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WHEN WILL ROOSEVELT BOLT?
Colonel Roosevelt may bolt. But when? And why? And how? Finding the psychological moment is the imperative need of the Roosevelt strategy. If he bolts soon he will bolt alone, for the Roosevelt delegates are not likely to go with him. They will desire to have given the convention a fair opportunity to elect their own man, and if Roosevelt bolts late, he may, and probably will, find that a large number of his delegates, having been seated in a Republican convention, and having participated in its deliberations, are reluctant to take upon themselves the onus of splitting the Republican party. Being a mere minority, and failing to build up a majority, is no just provocation for bolting. There must be an overt act of conspicuous discrimination against Roosevelt and the Roosevelt delegates; else a bolt will be a fair thing.

Will Roosevelt bolt after the National committee has been elected to seat his confederate Southern delegates? Or will it be after Root is elected temporary chairman? Or when the credentials committee of the convention shall approve the decisions of the National committee in the various contests? Or when the platform committee, controlled by Taft, shall report resolutions approving the Taft Administration and opposing the various new Roosevelt policies? Or when the vote for candidates for President shall be announced, and it shall be found that Roosevelt has fewer than Taft?

Evidently Colonel Roosevelt is avoiding for the present a direct issue with the Taft forces. Seemingly he has surrendered any notion of capturing the National committee. Seemingly, also, he is uncertain about his course toward Root. But if he is going to make a bolt, it must be obvious to him that the hold of Taft, through successive small triumphs in the preliminaries will hourly grow stronger, and is likely to prove invincible by the time he is prepared to act.

The crying necessity of the Roosevelt campaign just now is to avoid advice as to what to do and when to do it. The steam roller is an unwieldy and pachydermatous vehicle to make war upon with mere convention oratory.

HASIS OF CONTESTS.
The decision in the contests for Southern delegates will have an important bearing on the final action of the Republican convention, and a review of the grounds for those instituted in behalf of Roosevelt throws some light on the prospective action of the committee and supplies considerable enlightenment as to the intricacies of Southern politics.

The contests involve about 250 seats. First has come Alabama, already decided in Taft's favor. Colonel J. O. Thompson, state chairman, has secured Taft delegates in 1908. A state convention was called two years ago to decide which faction should control. Thompson was elected chairman, and M. Long was elected chairman and Thompson acknowledged the excellence of the choice. Delegates to the National convention were elected before the National committee met. The National committee resolved to recognize no delegates who were elected after than thirty days after its meeting. Long then called another convention, which re-elected the same delegates. The Thompson men now assert that the refusal of the National committee to recognize the first election of these delegates invalidates the school of convention which elected them, hence that the committee headed by Long acted without authority. On this plea they elected a contesting Roosevelt delegation, although Thompson had recognized the validity of Long's election as chairman.

In Arkansas six men, only one of them an elected delegate, entered the hall fifteen minutes before the hour set for the convention by the state committee, held a convention and elected Roosevelt delegates.

But one Republican state committee exists or has existed in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and other Southern states, and Taft delegates were elected under their call in accordance with the rules of the National committee. Long afterwards Roosevelt organizations were formed and elected delegates who can have no standing before the National committee.

Louisiana has sent three rival delegations, that which supports Roosevelt being headed by Pearl Wright. A sub-committee was sent to Louisiana by the National committee to bring the factions together, but months ago, long before the fight between Roosevelt and Taft began, the leaders, including Wright agreeing in writing to abide by its decision. But Wright, who heads the Lily White faction, now ignores the agreement and claims recognition for his faction by the National committee.

Georgia long ago elected delegates instructed for Taft, but Roosevelt made a contest on behalf of an opposing set on the plea that the state "purges" its voting list on April 1 of each year, and that his delegates, having been elected by the purged voters, should be recognized. But the purged voting list does not become operative under the state law until July 1, long after the National convention will have ended.

In South Carolina three of the 22 delegates elected to the National convention claim that the delegates elected by them should be preferred to those elected by the 25.

Contests in three or four Kentucky districts are based by Roosevelt on the fact that after canvases for the election of National delegates had been held by the state and district committees, the Legislature "re-appointed

tioned the Congressional Districts and the delegates were elected from the old districts. The re-appointment does not change the number of districts and were the caucuses declared invalid there would be no change in the delegates elected by non-contested districts. The Roosevelt delegates in operation during the life of the 62d Congress, and under it any vacancies would be filled.

