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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1908.

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENT.

Of the eighty-five millions of the United States scarcely one who reads anything failed to read what President Roosevelt said yesterday about the decision of the United States Court of Appeals in the Standard Oil case. The Associated Press reported him with absolute accuracy. It supplies news for journals of all the varying shades of politics, and it cannot afford to make mistakes. The first statement was this, viz:

> The President has directed the Attorney-General immediately to take steps for retrial of the Standard Oil case. The reversal of the decision of the lower court does not in any shape or way touch the merits of the case, except insofar as the size of the fine is concerned. There is absolutely no question of the guilt of the defendants or of the exceptionally grave character of the offense.

The statement is as characteristic of Roosevelt as any of the statements made by Cleveland, or by Lincoln, or by Napoleon, which you find in the memoirs of them. As to authorship and genuineness in the present case there is no possibility of mistake. In our old dramatic literature there was collaboration in the making of numerous plays, in which Shakespeare had a hand. To the reader who has caught the Shakespearean spirit it is apparent at once where the work of the poet paramount in these plays begin and where it ends. So likewise, it is easy to separate the original parts of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures from the later glosses and additions. "There is," says President Roosevelt, "absolutely no question of the guilt of the defendants (in these proceedings against Standard Oil), nor of the exceptionally grave character of the offense." You would know the authorship of that expression if you met it in a strange land. This follows:

> The President would regard it as a gross miscarriage of justice, if through any technicalities of any kind the defendant escaped the punishment which would unquestionably have been meted out to any weaker defendant who had been guilty of such offense. The President will do everything in his power to avert or prevent such miscarriage of justice.

It is a statement quite as characteristic as the other, and even more emphatic. "It would be a miscarriage of justice if, through technicalities of any kind, the defendant should escape the punishment which would unquestionably have been meted out to any weaker defendant." Though the penalty was very heavy, and open to criticism on the ground that it exceeded the proportion of the specific offense, the country does not, nor can it, forget that the offenses of this monster have been cumulative, and long since reached mountainous proportions—with no means hitherto of abatement or redress. It was an error, doubtless, to hold that the rebate on each carload, instead of on each shipment, constituted a separate and distinct offense; but that the offense was committed, and has been committed continually throughout the long career of the Standard Oil Company, is undoubted. It is to this crime, mainly, that it owes the monopolistic position it has achieved, and so far maintains.

The grounds on which the court has sent back the case for re-trial are regarded by the President, as the public regards them—merely subterfuges. The result is "a miscarriage of justice." It is subterfuge to urge that the New Jersey corporation is being punished for offenses to which it was not a party. The Indiana corporation is a child of the New Jersey corporation, legitimate, yet misbegotten. The parent corporation should not be permitted to disown its children. To vary the metaphor or illustration, all these corporations are sections of the same tapeworm; or to vary it again, are links of the same sausage made out of the same dog.

Judge Grosscup, who, apparently, has had the chief part in framing the opinion that protects this vast monster, "in bulk more huge than that sea-beast leviathan, which God of all his works created hugest that swim the ocean stream"—Judge Grosscup, it is announced, wants to quit the bench and resume his practice as a corporation lawyer. The Standard Oil Company certainly can pay him more than the United States can or will.

Of the offense committed by the defendant there was no doubt. If the penalties were deemed too heavy—and certainly they were very heavy—why couldn't the court have reduced them, instead of putting up the subterfuge for the offender, that it was wrong to punish one corporation for the unlawful and oppressive acts of another—when that other is a mere dummy, creature, agent, or offspring (whether in legitimacy or in bastardy) of the original offender, brought into existence to defy through irresponsibility the laws of the country and the demands of the people for fair and honorable dealing?.

President Roosevelt is soon to retire from office, because he could not accept a third term; but when one reads what he says about Standard Oil and other corporation abuses it may be just as well to keep it in mind that Mr. Roosevelt would not be giving Mr. Taft his support for the succession in the Presidency were he not assured that Mr. Taft's views and purposes on these and other important matters are in accord with his own.

