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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, MAR, 16, 1919.

### POLITICS IN NEW YORK.

The bane of the Republican party in New York is the insignificant men who pose as its leaders. Timothy L. Woodroff, Senator Allds, who has been exposed as a receiver of bribes, and Senator Cobb, are fair specimens of these worthies. They have not the faintest conception of statesmanship. They care nothing for the public welfare, and even the welfare of the party counts for much less with them than their petty personal advantage. To secure this they stand ready at any time to trade votes and offices with the Democrats. They "stand in" with any man or organization who thinks it worth while to sollcit their services and they have tried their best to defeat the measures which Governor Hughes has advocated. By this course of conduct these trifling creatures have brought the Republican party in New York to the verge of factional disruption. Unable to lead it creditably themselves, they are unwilling to permit anybody else to take charge. Unhappily, they are numerous enough to hold their own, at least in the State Senate, against the forces of the Governor and of Senator Root.

As soon as the expose of Allds occurred and that old-fashioned politician of the Platt and Depew school was forced to give up the leadership of his party in the State Senate, the question of his successor arose. The men who support Mr. Hughes and his policies desired some such man as Senator Hinman, who has been outspoken for a searching investigation of the bribery charges, no matter who might be involved. The Woodruff and Cobb group, on the other hand, desired to smother the investigation, to whitewash Allds himself, if possible, and to prevent the Governor from obtaining any advantage from the exosure of their methods. Their exctation was that before election time the public would forget all about their corruption and elect them again in the good old way, quite as if nothing had happened. Neither Mr. Hughes, however, nor the administra. tion at Washington cherishes any such lelusive hope. They are awake to the fact that the public does not farget nearly so easily as it did in the blessed days of yore, and it does not overlook as many sins by half in its guides and

For this reason, as well as for bet ter ones, both the administration and Mr. Hughes are eager that the scandals at Albany should be investigated thoroughly in order to clear the skirts of the Republican party from the suspicion of complicity or condonement, and also that whoever is guilty may be punished. For this purpose they wanted a man like Mr. Hinman for leader in the State Senate, and no less earnestly they wanted to get rid of Timothy Woodruff as chairman . the state central committee. Mr. Hughes' position concerning the matter has been known for a good while and a few days ago Mr. Taft, speaking through Senator Root, himself unmistakably. Mr. Root sent word to the little New York bosses

that they ought to elect Hinman for Senate leader, and he strongly Intimated to Woodruff that it would be exceedingly appropriate in him to resign from the central committee. For the little leaders there was no recourse but to disappear from public life or to fight. They resolved to fight, and having a majority in the State Senate, they came out shead. They elected their man Cobb for party leader and gave Woodruff such encouragement that he will not hear of resigning from the central com-The exposed and discredited band of politicians now stand in open defiance of Hughes and the President. Cobb will use his power in the State Senate to smother the Allds investigation, and the party will probably have to go before the voters smirched with the disgrace of that wretched affair. The consequences will naturally be, the election of a Democratic Governor and the possible loss of New York to the Republicans in 1912. Consequences such as these do not

disturb men of the Woodruff and Cobb type in the least, "Party prinis a phrase without meaningto them, and they only want party success when it brings them personal advantage. In this case their advantage seems to lie in a Democratic victory, because that would eliminate Hughes and probably Taft also in the end, leaving them free to regain their ascendancy in the party and make such bargains with the Democratic chieftains as they saw fit, know perfectly well that Mr. Hughes will never make any terms with them. He has fought them from the outset of his public career, and will continue to fight them. Whatever hopes they have cherished of assistance from Washington have now vanished Senator Root has bluntly declared against them, and there is no doubt that he speaks for Taft as well as for himself. The little leaders have not a man of first-class reputation to whom they can turn for counsel and comfort. They fondly imagine that Roosevelt will interfere on their behalf when he returns and arrange some sort of a compromise, but they might as well drop all such dreams at once. Mr. Roosevelt is too astute to ally himself with a losing cause, even if he had no better reason for holding aloof from this obnoxious In one way or another they

York politics, but clearly they intend to do all the mischier they can before they go.

UNREASONING CLAMOR.

