands. But he tried to slay and then to avoid the consequences. If he could thus avoid them, the whole code of war must be changed. The Bacon ethics would not permit one duellist to fire at another if, say, the latter had his fingers crossed.

Colonel Bacon further says:

Major Reade, in his official report, states that Colonel Roosevelt made this statement: "Twenty-five per cent of my Rough Riders can't carry a pail of water from the creek to the trenches. No man can decry me or my regiment, but we must accede to the next proposition from the enemy." This marvelous demand was made at headquarters before the enemy surrendered.

Major Reade was a member of General Kent's staff. Colonel Bacon fails to specify just when Roosevelt made this statement, but it is probable that it was in the second or third week of July, and it undoubtedly refers to the terms of surrender. The conditions which afterwards led to the celebrated round robin were beginning to be seriously felt, and Roosevelt, who is nothing if not picturesque and emphatic, was trying to convey his impressions of the needs of the men under him. Discussing this phase of the controversy, the New York Evening Sun says:

On one of those days in the trenches, while the negotiations were dragging along, a report spread that fighting was to be resumed at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. At the noon meal of hardtack, canned beef, tomatoes and coffee, Colonel Roosevelt's spirits ran riot at the prospect of the termination of the truce. His eyes danced, and he was incessantly joking. Almost every officer present was an object of his facetious remarks. The man was brimming over with a desire to hear the crackling of rifles, the bark of machine guns and the boom of the field pieces and to take his share of the risks of battle. Judging from appearances, Colonel Roosevelt was delighted with the resolution of the Spaniards (as reported) to force the Americans to attack them in their trenches. Colonel Bacon should produce the report of Major Reade. The extract printed by him is not illuminating. The Colonel has given it the wrong construction. No doubt, when it is read in the light of all the testimony, he will be willing to concede as much.

Roosevelt has been accused of being a newspaper fighter and a kinetoscope hero. It is certain that he does court publicity, but that is a venial sin, when his courage is actual and his deeds unquestionable.

The cause of the Bacon attack is that Governor Roosevelt ordered the court of inquiry which broke Colonel Downs and one or two other officers of the Seventy-first for their conduct at Santiago.

Calculations of the Bryan Leaders.

Boston Herald.

The total vote in the electoral college will be the same this year as it was in 1896, when McKinley received 271 electoral votes and Bryan 176. The Bryan leaders calculate that Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland and West Virginia are more likely to favor than to be against Bryan this year. But if these five states should give Bryan their electoral votes, and he should lose none of the states that he carried in 1896, he would have only 200 electoral votes, against 227 for McKinley, assuming that the latter's losses were confined to these five states.

Rewarding Our Heroes.

S. E. Kiser in Chicago Times-Herald.

A rich man's little daughter
Left her nurse and strayed away,
And ran out upon the car track,
Where she loitered long at play,
Caring nothing for the trolley
As it whirred around the bend,
Knowing nothing of the angel
That was waiting to descend.

The rich man stood and trembled
With his darling on his breast,
And the motorman was lauded
And his hands were proudly pressed!
By a hair's breadth he had saved her—
He had acted just in time—
And the people called him noble,
And pronounced his deed sublime.

The rich man gave him money,
Gave him land and gave him praise,
Gave him presents for his children,
Made him glad in many ways.
And, at night, knelt with his darling
And implored the Lord to guide
The brave motorman from danger
And to save him when he died.

. . . . . .

The rich man's little daughter
Lay upon her bed one day,
And her lips were parched with fever,
And all hope had ebbed away.
But a doctor watched and waited,
Watched through weary nights and won
Back the little maiden's roses
Ere his trying task was done.

He had left his bed at midnight,
He had watched with weary eyes;
He had braved the fiercest weather,
Sighing when he heard her sighs,
And he gloried in his triumph
When he saw her smiles come back,
Even as he smiled who saved her
Where she played upon the track.

But no crowd pressed round the doctor,
And no happy cheers were heard;
He had done a thing that's common,
Nothing thrilling had occurred.
And the rich man fumed like fury,
When he got the doctor's bill,
Which he called an outrage—lawyers
Have the matter going still.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

In Dakota they are giving Pettigrew's speeches with cakes of soap, probably because both possess scrub qualities.

When Pennoyer, Killfeather and J. J. Kelly can't train with the Democrats, they must be a hard crowd indeed.

A friend dropped in last night in haste, to tell us he thought there had been hulla-Ballou enough over a small matter.

March may like a lion bluster,
Through his domains,
And all his windy forces muster.
Yet April reigns.

The South African war costs $760 a minute. If Carnegie wants to die poor, he ought to get up one of these little disagreements on his own account.

At midnight in his guarded tent,
The Turk lay thinking out a scheme,
To beat the U. S. Government,
But found it was an idle dream.