Confidence in the correctness of the decision of the Federal Court in the Standard Oil case will be severely shaken by the disclosure that in two important particulars the appellate court misquoted the decision of the lower court. In one instance, the appellate court sets forth as error the action of the trial court in excluding certain testimony as to the ignorance of the Standard Oil official concerning the rebate his company was receiving. The record shows, however, that this testimony was not excluded but was admitted, over the objection of the prosecution, so that in this particular the defense had no cause for complaint. The other instance was that in which the appellate court quoted Trial Judge Landis as referring to the New Jersey corporation as no virgin offender, whereas the reference was to the Indiana corporation, which was upon trial. The question naturally arises whether the appellate court was more accurate in other particulars than this. News dispatches contain the information that the decision was hurried, because the judge who rendered it, Judge Grosscup, desires to retire from the bench. The report that there was haste in considering the questions involved may easily be credited.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

A fair field and no favors is all that the American citizen asks in any kind of a contest. That is all that was demanded by the American athletes at London. Had it been accorded them they would have carried off the lion's share of prizes in spite of their small numerical strength. It is regrettable in the extreme that the friendly rivalry which is supposed to characterize the Olympic games should have been disturbed by unfair treatment such as has been so apparent throughout the meeting at London this week. The British have always pretended to be "good losers," but the manner in which they deliberately robbed the Americans in the tug-of-war and in the 400-meter race is simply disgusting, and cannot fail to have a bad effect on similar contests in the future. Notwithstanding the shabby treatment and unfair rulings, the Americans have made a wonderful showing. The greatest harm from this shameful treatment will come through the general effect it will have on the only recently revived Olympic games.

The Olympic games were the best features of the ancient classical days, devised as they were for the purpose of bringing together the most perfect young men in the country. There were no "ringers" in those old days on the plain of Olympia, for a "character" was required from every contestant, and none who had ever been guilty of any offense against the state, or were in any respect unworthy, were permitted to take part. This was clean sport, and, while it is a far cry from the days when the Hellenic youth ran, wrestled and tugged on the little plain of Olympia to the twentieth century contests in the London stadium, the underlying principle of clean, healthy sport is supposed to remain the same. It was to get away from the tendency of modern sport to drift into gambling channels, and to weed out the undesirable element recruited, not unfrequently from the haunts of crime simply because of their physical prowess, that the revival of the Olympic games was undertaken full 1500 years after they had been abolished in ancient Greece.

The first of these modern games took place in Athens in 1896, and since that time interest in the games has been steadily growing, and they are now bringing together hundreds of the best athletes in the world. In some of the annual contests since the revival there have been mild charges of unfairness, but nothing so serious as the charges made against the British during the present meet. The offense is all the more flagrant from the fact that the American athletes, as well as those from other parts of the world, were to a certain extent guests of the British. In the old days, the plain of Olympia was regarded as hallowed ground, dedicated to Zeus, and on its sacred soil the Hellenic youth refrained from any unworthy action.

It is expecting too much for twentieth century young men to regard any field for sports as hallowed ground, but, as the revival of the Olympic games was brought about more through a desire for clean sport than for any other purpose, it seems a pity that the system of the ancient Greeks is not followed a little more accurately. The best blood in the world gathers at these contests, and the physical training and sportsmanlike spirit that are fostered and encouraged by such exhibitions cannot have other than a good effect. For this reason greater care should be exercised to prevent a recurrence of such unsportsmanlike conduct as has placed some of the British athletes in an unenviable position.

IMMORALITY OF HIGH SCHOOLS?

Because Secretary Rhodes, of the Oregon-Idaho Interstate Y. M. C. A., told his audience at Albany that immoral conditions existing in high schools are startling, it is not to be assumed that he meant that morals are worse in high schools than elsewhere. Quite likely Mr. Rhodes has not seen much of the world. If he were to investigate conditions among the workers in a factory, or even among the members of the medical profession, he would find things that would startle him. There have been a few disclosures from time to time that leave room for the suspicion that, if one could but read the minds of men, we should find a few startling features in the morals of the members of the ministry. Men do not leave human frailties behind when they enter some particular occupation, nor do boys become fiends nor angels when they enter high school. It is wrong to class high school students as immoral. "There is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it scarcely behooves any of us to talk about the rest of us."

Mr. Rhodes is undoubtedly correct in saying that harm results from the efforts of high school students to ape some of the ways of college men. There is a pretty general feeling that college students of today do not take life as seriously as did college boys of twenty years ago and that they encourage themselves in the indulgence of frivolity. But there are indications, also, that this tendency toward gratification of the baser elements of human nature began higher up and that college men are but aping their seniors out in the industrial world. Whether this changed conception of the duties and responsibilities of life can be deemed a drift toward immorality depends upon the point of view. The preacher of half a century ago would be shocked if he should be suddenly transferred from his own time to this, and should hear the sermons preached by our most popular pastors. Quite likely he would have something to say of the modern preacher as severe in tone as what Mr. Rhodes has said of our high school students.