Mayor Simon has approved an ordinance designating 100 feet of Adams street and 100 feet of Oregon street for use of the public in crossing the new railroad bridge. The ordinance vacates the designated parts of the two streets, so that the railroad company may place thereon a pier or abutment for support of the approach to the upper deck of the new viaduct. The railroad will not use the city's land for tracks or yards or in any way for its own profit or benefit. ple who cross the bridge will be the ones served by the ordinance. Yet a clamor goes up against the ordinance and the Mayor's approval of it, from persons who either do not know what they are talking about or are victims of baseless fear that the railroad is getting some valuable privilege for

Right soon the railroad will ask the ity for really valuable privileges in that same vicinity. It desires to oc-cupy certain streets with its tracks and yards, for approach to the lower deak of the bridge-the deck which it will use exclusively for its business. The Council and the Mayor will then be expected to exact concessions and compensations from the railroad exchange. Considerable number of erring persons, it seems, think city officials have given away these priv fleges for nothing in the ordinance

which the Mayor has approved. The pier for the bridge approach is necessary for a much-needed public improvement; it will serve for the public use and benefit solely; the public, through the Port of Portland, forced the railroad to add the upper deck to the bridge, in return for the privilege of spanning the river for its trains; the public will get a fine new bridge without any expenditure on its part for building and for a merely nominal rental sum; the city sorely needs the new viaduct-and yet, in spite of all this, some citizens are unwilling to grant parts of two streets that never can be used by the general public for a more desirable purpose.

Mayor Simon did right in signing the ordinance. Now let us have the new bridge forthwith and relieve difficulties of crossing the river.

#### HOLY ROLLING.

The feroclous fanaticism of the Holy Bollers near Bellingham seeems to have deprived the poor creatures of the greater part of their human feelings and turned them into brutes. A few days ago they allowed a child to die while they performed savage incantations to drive away the "evil spirit" which they fancied had pos-session of it. Now comes the news that they have murdered a woman in childbirth in the same way. Probably there is no way for the law to reach these poor deluded victims of a frightful superstition, but we may at least draw a lesson from their conduct. We may see the truth once more proved by their inhuman actions that there is no depth of cruelty, no extremity of ferocious savagery, into which the kindest and gentlest of men may not be led by fanaticism. It kills all the tender feelings of the heart and transforms the human being into a creature more to be feared than a wild beast.

It is disquieting to observe that the frenzied superstition of the Holy Rollers seems to be only a more in-tense manifestation of a spirit which pervades the whole country more or less just now. Usually its outbreaks are mild, resulting in nothing worse than abusive language, ignorant attacks upon scientific research and tty slanders of the more liberal religious denominations. But now and then it breaks out into frenzy and does harm both to individuals and to communities. The attitude tional men toward such outbreaks should be studious and tolerant, of course, but it is a mistake to encourage them by anything like sympathy. Religious phenomena of the Oliver and Holy Roller brand are essentially contemptible and the only proper feeling to show for them is contempt.

#### RECOURSE TO THE RIVER. The navigable river is the safeguard

of the farmer and merchant against extortionate freight rates by rail. It is for this reason that citizens of the Willamette Valley are loyal to their river. This loyalty dates from the early years of steamboat navigation, when the little Hoosler, the first Mult-nomah, the clumsy Minnie Holmes, the pretentious Willamette, the daring Enterprise, the ill-fated Elk and other boats of an almost forgotten era in steam navigation on the Willamette first plied in its water and made possible the stinted commerce of the time, which had previously been stopped each year by the Fall rains and the impassable condition of the roads. At first and for some time this utilization of the river for the needs of such traffic as existed was a sort of go-ns-you-please arrangement, without organized effort to secure a monopoly of the business, but later companies were formed that were not slow to take advantage of the superlority of water to wagon road transportation, and freight and passenger rates were "ail the traffic would bear." This being true, the coming of railway transportation was welcomed and steamboat business away until the fleet that served the farmers and merchants of the Willamette Valley in the Winter and Spring and went into Summer quarters, dwindled and almost went out of existence. But the people still loved the river, feeling that it was their reserve assurance against exorbitant freight rates, and now and again its power has been evoked in the interest of lower charges on freight that

will bear slow transit. The latest awakening upon this point noted is that of Albany merchants, caused by a recent order of the Southern Pacific abelishing the 10-cent differential rate from Albany to Portland on transcontinental treight shipments in less than carload lots. This rate has existed for many years, but river competition has so dwindled of late that the rallroad company has evidently thought better of the concession made when it was formidable enough to be reckoned with. The recent order means that the freight rate on transcontinental shipments in carlead lots will be advanced from 10 to 28 cents per hun-As aforetime, thoughts of shippers turn to the river. An effort will be made by Albany merchants to build a small steamboat that will offer some are bound to be eliminated from New | competition to the railroad, at least

on slow freights, and afford them partial relief from the increased rate of merchandise

EX-JUDGE GORDON FREE.