The loudest charges of fraud were made in regard to the admission of the 158 Marion County delegates to the Indiana state convention of the temporary roll to vote on the question of their own admission. This action was in accordance with universal political practice and, were it to be reversed at Chicago, any contested Roosevelt delegates whom the National committee might seat would lose the right to vote on temporary organization.

PASSING THE BLAME.
The Mayor blames Judge Taxwell and the District Attorney's office for the widespread presence of the social evil throughout the city. The police say they are doing the best they can, but their most zealous efforts are blocked by Deputy Hennessy and the complainant Municipal Judge. The Judge and the wicked Hennessy testify to their own virtuous purposes and vigorous efforts to clean up the town. Judge Taxwell even goes so far as to say the police are lying about him.

The Judge is able to make any assertion with considerable confidence that is confirmed by Circuit Judge Taxwell. He is a complete vindication for any possible suspicion of improper judicial conduct by a popular nomination for Circuit Judge. Yet strange things happen, or have happened, in the Municipal Court. We shall hope there will be no future occasion or excuse for criticism of Circuit Judge Taxwell.

A more crusade—cleaning-up campaign—requires a stern and unrelenting enforcement of law by the police and a vigorous prosecution by the prosecuting officers. No one thinks the police have performed their duty. Besides that, lawyers are called upon more than other men to make public addresses, and if they are not facile speakers their reputation suffers. Upon the whole, Mr. Martin P. Smith, who has written for the Oregonian, concludes that it is best for every lawyer to master the art of ready public speaking if he can.

How to do it is another question. Of course a large vocabulary is indispensable and it is of advantage to possess a trained voice. Strong lungs can be developed by proper exercises. The voice can be brought out by breathing exercises, practice in elocution and attention to the diet. Food has as much to do with the production of pleasant tones as healthy lungs. But how shall the ambitious lawyer acquire an extensive vocabulary? Mr. Smith suggests that he should study the dictionary, which may perhaps be wise advice. We should not suppose, however, that it would help a great deal. The only practicable way to become commander of a well-drilled army of words is to read many books, and write many manuscripts.

Reading maketh a full man, writing a ready man, said the greatest philosopher who ever tried to practice law. By reading one learns the meaning of words, by writing he puts his knowledge in practice. It is an excellent thing to use the dictionary constantly, but we doubt whether anybody ever acquired a large vocabulary solely in that way. Webster was in the habit of reading the dictionary, apparently for diversion, but then he liked to drink whiskey, too. It is risky to follow his example blindly.

READING HARD DRINKERS.
Veterans in the warfare upon King Alcohol will find new intellectual weapons in an article, "How to Read a Hard Drinker," which Charles B. Towns has contributed to the June Century. It contains statements about the destructiveness of strong drink which may startle even indulgent prohibitionists. "With increasing unanimity," writes Mr. Towns, "the thinkers of the age are saying that in alcohol is found the greatest of all humanities' curses. It does no good what-soever. It does incalculable harm." He believes that fully one-third of the sick people in the world owe their trouble to alcoholic drink directly or indirectly. It fills the prisons with convicts and keeps up the population of the insane asylums. It has no food value, notwithstanding misleading assertions that it is nutritious. In medicine it is worse than useless. There are a dozen substitutes, Mr. Towns tells us, which are better than alcohol, and the arts of the food manufacturer and the artist. The food manufacturer makes a new novel, "The Hero and the Man," makes one of his characters take a dose of brandy as a remedy for pneumonia. He might as well have taken arsenic. Every physician whose opinion is worth asking knows perfectly well that alcohol is disastrous to the affections of the lungs. A teetotaler's chances of recovery from pneumonia are twice as good as even a moderate drinker's.

There is no good that can be truthfully spoken of alcoholic drinks and a man, peering at the bottle, who all their use is increasing constantly. "The use of alcohol as a beverage is continually increasing. The number of its victims sums up a growing toll," Mr. Towns informs us, and he adds ominously that both "Sentimentalists and the law have failed to cope with it." He is of the opinion that the world must resort to some more effective method of fighting strong drink than has hitherto been discovered, or the human race will be ruined by it.