This question of morals depends, as said before, upon the point of view. Some time ago there was a protest from farmers near one of the valley towns because the Y. M. C. A. boys engaged in cross-country runs dressed in clothing so scanty that they shocked the modesty of wives and daughters not accustomed to witness such indecencies. Perhaps Mr. Rhodes would call these farmers and the members of their families prudes, or something akin thereto. The high school boys, it may be ventured, think Mr. Rhodes is a prude. It is charitable to assume that there is indiscretion and frivolity all along the line, but it would be unpleasant to believe that as a class either high school or Y. M. C. A. boys are more immoral than other boys of their age. The plea for a higher standard of morality is more properly addressed to men, whose improvement in this respect will doubtless be aped by college boys and high school boys. Perhaps more than any other institution, the organization which Mr. Rhodes represents is doing an uplifting work for our young men. Unquestionably, there is plenty of work to be done, but while there is "so much bad in the best of us," it is to be regretted that any group made up of individuals from all walks of life should be pointed out as particularly immoral.

MORE SEATTLE ENTERPRISE.

Under the caption "Railways Divide a New Kingdom," the Technical World Magazine prints a handsomely illustrated advertisement of the city of Seattle. As an advertisement, there could be nothing objectionable in the article, but it masquerades under the guise of an impartial review of railroad and industrial development of the Pacific Northwest and studiously ignores other parts than Seattle, even going so far as to misrepresent facts in order to avoid the mention of Portland, and showing but little more fairness toward Tacoma. The article opens with an account of the Villard excursion in celebration of the completion of the Northern Pacific, and, with no mention of Portland, notes the arrival of the special trains "at Tacoma, then the terminus." Yet everyone at all familiar with the matter knows that these special trains ran no farther than Portland, where the celebration of the road's completion was held, some of the guests afterward going by boat to Kalama and thence by rail to Puget Sound.

"Seattle is the objective point whither most of these rail lines are hastening" asserts the Seattle boomer who supplied the advertisement, and he makes special mention of the Milwaukee rushing across the continent to reach Seattle before the gates of the Alaska-Yukon exposition opens next year, calming ignoring the fact that the Milwaukee will make Tacoma and not Seattle its main terminal on Puget Sound, and will also doubtless have a terminal at Portland. The Seattle writer is good enough to mention the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railroad, which provides a "water level outlet from the great Inland Empire," but no mention is made of Portland's position as the headquarters of that great road. The only inference the uninformed reader could possibly draw from the story would be that it was exclusively a Seattle enterprise.

Among the amusing statements made by this reckless magazine writer, is that "a ship sailed from Seattle the other day loaded solely with grain reapers to be used on the expanding wheat fields tributary to Vladivostok" and that "Seattle, with 275,000 people, has a port commerce of $140,000,000," no reference at all being made as to how much commerce she has with the present population. "Puget Sound, nearer the Orient by several hundred miles than the California ports, boasts a larger foreign trade than the Golden Gate" asserts this veracious Seattle boomer. The word "boasts" is probably used advisedly, for the custom house receipts, which offer the most accurate estimates of "foreign trade," show that San Francisco collects in duties more than six times as much as is collected by Seattle. The Washington wheat crop is valued by the Seattle writer at $40,000,000 per year, although the record crop of last year was only worth $32,000,000, and the average for the past ten years has been less than $25,000,000.

"The finest interurban cars in use in America are on the line between Seattle and Tacoma" is another wild statement, which will provoke a smile from travelers who have patronized the Seattle-Tacoma interurban, and also the Portland-Salem interurban, the latter being equipped throughout with cars which make the Puget Sound equipment look like a stock train. The development of electric lines in "the Pacific Northwest" is discussed by the Seattle man, and Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane are mentioned in connection therewith. Perhaps Portland is not in the Pacific Northwest, for no mention is made of the fact that this city has more miles of both urban and interurban electric roads than Seattle. If the Technical World Magazine is desirous of maintaining its excellent reputation for accuracy, it will do well to keep its advertising in the advertising columns or else label it with the proper heading.

HELPS THE HONEST DAIRYMAN.

Rigid enforcement of the dairy and food law accomplishes many beneficial results in the production and consumption of milk. It places all producers on an equal basis, insuring the honest dairyman that he shall not be required to compete with a dishonest dairyman who sells water along with his milk. It guarantees the consumer a fair quality of milk in return for his money and relieves him from the necessity of personally inquiring into the methods and integrity of the man from whom he buys. When strictly enforced, the law which requires that milk shall contain prescribed proportions of butter fat and solids becomes an aid to the men engaged in the industry which it seeks to regulate.