Ex-Judge Gordon, whose name has been before the public for the past year in connection with an alleged embeszlement of a large sum of money from the Great Northern Rail-road, has been acquitted of the charge brought against him. In granting the motion for a dismissal and instructing the jury to find for the defendant. Judge Kennan said that "in the absence of representatives of the rail-road company to claim irregularities against him, the state cannot make out a case." It would have been much nore creditable to the Washnigton authorities had they recognized several months earlier that they could expect no assistance from the railroad com-

Since the time when the first whisperings of the alleged embezzlement were heard, every statement made by the railway officials and every act of theirs in connection with the case tended to show that, instead of alding in the prosecution of their re-creant employe, their greatest efforts were being put forth to shield him, or at least to render it as difficult as possible to secure evidence which might convict him.

Enough publicity was given this case to show the public that Gordon had been repeatedly intrusted with large sums of money to be used in the settlement of various claims and for other purposes, the details of which do not appear as matters of record. such circumstances it would have been no easy matter to convict him of embezzlement, even with the testimony of a good complaining witness, and the attempt to convict him without any complaining witness could hardly have proved otherwise than abortive Naturally Gordon does not escape with clean hands. He admits that he has "committed much folly and been guilty of many indiscretions," and the public will refer to some of this folly and some of these indiscretions in stronger terms.

Whatever odlum rests on Gordon must, however, be shared by the railroad company which had employed him to distribute funds. There is nothing creditable to any of the participants in the disgraceful affair, and the miserable fiasco which the Washington authorities have made of the prosecution of the case is regrettable in the extreme, as if calls attention to an oft-repeated charge that conviction of men holding high position in corporation service is more difficult than it should be.

GOOD CROP PROSPECTS. Special reports received by The Oregonian from all parts of the state show an exceedingly pleasing crop outlook for the coming season. In all parts of the state there has been a sufficient amount of moisture to insure large yields of grain and also to provide ample water for irrigating pur-poses. Conditions in that portion of Washington and Idaho that is tributary to Portland show similarly satisfactory prospects. In the Willamette Valley the outlook for grain is not so good as it is east of the Cascade Mountains, the late rains interfering with Fall plowing. This locality, how-ever, is no longer of great importance as a grain-growing section, and most of the acreage that could not be plant-ed in grain will this Spring be used for other and more profitable crops.

While an abundance of moisture is the overshadowing influence in bring. ing big grain crops in this territory, improved methods of farming have also aided in making good crops much more of a certainty than under the old slipshod methods. The effect of another bountiful grain crop, with prices still ranging on high levels, will be felt in all branches of business. cession of "fat years." in which the field was large and prices high, has left the agricultural community in excellent financial condition. It is no onger a question of confining expenditures to the necessities, for there are rapidly accumulating funds for luxudes and for investments.

Portland has had ample demonstra tion of the advantages which prosperity in the rural districts confers on the cities, for within the past five years numbers of farmers who have amassed a competency have moved into the city and are aiding in its up-Another year of good crops means a liberal addition to this class and it also means greater attractions for the newcomers who are now entering Oregon with a view to making this state their permanent home.

WHERE JUDGMENT IS REQUIRED. The latest automobile accident in Seattle resulted in the death of a woman who was one of the passengers and the more or less serious injury of four others. This was not the result of a 'joy ride" and a chauffeur who had been drinking. Nor did the accident occur at an unseemly hour. On the contrary, the car was one of many that was being driven out to the Ham liton aviation exhibition and its occupants were orderly people out on a legitimate sightseeing excursion. A chauffeur, unusually careful about unning over an animate creature, saw, just ahead of him, a dog. To running kill or maim this creature would have been most revolting. To avoid such a catastrophe he quickly swerved his heavy machine." As if resenting the deviation from a straight line, the machine skidded, turned half round and went over with its load of seven human beings, including the humane The casualties were as chauffeur. above stated. The dog escaped in-

If there is a lesson in this occur rence, it is, first, that dogs should be confined to the country, where they are, in a sense, useful, and second that excess of caution, when an emergency confronts, may lead to consequences quite as serious as reckless ness. The man at the helm, whether of a ship, a streetcar or an automobile should be a man of judgment and one who knows his craft. A large share of the accidents, with fatal results that have followed the introduction and general use of the automobile have come from the employment of chauffeurs of immature judgment and unsteady habits-men or boys who are delighted with rapid motion and who have picked up enough knowledge of the mechanism of an automobile to be able to drive it successfully on a smooth, unobstructed way, but who in the very nature of things are utterly incapable of meeting an emer gency in a way that may avert serious accident. The vocation of the chauffeur is exhilarating. The tendency of rapid transit is to minimize the danger that attends it. It is a vocation beaven.

that should be forbidden to anyone who has not attained maturity judgment and had thorough training in the management of the machine, dependent upon a fair understanding of its construction and of the energy which propels it.