The man who ordered a slumber robe and found that the clothier had sent him a police uniform, thinks there is such a thing as carrying a joke too far.

They tried to make the candidate,
Run as a Democrat,
He wanted office bad; but he
Could never stand for that.

John P. Altgeld says the American citizen is a serf. Well, there is no denying that he is sometimes a high roller, and that he often breaks when he strikes the beaches.

Now Clark is on the cold outside,
The anti-Quay men smile;
And say they rather guess that that
Will hold him for a while.

If all the newspaper correspondents who stood on the bridge with Dewey when he fought the battle of Manila Bay will support him, he will get a vote that is not to be sneezed at.

Where are Pennoyer and Stout and Killfeather,
And all of the crowd that was banded together
To spread discontent and dismay?
Where are Jim Frainey, and Davis and Powers
That stood by the party in many dark hours?
They've left the whole thing to O'Day.
It's left to Judge Thomas O'Day.

Gone are the leaders that shone in their glory,
Vanished their power and dismal their story,
All of that brilliant array.
Absent from counsel are all the old faces,
And one only ruler now stands in their places,
And that is the mighty O'Day.
The burly Judge Thomas O'Day.

George Samuels, a watchman in the general postoffice, New York, still keeps up a search that he began four years ago, when his son Sidney, 16 years of age, disappeared. The boy ran away from home on July 14, 1896, with a boy companion. The other boy afterwards came back and said that Sidney and he went to Toronto, Can., where Sidney obtained employment as a coachman with a banker. Since that time Mr. Samuels has had no news of his boy, and says he would be very thankful to any person who could give him any information regarding his lost son.

The old saying or theory that if it rains on Easter Sunday it will rain on the seven following Sundays has long ago been proven incorrect, but, like many other things which have been exploded, is still believed in by some. It is not known that it has ever been said that if Easter Sunday is a fine day the following seven Sundays will be fine, but this is a natural sequence or deduction. It proves, however, as unreliable as the first saying, for Easter was a beautiful day, without a sign of rain, while yesterday, the first Sunday after, was showery and rather too cool to be pleasant. All the same, the old saying will turn up as fresh as ever next Easter, and there will be the usual anxiety in regard to the weather on that day.

The Washington Star warns Webster Davis not to yield to the temptation to deliver pro-Boer lectures for money. "Wendell Phillips," it says, "was a great orator and a champion of freedom. Four of his lectures were much in demand—'African Slavery,' 'Daniel O'Connell,' 'The Lost Arts' and 'The Scholar in a Republic.' When asked for terms by lyceum managers he replied by putting a price on three of the four lectures mentioned, but invariably added: 'Will speak on slavery for nothing.' Mr. Phillips, it is true, never resigned an office to take a stand against slavery, but his championship of the negro closed all doors of political preferment to him. He would have adorned any place within the gift of his countrymen. He was, indeed, a champion of freedom."

A letter-carrier, collecting mail from boxes around town, was noticed tapping the box with his knuckles before unlocking it. Being asked what he did this for, he said just to find out how much mail there was in the box. He said he could tell whether there was much or little or any mail in the box from the sound given out when he tapped it. He went on to say: "You will probably not believe it, but I can tell by ringing the bell at a house whether there is any one in or not. If the house is empty, the bell sounds quite different to what it does when there are people in it, and this difference is perceptible if there is only one person in the house." This is probably substantially correct, as when people are all out the doors throughout the house are generally shut, while when there is any one at home some of the doors are likely to be open and there is some movement or noise, if it is nothing more than talking.

If there's any politician who is hungering for fame,
Who would see the voters tremble at the mention of his name,
Who would turn down office-seekers with a harsh and rasping "nit!"
And impress the cringing heelers with the fact that he was it;
He should get off right by learning just the proper thing to do,
And he'll get advice in bunches, if he'll only ask Ballou.

If he wants to get the preachers and the moral gents in line,
If he wants to vote the churches just the way he gives the sign,
If he'd raise a vast upheaval in the interests of reform,
And would lead his valiant forces while they took the town by storm,
He should get a few straight pointers on the best thing not to do,
And he'd find just what he wanted, if he'd only ask Ballou.

If he feels like, writing letters, setting forth important facts,
If he feels like roasting people with his withering attacks,
And he finds he's been imprudent when a counter-charge he reads,
And he deems it wise to tell us that he never wrote the screeds,
He can get some tips to show him just the course he should pursue,
If before he writes the letters he will only ask Ballou.

There are many tricks and wrinkles in a politician's trade,
And the man who lives to know them all is born, and never made,
But there now and then arises, like a geyser in the land,
Some great man who holds the voters in the hollow of his hand.
And when such a one arises, all that's left for me and you,
Is to cast our ballots humbly as directed by Ballou.