It is readily apparent that a dairyman who sells a high grade of milk, and who goes to considerable expense to keep his stables and his cows clean, cannot long compete with a rival who pours water in his cans and saves operating expenses by neglecting the first essentials of cleanliness. When all producers are held to the same standard, there is opportunity for equality in competition. Enforcement of the law protects the consumer not only from the dishonest but also from the careless dairyman. So far as the effect is concerned, it makes little difference whether the dairyman waters his milk or serves his first customers by pouring off the top of the cans, leaving the others to take milk that has been practically skimmed. Frequent tests and impartial prosecutions compel the milk dealer to give his customers, individually and collectively, what they pay for. Such supervision tends to increase consumption and builds up the industry at the same time that it promotes health and insures square dealing.

The race problem is exhibiting a new phase down in Alviso, California. It seems that the fruit cannery there is owned by Chinese, and a news dispatch says that all the white employes struck because "it was impossible longer to endure the abuses heaped upon the women and girls by the Orientals in charge of the cannery. It is also charged that the Chinese superintendents discriminated against the whites in the matter of wages, paying the white boys less than either the Chinese or Japanese receive for the same work." Usually the complaint is that Chinese are employed at less wages than whites and that, therefore, whites are compelled to compete with the coolies. It would be interesting to know why the managers of the cannery pay more for Chinese than for white labor.

In view of the fact that a member of the Georgia Legislature introduced a bill declaring that it shall be good ground for divorce if a woman deceives her intended by the use of powder, pads, or peek-a-boos, it may be assumed that there is need for such a law in Georgia. Quite likely the legislator himself had suffered from deception of that sort. But there is no necessity nor demand for such a law in Oregon. Here the mild climate, the invigorating sea breezes, the luscious fruit and the custom of living much in the open air, all combine to give our women perfect forms, features and complexion so that no art could possibly add to the gifts of Nature. We may go to Oklahoma for legislative precedents, but not to Georgia. However, our bedsheets are long enough.

The individual who indiscriminately and insultingly throws confetti in the faces of peaceable, well-behaved visitors of a public park is, of course, less entitled to punishment than the fool who rocks the boat, but he has something coming to him. At the Oaks Thursday night, one of these humorists encountered a stiff right arm jab from the able-bodied escort of the young woman who did not relish the insult. The young man who administered the well deserved punishment is entitled to a medal and a vote of thanks, for he not only avenged an insult to his lady friend, but he has also established a precedent, which, if followed, will cause a decrease in this special form of hoodlumism that has become too common.

Since it became generally known that sleeping in the open air is a good remedy for tuberculosis many people have adopted the practice of sleeping in tents in the Summer. But sleeping in a tent is far different from sleeping in the open air. In fact, many people who sleep in houses come nearer being in the open air than do those who occupy tents. A canvas room eight by ten feet, with sides close to the ground and the front closed, is not as airy a place as an ordinary bedroom 12 or 15 feet square, and with doors and windows open. It may be all right to sleep in a closed tent, but don't deceive yourself into believing that you are sleeping in the open air when you do it.

When Mr. Bryan said that in the event of his election he would invite the Vice-President, Mr. Kern, to give advice at Cabinet meetings, he probably did not mean any more than he said. He did not mean, for example, that Kern's advice would be welcome when not invited or that it would be asked at all Cabinet meetings. Like all other Presidents, he would not be likely to ask Kern's advice if it seemed probable that Kern would get any glory out of the result. For the purposes of a political campaign it is just as well to let Vice-Presidential candidates think they will really amount to something if elected.

The leading horticultural paper of California declares that it "is in a position to absolutely and unqualifiedly uphold the opinion that there is at present no combination among canners or dried fruit packers in California of sufficient force to set and maintain the price of fruit." Here in Oregon we have a combination of packers of sufficient force to do it, but whether it will be done or not remains to be seen.

Perhaps it is just as well that all the papers in the Sothern divorce suit have been kept from public view, but one cannot help but note the fact that this is a favor not accorded to ordinary mortals. It is difficult to see why discrimination should be made in the case of a man and woman who happen to be of particular prominence. Have we abandoned the principle that all are equal before the law?

Mr. Taft is on his way to Cincinnati, leaving Senator Bourne at the Hot Springs to play golf all alone or with the common people, or with such common people as play golf. No doubt he left also with the popular Oregon Senator a written promise never, no never, to run for President again. Either never or hardly ever.

The brewery at Astoria which has undertaken the manufacture of "near-beer" writes to The Oregonian a denial that the liquor will intoxicate. Of course if any of the prohis in the dry counties are in doubt about it they can drink their fill and find out.

Lincoln Beachey, the aeronaut, distanced an automobile in a fourteen mile race with his airship. It is reasonably certain that Beachey was not obliged to get down under his machine to see what was wrong with it.

Hasn't a lady's escort as much right to punch a hoodlum's jaw as the hoodlum has to throw confetti in the lady's face?