While the public will undoubtedly have another opportunity to defeat Mr. Bryan for the Presidency, his late running-mate, Mr. Kern, will hardly be a candidate. One of the most strenuous denials Mr. Kern found it ecessary to make, while he was campalgning with Bryan, was of the story that he was assisting Tom Taggart in keeping the latter's gambling hall at French Lick Springs from feeling the arm of the law. Now comes the story from Paoli, Indiana, that Mr. Kern' has appeared publicly as Taggart's lawyer and has succeeded in preventing the annullment of the charter of the hotel company, which controlled the gambling at French Lick Springs. There are still several good Demo-crats who have not appeared on the ticket with Mr. Bryan, so he will not be obliged to run alone. Why does not someone start a Vice-Presidency boom for our own Citizen Watson? He is one of the few good men in the United States who believes that Bryan can be elected, if he runs often enough.

The moon is blamed for the peculiar workings of some of the emotions of mankind, and "Fair Luna" and her neighbors are also held partly responsible for those climatic conditions which make the stampede of cattle a very easy matter. Thus finding in the heavens some of the causes for otherwise unexplainable and eccentric actions of man and beast, someone may advance the theory that the near of enginemen between the Mississippi and the Pacific who are becoming very restless, and are likely at any moment to start a stampede that may not be checked without the expendi-ture of considerable effort and treas-The contending parties in the strife do not agree as to the location of the blame, so it might as well be placed on the comet.

According to a New York dispatch, at the ship subsidy love feast Monday night "Henry Clews, the banker, was hissed when he proposed that America go into the cheapest market for her ships and her satlors." Mr. Clews should have known better. What excuse would there be for paying a subsidy, if we were permitted to buy and operate ships on even terms with our competitors? Mr. Clews apparently got the cause of the merchant marine and the cause of the ship subsidy confused. They have different meanings.

The shamrock is typical of Spring and a new life, when Nature spreads her mantle over the earth to hide its wintry desolation. Its leaves are typical of the graces, "and the greatest of these is charity." Let every one today and tomorrow wear a shamrock and by that token exemplify the trust of the Great Teacher. There should be none too poor to add a mite to the work, for the orphan is the child of

A British judge has declared that moral delinquency in men does not have the same significance as in vomen. Although protesting women have raised a storm about his ears, still that is the view women unconsclously take of the matter. And, it may be added, effects are quite different—although this should not condone the sins of the one sex more than those of the other.

homeward because the English cotton dealers did not treat him right, and Paulhan, the French aviator, is outward-bound, en route for France, because he says the Americans did not treat him right. This exchange of celebrities ought to keep the international balance fairly even for the present.

It would be more convenient to see that comet now before bedtime than months hence before sunrise. Naturally great many persons are straining their eyes for the sky speeder.

Are the same persons clamoring against the Oregon-street bridge approach who are making the noise against Broadway bridge?

Jack Cudahy is said to be hiding in Chicago. This will be glad tidings to gay birds of Pittsburg and perhaps of some other cities.

John D. Rockefeller is said to be a

most loveable man. It's too bad that he can't much longer stay with his Rain would be welcome to a consid-

erable number of citizens who are confronted with fulfillment of Spring garden pledges. We venture to say that if any bank in Portland should now "go broke," no

grand jury could find anybody to send to prison. We suppose the lawyers have invited a preacher to open their feast tomor-

row night with a suitable blessing. Japs say they don't wish to go to war with America. Certainly not until they have paid their last fiddler.

Envy not the promoters who thought they would make money out of the aviation meets, but didn't.

The Dalles Optimist.

Pinchot takes himself entirely too selously. He seems to think that he is

retary of Agriculture. This soon after the War of 1812.

Assigning a Reason.