Least the prohibitionists should imagine that Mr. Towns is a recruit to their forces. He has to say that he is a thoroughly opposed to their nostrum as to any other. He does not believe that the drink habit can be cured by depriving the sinner of his appetite. His bodily vigor may revive under enforced abstinence, but that will only enable him to swallow all the more copiously when he next falls into the trap. He is of the opinion that the world should be flooded with a liquid which does no good whatever and is responsible for so much misery and crime is a question which we do not feel called upon to answer; but there is some consolation in knowing that if not a solitary drop of liquor were to be purchased in the United States no drunkard would be an atom the better off. He would simply ply his depraved appetite with opiates, cocaine and so on in place of his usual grog. The hypodermic syringe would serve him instead of a whiskey bottle, and it would serve him far more ruinously. It would serve him far more ruinously. Statistics gathered in New Hampshire while it was enjoying the dubious blessing of prohibition show that the sale of habit-forming drugs had increased frightfully. Still one must not forget the opposite reports from Kansas, where a generation of

more or less effective prohibition has almost eliminated the town drunkard from society. Prohibition does not help the hard drinker, but it probably prevents innocent boys from ever becoming hard drinkers if it is kept up long enough to have any effect. Mr. Towns looks upon the drink habit as a disease. He severely criticizes society for its hysterical determination to treat it as a crime. Instead of medicine and hygienic regimen for the inebriate who have fallen and floundered, there is not an institution in the country under public control where alcoholism is frankly recognized as a disease and treated as such. This does not speak very well for Twentieth Century civilization. In Mr. Towns's view there are three classes of drunkards, the habitual, the occasional and the accidental. Those in the last class are always curable. To deal with them as if their momentary falling betrayed deep moral weakness is a fatal blunder. Nothing should be done to impair the self-respect of a young man who has been through a single drunken spree. The employer who "fires" him for it commits a social crime. What he needs is wholesome instruction, proper influences, good food and no doubt some medical treatment. There is nothing fundamentally wrong with the man, and the only thing to do is to think of doing it in time, or send him to jail. His situation, Mr. Towns believes, is exactly like that of a person who has an acute attack of fever.

Occasional drunkards are also hopeful cases as a rule. The habitual sinner, however, is a life-long Republican with high sense of official duty he embodied the best principles of his party. If all the country were made of such men, the Republic would progress along sane lines. It could not have chosen a more admirable spokesman than Elihu Root.

This was the reasoning of the National committee and they believed they had rendered the party a service and probably avoided a fine opportunity for a row at Chicago when they selected Senator Root as temporary chairman.

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WHY SENATOR ROOT WAS CHOSEN
Reasons He Has Been Named for Temporary Chairman.

Washington Cor. Boston Transcript.
The circumstances under which Senator Root became the choice of the National committee for temporary chairman appear to be misunderstood. President Taft was not consulted as to the selection nor were the Taft managers. Colonel Roosevelt was not consulted nor was Senator Dixon. The Taft men were surprised and a little angered by the selection; not that they would prefer anyone else over Senator Root, unless possibly for geographical reasons, but because the National committee had been "precipitate." Roosevelt was wrought up, and blustered over the choice because, with his superb egotism, he regarded himself as the nominee of the convention and arrogated to himself the right to name the temporary chairman.

Both sides are mistaken in their criticism of the National committee. It was as clearly its duty as it was its right to name a temporary chairman, and it could have selected no able Republican. He had filled the same position in the National Convention of 1904, which had unanimously nominated Roosevelt for the Presidency, he was McKinley's Secretary of War and he was Roosevelt's Secretary of State. As the head of the State Department and as Secretary of War, Root has represented the best modern thought upon all Governmental questions that have come before him. The State Department never enjoyed finer prestige than under Secretary Root, and he has given of his great talent to the service of the Senate with a devotion to duty and a disinterestedness of purpose which cannot be impugned. As a part of the Roosevelt Administration, he represented the Roosevelt school in its period of severity, and the Republican with high sense of official duty he embodied the best principles of his party. If all the country were made of such men, the Republic would progress along sane lines. It could not have chosen a more admirable spokesman than Elihu Root.

This was the reasoning of the National committee and they believed they had rendered the party a service and probably avoided a fine opportunity for a row at Chicago when they selected Senator Root as temporary chairman.

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