CLAIMS OF INDEPENDENCE PARTY

What It Says It Has Achieved Under the Hearst Direction.

The Independence party, created, controlled and financed by W. R. Hearst, claims to hold the balance of power in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and other states. Though asserting possession of this power, the party does not propose to use it to the advantage of either of the old parties in particular, but its leaders announce the intention of putting out candidates in the usual manner. Naturally, the Independence ticket will draw more heavily from the Democratic ranks than from the Republican, so that indirectly the Republican party will probably be the beneficiary of the activity of the new political organization.

Pointing with pride to nearly every political achievement of the last three years and claiming the record as its own, the Independence party will attempt to secure votes at the election in November because of what it asserts it has accomplished. Says the New York American:

> Its victories extend from the Atlantic Ocean to the Golden Gate on the Pacific Coast—victories which have affected the every-day conditions of wage-earners in a majority of the states in the Union, indirectly at least, through the interest which success in one locality develops in others. Like all great National parties, the foundation of the new party was established through the efforts of one man, who began, by his individual efforts, to improve conditions, check atuses, and correct evils which had attached themselves to business and political conditions. Thus when William R. Hearst began his attack upon the coal trust, and continued the fight until the trust was beaten, the groundwork of the new party was prepared.
>
> Exposure of the Ryan-Whitney lighting combine in New York City is one of the first victories recorded after the so-called defeat of the coal trust, which exposure resulted in the appointment of a legislative investigating committee, and so aroused the people that in the municipal campaign Hearst was nominated for Mayor and came near election, notwithstanding he lacked a political organization and the election boards were in the hands of his enemies. Following this the party nominated its leader for Governor of New York, induced the Democratic party to indorse him, but failed to elect him, because the Democratic bosses manipulated the election by means of repeaters and floaters, so the American asserts. Prosecution and conviction of men guilty of election frauds is the next achievement recorded, and then these sweeping claims are made:
>
> Corrupt public officials have been pursued and driven from office. Corrupt methods of administration have been exposed, and those benefiting from executive systems of graft have seen them abolished.
>
> As a result of the marked success of the party's inquiry into the lighting situation, the inquiry into the scandals in the life insurance companies followed a year later. The leaders in the Independence party, with others, demanded this investigation, and had it not been for the success of the lighting inquiry it is doubtful whether the thorough inquiry into insurance methods would have followed. Instead, the customary "whitewashing" programme would probably have ensued.
>
> It obtained an 80-cent gas law, and when the trust sought to stay the effect of the law by appeals to the Federal Courts, the party leaders forced the trust to supply gas at 80 cents while the case was in the courts.
>
> It advocated and aided in the fight for pure food laws. It fought for and succeeded in getting a direct nominations bill through one branch of the Legislature in New York State.
>
> It obtained the enactment of a 5-cent fare bill to Coney Island after a fight extending over several years, only to have the bill vetoed by Governor Hughes several months ago. In the National Legislature it fought for the establishment of postal savings banks and a more extended system of parcels post. As a result of its campaign in this direction Postmaster-General Meyer has urged Congress to pass the bill creating postal savings banks, and has issued orders extending the parcels post.
>
> It has obtained the passage of a bill compelling the establishment of the three-platoon system for the police of New York City several times, although McClellan has vetoed it consistently. It forced the retirement of Kilburn as State Superintendent of Banks; fought the Interborough-Metropolitan merger, which, though unsuccessful at the time, has since disclosed the substance of charges made in the original applications to the courts.
>
> Its fight in behalf of the Elsberg bill limiting the lengths of leases for new subways to be built to 20 years and separating the operating from the construction contracts is still fresh in the minds of those interested in the question. Under this law the grip of the Ryan-Belmont interests upon the transit facilities of the city sustained their first serious setback.
>
> The history of the achievements of the new party in New York State is repeated in Illinois, Masachusetts and California, besides other states in which the party has become active. Its growth is based upon a long line of successes which cannot be enumerated here.

In the history of third parties, the leaders of the Independence party see promise of victory for themselves.

> Despite the popular notion that third party movements in the past in the United States have amounted to little or nothing, the political history of the country demonstrates that independent parties organized upon broad principles, in the interest of all the people, have risen to great power in their second National campaign, and in various cases have elected their tickets in the third campaign, if not earlier.
>
> This does not apply, of course, to third parties of recent date, representing a single idea, such as the Prohibition, Socialist, Greenback and Socialist-Labor parties. It applies, however, to the Whigs, to the Republican party, two of the great successful independent parties organized upon lines similar to those adopted by the Independence party, and to the people's party.
>
> In the case of the People's party, however, it fused with the Democrats in 1896 and again in 1900, supporting William J. Bryan. As a result of this fusion, it was practically wiped out of existence. The Whigs elected their candidate for President in their third campaign, and the Republicans in their second. The People's party in their first straight campaign obtained more than 1,000,000 votes and had 22 votes in the Electoral College which named Grover Cleveland for his second term.