Prineville Review.

s bigger man than old Grant," as a ertain Texan once said, and many Eastrn people may agree with him. But we of the West know that he is an enemy to the people of our section, and the trust he would create, had created, of Government resources was the greatest bar to the growth of the West that was ever conceived. And the law for this trust was not on the statute books but creature of the mind of said Pin-

### Echo From War of 1812. Kansas City Star. Again the rumor is current that Mr. Wilson is to resign from the job of Sec-

Philadelphia Inquirer.
For the purpose, it is announced, of encouraging an interest in dramatics at Yale, a prize of \$5000 has been offered by Frederic Thompson, of New York, for a suitable modern drama on a purpose. This story started An observant Prin ville citizen bas overed why there are no divorces in en. There are no lawyers there.

URGES TAX TO PAY FOR MAINS. But Writer's Scheme Would Not Cure

Graft of Lot Speculator. PORTLAND, Or., March 14.—(To the Editor.)—The articles in The Oregonian on the water main matter indicate to all that you intend to be fair. That the end has come to the game of collecting from consumers to pay for mains to increase values of speculative lots in the suburbs is apparent.

The proposal to place all cost of extension of mains upon the general prop-erty tax is based upon the idea that the valuable lot depends for a portion of its value first, upon the water and, second, upon the population attracted, in part, by the water. If the assessments of the by the water. If the assessments of the city are raised to three hundred million next year a tax of 1 mill out of a levy of perhaps 18 would give \$300,000 for extension of the mains. In a few years the entire city would have mains to every lot. Probably half this levy would be sufficient. The lot worth half a million owes some of its value to the labors of the small home owner, some to the fact that good and cheap water can be obthat good and cheap water can be ob-tained in the city, and some because of other public improvements. If the consumer paid his actual cost it

would be very low, with the expense of mains cut out-perhaps \$2 or \$3 a year. The big properties will need mains and their lots will be increased in value by reason of them. Why not have them pay for them? Would not a general property tax for the extension of mains do away with too much of it by reason of the opposition which the \$2,000,000 block owner rould put up?

Anyway. The Oregonian is to be con-gratulated on being willing to take the burdens of the mains from the con-A. D. CRIDGE.

The writer of this letter evidently fails to perceive that his arrangement would shift payment for water mains from consumers to taxpayers, without abolishing speculators. The speculators are the ones who should pay this charge, not conapproach of the great comet is affecting mankind. There is a great army ulators are the persons who "realize" ulators are the persons who "realize" from the improvement. The small home owner owes relatively as much to the office-building owner as the latter does to the home owner-perhaps more-for without facilities of doing business and attracting capital. Portland would not be an important city and there would be no need of so many homes,

The persons whose land is improved by water mains are the ones who should pay for the mains. Any scheme of escape for land owners from this charge eans that others must be taxed for their benefit. Land owners pay for sidewalks, sewers and streets. Then why not for mains?

#### HIGH ASSESSMENT, TAX-BOOSTER Encourages Official Extravagance and Makes Unjust Burdens.

Grants Pass Observer. Grants Pass Observer.

There is a great deal of complaint on account of the excessive increase in taxes, which in two years have increased about 150 per cent. Some parties at Merlin are contemplating applying for an injunction to prevent the Court of Commissioners from incurring further table.

further debt.

About five years ago the assessment of property in this county was about one-half value, and taxes were reasonably low. There was a state law that property be assessed at full value. The Observer objected at the time that high assessment invariably induced high taxation, but the county court then claimed that it would not be so, and would result merely in a lower levy. But it did not work that way, and the Observer was right. The high assessment has encouraged increased assessment has encouraged increased taxes, till there is complaint all over the state. The next Legislature ought to amend the law requiring full value assessment, and provide for one-half,

or at most two-thirds, value.

In regard to value there are two or three different qualities. There is the assumed value of the owner, the apparent value, and the forced sale value. No assessment should ever be made at higher value than the property would bring at forced sale. But there are assessments in Josephine county, cerspeeding tainty in Grants Pass, that are higher than the selling price of owners, and that is a rank injustice. One man in another county, who was assessed in excourt, but not many people care to

### Spring Market Report for Poets, Etc. Judge.

Verses this morning opened weak and off about one cent a word under heavy selling by professional poets, influenced by weakness in megazine editorial rooms. The movement against high prices for well-known writers is having a decided effect on the sentiment. Jokes were somewhat higher, owing to favorable weather, good dinners, and

larger advertising receipts.