Six Acres for Children's Playground.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Nathan D. Bill has made known to his fellow citizens that he has decided to deed to the city for playground uses a tract of land containing 6¼ acres, lying between Marble street and Acushnet avenue, in the south part of the city. There are fifty building lots on it, and a low estimate places their value at $800 each, which brings the total value of the tract up to at least $40,000.

Mr. Bill planned to give this piece to the City Library Association all ready for the market, and it is probable that the amount realized upon it would have been in excess of the $40,000 estimated value. While the work of grading was in progress Mr. Bill noticed how many children came there to play in the sand and one evening he saw a party of men playing "one old cat" there. This made him think how well adapted the place was for a playground for both adults and children.

What One Newcomer Has Done.

Mount Scott Tribune.

G. K. Kunitake, of Gresham, is in the wood business, running three camps, employing 75 men. He has been in America six years and tells us he has laid away $17,000 of good American money already.

More Blame to Merry Widow Hat.

Pittsburg (Pa.) Dispatch.

Claire Still, of Harrisburg, Pa., was taken to a hospital for treatment for ulcerated neck caused by a whalebone in a Merry Widow collar.

READY TO GIVE A GOOD, FAT HEN

South Starts the Great Bryan Subscription With a Hurrah.

New York Sun.

The esteemed Charlotte Observer, always among the first in good and patriotic works, takes the lead of a noble cause in these burning words:

> The News and Courier, of Charleston, has opened a subscription list, in manner and form as follows, to wit:
>
> "It costs a good deal to run a Presidential campaign, and Mr. Bryan will have to depend largely upon the free will offerings of an enthusiastic people to carry his cause and their cause to victory. The News and Courier will receive and acknowledge and transmit to the manager of the Bryan campaign fund any contributions that may be sent to it for this purpose. Money talks in politics. How much do you want Bryan to be elected?
>
> "One dollar from each of the Democratic voters in South Carolina would make something like $110,000, and that would help to save at least one of the doubtful states."
>
> The Observer does not happen to be a Democratic voter in South Carolina, but it would like to contribute something to this fund, less for its intrinsic value than as an evidence of good faith. Silver and gold have we none, but if the News and Courier will accept a large fat hen, which it would no doubt be able to convert into cash on the Charleston market, or even a Hongkong gander, the Observer will be happy to forward either, collect, and would feel honored in having the contribution accepted. We desire to do something.

Thus at least two important Southern States have got into line for the cause. The News and Courier offers to forward subscriptions and the Observer heads the list with a fat hen or a Hongkong gander, as the recipient may prefer.

Who will come next? Georgia is ready to do her duty. Colonel Sid Tapp, getting ready to move to New York, may have no time for such things, but there is the Hon. Poke Boggs, likewise the Hon. Dink Botts, also Squire Gemini Mustard, to say nothing of others equally enthusiastic. Among these, somehow, the ball will certainly be set a-rolling.

Just as we expected, the South is on fire for Bryan.

BILL BUTTS ON A LIT'RY EVENT

Foolpublisher's Offer of $1 per Word for Roosevelt Lion Stories.

Oyster Bay (L. I.) Special to the New York Herald.