Skits today had a partial recovery, be ing covered by shorts, but later eased on further selling. The undertone was very nervous, and sentiment, on the whole, was bearish, although cash markets in New York were steady.

Short stories rallied on last night's close, but sagged after two had been sold.

During the noons hour trading in spe-cial articles was rather quiet, but prices were steady, advancing three-quarters of

### Palmy Days of New York Graft.

New York Tribune. The removal from the County Clerk's office of two safes which had been pur-chased by the city in the days of "Boss" I weed recalls the story which a man nce prominent in Albany politics used o tell whenever he had an opportunity. ohn McBride Davidson, maker of safes and member of the inner circle, was met in City Hall Park one day by a man who introduced himself as a fellow Albanian. "I am a glazier; can't you get me a job on the Courthouse

"No," said Davidson. "I don't think can. They give those Johs to New I want only the job to put in one

"Once I have a contract for one pane of glass from those gentlemen, my fam-lly is provided for. I need never work again," was the reply.

#### New Bultlmore Better Than the Old. Baltimore News.

Baltimore News.

After facing a property loss of over \$55,000,000, the citizens of Baltimore have made up the loss many times. In place of the destroyed structures, which were valued at approximately \$12,000,000, other buildings valued at near \$40,000,000 have been erected. Of the 1343 lots which were bared by the flames not more than two score still remain open and for the two score still remain open, and for the majority of this small number other buildings are now planned. Many of the lots on which once stood buildings have been acquired by the city and con-verted into wide street ways and on the majority of the remainder structures which surpass their predecessors in every way have gone up during the last six

### Yale Man Offers \$5000 Prize.

American life, written by a member of the university.

The play must deal with American life of today.

## PINCHOT AND HIS INFERRED "FACTS"

General Opinion That the Late Forester Had No Busis for His Charges but Hearsny, Suspleion and His Own Unwarranted Conclusions - Symposium From Representative Newspapers.

New York Tribune.

From the testimony of Mr. Gifford Pinchot it appears that the charge he made in his preliminary statement that said he should consider a one of the Secretary Ballinger had "wilfully deceived" the President was based solely on inference. Mr. Tatt had written to Mr. Ballinger approving his refusal to continue the co-operative agreement between his department and the Forestry Service on the ground that a ruling of the Controller made the refusal necessary. Mr. Pinchot holds that the Controller's ruling did not make the termination of this agreement necessary. The tion of this agreement necessary. fact that Mr. Taft said it did was pi to his mind that Mr. Ballinger had him it did, and had therein "wilfully de-ceived" the President. This, as he tes-tified, was an "inevitable inference." Now, if the testimony is correctly re-ported, there is nothing to show that Sec-retary Ballinger told the President that

sion regarding its effect. Furthermore, there is no evidence that Mr. Taft's and Mr. Ballinger's opinion of its effect is wrong and that Mr. Pinchot's is right Nevertheless, the "inevitable inference" is that Mr. Ballinger "wilfully deceived" the President!
The other charges in Mr. Pinchot's remarkable preliminary statement seem to hang chiefly by threads just as slen-der as that. Mr. Ballinger's inclusion among the documents submitted by him to the President of the mistaken statement of his former law partner regard-

the Controller's ruling made the agree-

ment impossible. There is nothing to show that the President himself did not

read the Controller's ruling, which he had

before him, and reach his own conclu-

ing the case, although preceded by his own true statement, was an attempt to deceive the President. His restoration of the water power site lands to entry, although he promptly re-withdrew them after eliminating certain errors in the original withdrawal, was open to no other inference than that he entered the Cabinet in order to destroy the policy of

### CENTRAL POWER IN PINCHOTISM Is Republican Party to Desert Old Es-tablished Landmarks?

Chicago Inter Ocean. Mr. Taft rightly seeks to be judgedto have his administration judged and his party judged—on the record as he understands it. In fact, he is said to feel that his intentions as expressed in that record are not fully understood.

He is said to feel especially misunder-

stood in the matter of a "conservation policy," and is reported to intend to de-vote himself especially in his speeches to refuting "insurgent" insinuations that "conservation" one must be to be for "conse

Mr. Taft might well save himself any rouble on this score. To the average man, outside of a few particular locali-les, conservation is an issue somewhat abstract and far away from his dally

Administrations and parties are judged not as they understand themselves but as the people understand them. And the Taft administration will be judged, and the Republican party with it, in the November elections by the answers that experience gives the average man to such questions as these:

In an that I am thore I and thoroughly acquainted with it, that this was the fact," said Pinchot.