> "I was talkin' to one of them lit'ry fellows from down York way 'bout the middle of the week, and' he tole me thet when Teddy gets through shootin' an' passin' time o' day with the monkeys over to Afriky some fool book printer's goin' to pay a dollar a word for all he can write 'bout 'em," said Bill Butts, of Syosset, today as he triumphantly occupied the only soap box in front of Moore's grocery store, with Jimmy Sloan and three other secret service men trying to persuade him to move on.
>
> "It 'pears to me thet's crazy man's talk, but Bill Van Nostrand druv a couple of 'em up to Sagamore Hill, an' he says these lit'ry fellows jes' whipped out rolls of the long green like they wanted to do anything with it 'cept keep it in their pockets, an' seemed to think thet if Teddy would jes' write himself to death times would sure be better if they got the stuff. Bill went visitin' up to the city las' Winter an' he said that from what he heerd people say there was folks down to Wall street payin' a heap more'n a dollar a word for what Teddy was writin' to Congress.
>
> "All I got to remark is that if what that young feler has to say is worth all thet money, Nat Hanks an' Bill Mack is losin' their min's for not settin' a phonygraph behin, a haycock when he's out in the meadow swingin' a fork an' bossin' the job. They'd make their hull families rich afore the week's out an' Teddy'd be fellin' like a Yaphank colt jes' from the exercise.
>
> "Why he talks to hisself jes' as natural as if there was a bunch of Rough Riders a list'n'n' to him. Friday night I was walkin' over to Syosset an' jes' as I came up to the corner of the Jericho road I heerd a pow'ful laughin' an' then somebody singin' without no more tune than a Massapequa tomcat. I'm 'Afraid to Go Home in the Dark.' Bill Anderson's gal sings it right an' she teches up the hull neighborhood when her voice is plumb full.
>
> "Well, sir, it was Teddy comin' long from a polo game over to Mead Brook, a dog-trotin' on horseback.
>
> "'Hello, Bill,' he says, drawin' up his hoss, 'think I'd make a Carusy?'
>
> "'What the devil an' Tom Walker a Carusy is, Mr. President, I dunno,' I says, 'but if ye think ye'll be a singer by nex' Spring, I'm sorry to tell ye thet ye've missed yer callin'.'
>
> "'Bill,' he says, 'I grieve to read thet ye ain't goin' to root for Taft.'
>
> "'I ain't said that yet,' I says. 'Sence the boys up to Oyster Bay told me thet Bill Bryan has passed the word out that Hearst is a pretty good sort after all, I guess it won't be long afore I'll be tellin' ye who I'll be rotin' fer.'
>
> "Thet meetin' taught me a lesson," said Bill.
>
> "What is it?" asked a Secret Service man.
>
> "Thet a man's a durned fool to be roamin' these parts without a phonygraph strapped over his shoulder."

Frog-Chicken Nature Study.

Chester (Pa.) Dispatch.

Mrs. Caroline Ferguson, living near Margueretta Furnace, Pa., declares she saw a frog leap out of a pond, seize one of her chickens and leap back with it. Since the pond was drained no more chickens have disappeared.

They Don't Help Much.

Pendleton Tribune.

Gin, poker and high club life are not helpful to the best development of a man's character, and they form a combination which nine times out of ten works his certain ruin.

The New Books.

J. W. Foley, in the New York Sun.

Pray read "The Basement" by all means;
a prince of story tellers
Has written it, and I can say it's one of
our best cellars;
"The Almanac" is one I can offer without
fear,
And I assure you that it is the story of the
year;
"The Broken Corset Steel" is new—just
from the press today.
They say it grips you like a vise—'tis something that will stay;
And if you want a thing that lasts—that
will not let you slumber,
Here's something I can recommend—'tis
called "The Green Cucumber."

"The Newlaid Egg" they say is good—and in a certain set
It has tremendous vogue—I have not opened it as yet;
"Days Twenty-One" is good for one who love and letters seeks.
(The book reviewers say it's quite the equal of "Three Weeks.")
"The Batsman" is having quite a run—made a tremendous hit;
"The Peach" is good—they say it is far better than "The Pit";
They're pushing "The Lawnmower" now—it's going very well,
And as for "Full-Rigged Pirate Ships," they say the sails still swell.

"The Germ" still holds its own—"gets in the blood," the critics say;
"The Beaten Egg" is a stirring tale—you can't put it away;
"The Coalman's Ton" is very short—indeed so short and light
You'll find that you can finish it with ease, say overnight;
"Switch" is helpful and much liked, and I have heard it said
That many do not lay it by until they go to bed;
"The Sea Dog" is a waggish thing—the true sea lover's friend—
And like all dogs it has a bark and tale at either end!

REDUCE THE SALOONS ONE-HALF

One Suggestion as to Placing the Business on a Law-Abiding Basis.

Catholic Sentinel.

Along with the ordinance prohibiting women in the saloons, there should be another reducing the number of saloons by at least one-half. It is the absurd multiplication of saloons beyond all legitimate demands of the liquor business that is responsible for most of the saloon lawlessness. The brewers have prevailed on men to open new saloons where the lawful traffic was already well taken care of, the result being that the saloonkeepers in considerable numbers either are compelled to retire from the business with a heavy indebtedness toward the brewer or whoever advanced them capital, or else have to engage in unlawful and vicious means to obtain a livelihood.

It is true that the number of saloons cannot be increased until the city's population reaches a quarter million or some such figure, but this restriction offers no real relief, for we have nearly reached the quarter million mark and the present ratio of one saloon to every five hundred inhabitants, which now makes conditions so unbearable, may be continued indefinitely.

Competition in the saloon business breeds lawlessness, and more competition means more lawlessness. The nearest approach to the ideal system would be to establish the liquor traffic on a non-competitive basis by eliminating private profit. Then the saloon could be kept inside the law, for none would find profit in law-breaking. But since we cannot at once get onto a non-competitive basis, we can at least make a start by cutting out a half or more of the existing saloons.