It depends upon the point of view. What do you suppose Pinchot would call it if he found that Ballinger had written a letter to the President saying certain things had been done when they had not been done at all? Nothing less that is

organization or insurrection? Is it to be a historic party, moving forward on the line of its traditions, or is it to be a Bryanized party, regardless of tradi-tions and veering off on unprecedented courses with every new wind of doc-trine?

Is the American ideal to be what it has been in the past—the ideal of the utmost freedom for individual effort with individual energy restrained only by gen-eral laws prohibiting conduct recognized as always criminal? Or is the American ideal to become one of state socialism, with every citizen's every act continually subject to governmental inquiry—with everybody in leading strings from Wash-insten?

ngton?

Is this to continue to be a Union of powerful states or merely an aggrega-tion of provinces governed from Washngton?-is it to be still the Federal Republic of the last 125 years, or is it to become such a Republic in form only, and

centralized despotism in fact? These are the questions in the public mind. And the question about Mr. Taft the public mind is which way do his thoughts 'incline and which way would be lead this people, or has he any clear conception of his goal?

#### PINCHOT'S TESTIMONY REVIEWED His "Facts" Are Seen to Be Tissue of Hearsny, Inference and Suspicion. New York Independent.

In the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation Mr. Pinchot, under cross-examination, said his charge that Secretary Ballinger personal statement, but upon a letter written by Judge Ronald (formerly the Secretary's partner) to Dr. Lyman Ab-bott. This letter, which seemed to be bott. This letter, which seemed to be approved by Ballinger's notes on the pages of a magazine, Ballinger had attached, as an exhibit, to the statement sent to the President in his own defense.

Half the following Pinchet poses. Half the following Pinchet poses. Half the following Pinchet poses. tember Ballinger had sent to the Presi-dent a correct statement as to the three matters in question. These related to Agent Jones' report on the Cunningham coal claims, to the efficacy of Glavis' protest against the clear-listing of these claims, and to Ballinger's argument before a House committee for legislation that would have favored them. Witness had urged Glavis to lay his statement before the President and had given him a lotter of introduction. He had told Secretary Wilson, on January 3, that Senator Dolliver had asked him for a letter to be the best of the president and had given him a lotter of introduction. He had told Secretary Wilson, on January 3, that Senator Dolliver had asked him for a letter to be the president and the part of the properties of individual few. They were not, and are not really with Pinched because they thought his plans prevented not not all the part of the part of the prevented not not provide the prevented that the prevented had a sked him for a letter to be the part of Dolliver had asked him for a letter to be read in the Senate. The Secretary had offered no objection, and had said there would be no trouble about the President's executive order. He believed he had the Secretary's consent. At this point Secratary Wilson became a witness, denying that he had given consent. That could not have been, he added, for in the letter Pinchot had presumed to review the President's action and had assur his (the Secretary's) authority. Th had been a conversation about sending a letter to Senator Dolliver, but he had no idea that such a letter as the one which Pinchot wrote was to be sent. supposed it was to deal only with de-partmental affairs. He would not have approved any letter dealing with the President's action concerning Glavis.

There were some contradictions in the Secretary's testimony.

Again taking the stand, Pinchot was subjected to a long and wearisome cross-examination, which drew out nothing of importance. He admitted that he had made erroneous assertions, or mistakes, in a latter to the President. He knew in a letter to the President. He knew little personally, or at first hand, in support of his charges against Ballinger, but relied mainly upon the official record and upon knowledge acquired by other persons, some of whom will testify herepersons, some of whom will testify hereafter. He had urged President Roosevelt to veto certain power site bills.
To the question whether he had written
the veto messages he gave no answer.
He read a long letter sent to him in
September by the President, inclosing a
copy of the letter to Ballinger which
caused the dismissal of Giavis. Addressing the witness as "My dear Gifford, the President urged him not to mak Glavis' case his own, saying that he was not familiar with the entire record. Witness, he thought, had been unjust to Ballinger. Expressing his confidence in Pin-

mense value of the Forester's work, and

### PINCHOT CHARITABLE WITH SELF His Own Errors "Mistakes": Those He

Whenever Pinchot finds statements Secretary Ballinger that he blanks do not square with the exact truth, he calls them "willful deception." Whe Pinchot is forced into a corner his own incorrect statements he them "mistakes." It all depends upon the point of view. Pinchet takes a charitable view of his own falling to state the facts. For Secretary Fallinger, who dared to resist his power, Pinch has nothing but suspicion. Anything Mr. Bailinger's statements that appear Inconsistent to Pinchot is called "willow