FASTEST THINGS IN THE WORLD

Ice Yacht Holds the Record—Automobiles Are Next.

New York Mail.

The fastest thing in the world in the line of transportation is the ice yacht. Such a boat, the Drub, covered, five-eighths of a mile on the Shrewsbury River, two years ago, at the rate of a mile in 24 seconds.

Autos, however, do pretty well. Fred Marriott drove a mile on the Florida sands, two years ago, in 28 3-5 seconds.

Electric cars are not much behind. On the Marienfeldt-Zossen line in Prussia they have reached a speed of 130.4 miles an hour.

Steam cars have come close to the electric record. In 1904 a Philadelphia & Reading train ran 4.8 miles at a speed of 115.2 miles an hour.

Somewhat in the rear is the bicyclist. Robert A. Waithour, paced, made a mile in 1 minute 6 1-3 seconds.

"The ponies" are much slower, and yet they have reached a respectable rate of speed. Salvator ran a mile in 1:35⅘. Dan Patch paced the distance in 1:55. Lou Dillon trotted it in 1:58⅘.

Mere unassisted man necessarily trails behind. J. Nilsen skated a mile in 2:36. Dan Kelly ran 100 yards in 9 3-5 seconds. George M. Daniels swam 100 yards in 55 2-5 seconds, a rate of nearly four miles an hour.

These records, which are assembled by a writer in the July "Technical World," are the symbols of an era that is going some.

Nebraska "Imperialism," Just Bryan.

Kansas City Star (Ind.)

The Democratic party was never completely Bryanized until now. The Fairview "farmer" has been nominated on his own terms. The party, so far as its convention proceedings are concerned, stands for nothing that does not come from Lincoln, Neb. At last Mr. Bryan has demonstrated to the country what is meant by "imperialism."

Hog Imprisoned in Baled Hay.

Baltimore News.

W. C. Minnis, a farmer of Christian County, Illinois, says that one of his prize hogs which disappeared last March was found the other day wedged in between a pile of baled hay and the wall of a shed, where it had remained three months and three days without water, feeding on the hay, having reduced in weight from 175 to 60 pounds.

Cat Feeds On Fancy Pigeons.

Pittsburg Gazette.

After Michael McHugh, living near Pittsburg, had asked the Township Commissioners to have a cat killed which had been feeding on his fancy pigeons and had been refused, he presented a bill reading: "To 143 squabs for cat meat, $143." The bill was rejected and McHugh will sue.

Not so Long as Mr. Bryan Reigns.

Columbia State (Dem.)

There was a time when each American mother might cherish the belief that her bright-eyed American boy might some day be an American President. Not so is it now—not if the boy be a Democrat in the making.

Mule Passion Strong in Death.

John Wiley, a teamster of Lexington, Ky., was so much attached to a mule that he desired to have his coffin made out of the animal's hide, but when he learned the cost of tanning the skin and making the coffin, decided that a pine box was cheaper, and buried the mule unskinned.

Clam Catches Sparrow's Foot.

Philadelphia Dispatch.

A clam in the restaurant of William Spangler, at Yoe, Pa., caught the foot of a sparrow which had lighted on its shell, and it was necessary to pry open the shell with a knife before the bird could be released.

Sixteen Negro Editors for Taft.

Hartford (Conn.) Courant.

The New York Age gives up more than a column of its editorial page to extracts from 16 newspapers, edited by negroes and circulating among negroes. All 16 are for Taft.

Solitaire Versus Self—Result, Tears.

Indianapolis News.

A newspaper in Atchison, Kan., says a woman in that town gets so angry when she fails to beat herself playing solitaire, that she cries and throws the cards out of the window.

Comparison.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

They are dropping by the dozen
In the unrelenting sun
That is blistering Manhattan,
And the poor survivors run
From one awning to another,
And the ones that make it cheer
All the others running for it—
But St. Louis (do you hear?)
St. Louis, bright and truly,
Isn't even drinking beer.

They are dying in Chicago
As the heat can kill a fly,
And there's not an hour of respite
When a zephyr passes by.
They are panting like a staghound
That has winded down his deer,
And is catching up his breathing—
But St. Louis (do you hear?)
St. Louis, bright and truly,
Isn't even drinking beer.

There are dead men out in Pittsburg
Who forgot to be discreet
In the matter of the sunny side
Of Allegheny street
And they're gasping down at Washington
As usual, this year,
And blistering in Boston—
But St. Louis (do you hear?)
St. Louis, bright and truly,
Isn't even drinking beer.