testified about some official who wrote a letter that might be construed as a denial of having done a certain thing. Pinchot said the thing was "indignantly" denied. On cross-examination he was forced to admit that there was no in dignation about it. Pinchot had read into the letter, for his own purposes, "indignation." He finds what he thinks "indignation." He finds what he thinks is a discrepancy in some of Secretary Ballinger's communications to the President. He does not call it a "mistake" or fust plain "deception." He calls it "willful deception." And yet it has been proved that Mr. Ballinger did not deceive the President at all, that the President was in full possession of the facts that Pinchot suspected had been withheld. withheld.

Another instance of Pinchot's ex-tremism: In his letter to President Taft introducing Glavis, Pinchot said, "I have known him for several years." On cross-examination Pinchot was no sure whether he had ever seen Glavia before he met him at Spokane last year. "I had several years' knowledge of him, but not personal acquaintance," said Pin-chot on cross-examination. Probably no "willful deception" was intended by the man who was Chief Porester at that I His momentary enthusiasm got away

Then there was also a statement to the letter Pinchot wrote to the Presi-dent from Spokane that Pinchot and learned water sites had been acquired on lands restored and before the withdrawal.

"That is another mistake?" asked At torney Vertrees,
"It has since turned out to be," answered Pinchot. "And a gross mistake," suggested Attorney Vertrees.
"I should not characterize it as a

gross mistake. I was informed by a man that I had reason to believe was

had not been done at all? Nothing less than "willful deception," for that is the way Pinchot accused Ballinger be-fore the Congressional committee. But when Pinchot is convicted of misrenresenting the facts, he calls them "mistakes.

#### WASTE OF PINCHOT'S DISUSE. Government Should Conserve Without

# Scaling Up Resources.

The introduction of "corroborative evidence" in the Ballinger-Pinchot case ap-pears at this stage as nothing more than an agreement of other "witnesses" with the "inferences" and opinions of Givvis. Pinchot and Garfield. No new facts are adduced. Indeed, there are no facts at all in this whole case, and have not bee is, to warrant any investigation of Secretary Ballinger, or to justify the sti ments or beliefs of Pinchot et al. that cause these gentlemen think a thing does not per se place it in the realm of fact.
Similarly, the antagonism that has been aroused to Mr. Ballinger is not well founded. It has no basis in fact. It began and continues in pettiness. Any idea that "conservation" is at issue in this matter is a mixture.

this matter is a mistake. The controversy is one of official temperaments. Conservation is quite another thing. We all of us believe in it to a certain degree. We do not all hold to the idea that forests preserve water supplies ou watersheds or that they prevent floods or snowslides, but most of us do behad given to the President a statement lieve that some method ought to have absolutely false in three essential partirabsolutely false in three essential partiulars was based, not upon Mr. Ballinger's
personal statement, but upon a letter
written by Judge Ronald (formerly the
Secretary's partner) to Dr. Lyman Abworked itself out that a few men and large combinations of capital appropriated to their own selfish uses all the This was in November last, and the witness admitted that in the preceding Septoo much for the few, too little for the

Resentment at bold, plain, defenseles downright theft has crept into this att tude. So It was that the Pinchot ideas because we must have development. We look ever into the future in this section of the world and constantly act and work with the future in view.

#### Young McCormick Writes a Play. Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Princeton University Triangle Club, the dramatic organization of Old Nassau, will make an extended Western trip thi visiting Indianapolis, St. and Chicago, appearing in the latter of March 28, to present its annual play This year it is "His Honor; the Suffan." Society is preparing to celebrate the event, as the author of the play. Cyrus McCormick, '12, is a son of Cyrus H. Mc formick, of Chicago.

The music of "His Honor, the Sulian.

as well as the lyrics, has been written by undergraduates, and a large under-graduate chorus will accompany the play.

### Half Dollar Sold for \$3750.

New York Dispatch. One of the original four Confederate half dollars struck off at the United States mint at New Orleans in 1861 after it fell into the hands of the Confederate government, was sold today by a lora coin dealer for \$350. The buyer was a wealthy New York collector, whose name

### To Remove New York Snow, \$1,398,000

New York Dispatch.
"Big Bill" Edwards, Street-Cleaning commissioner, obtained from the Pourd of Estimate an issue of \$300,000 for the payments of the snow removal