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Thursday, March 21, 1912.

**An Issue of Personalities**

Nothing in the current happenings of the day can compare with the public interest, favorable and unfavorable, which has been created by the entry of "The Man on Horseback" into the political arena. When he announced in his letter to the now famous "seven governors" that he would accept the presidential nomination if it should be tendered him at the Chicago convention, it was nothing more than the signal for a fight, and one which will be to the bitter end. More bitter, possibly, because of the fact that the personality of Mr. Roosevelt is the most conspicuous issue along which the fight for the presidential nomination will ultimately be waged. True Mr. Roosevelt has announced his belief in the recall of judicial decisions by popular vote, and will reply upon that and other kindred progressive measures, as he chooses to call them, as his campaign platform. However, the voting strength of the country, skeptical of some of his announced doctrines, will hold Mr. Roosevelt personally accountable for his previous pledges toward the present administration, and his subsequent conduct toward it, and will vote for or against Mr. Roosevelt solely on the ground of his personality. Never since the famous Tilden-Hayes contest has the presidential nomination or election been fought out so closely along this line of the personality of the candidates.

Below is given some pertinent comments anent the Colonel's candidacy, as made by a few of the large New York dailies, which show that in the East, the foremost issue is "Roosevelt", disregarding all former political affiliations, principles or precedents.

The policies and purposes which Mr. Roosevelt has of late avowed differ from those with which Mr. Bryan has been identified chiefly in classification; and but very little in character or aim; and they are pressed by an abler and more resourceful man.—Syracuse Herald.

It is well enough to point to his mistakes, his impetuosity and that sort of thing, but the fact remains that he is a natural and skillful leader of men. His announcement of his candidacy means a fight. Nor is it the sort of fight where feather dusters will be wielded as weapons.—Utica (N. Y.) Press.

Colonel Roosevelt's system of government is not progressive. It is re-actionary. It is not a Republican system of government. It is not a Democratic system, as democracy as has ever been practiced on this earth. It is government by clamor and caprice. The Republican party will never nominate the apostle of that sort of thing for president, and the people will not elect him.—Syracuse Post Standard. (Rep.)

To elect a man of settled and serious political purpose, of definite and clearly understood principles and of temperate, wise judgment to a third term would be a perilous act for this republic. To elect this irresponsible, changeable politician without a single principle that he dare make his own, if he think

it to his cost, would be nothing short of suicide.—Rochester Herald. (Ind.)

It is not so much because Mr. Roosevelt seeks a third term that the people of the country will have none of him, but because he seeks it avowing policies, principles and intentions that would be destructive of the institutions we have built up and would in the end put the liberties, the welfare and the happiness of the people in far greater danger than they are now or have ever been.—The Times. [

Social justice is as much Mr. Taft's aim as it is Colonel Roosevelt's. The president is sanely progressive, unless to be progressive one must be willing to abandon the safe guards of a written constitution. As a candidate for re-nomination he has no reason to fear the issue raised by Colonel Roosevelt's scheme for the recall of judicial decisions in the name of progress.—The Tribune.

All great men have their weak sides. Mr. Roosevelt's particular weakness, as those familiar with his career have long known, is his proneness to listen to the voice of flattery. He has owed it more to good luck than to wisdom that this has not hitherto led him far astray. But those who have besieged him persistently on the question of a third term well knew where his armor was vulnerable and they have penetrated it. He has chosen his position, "Aut Caesar aut nullus."—Buffalo Express.

If human history and human experience count for so little that this issue of personal government must again be fought out, it might better be fought out now than later. The country will never be better prepared for it. The American people temporized with slavery until it forced them into a great civil war. Then they temporized with flat money until it forced a great crisis upon them and became their Iliad of economic woe. To temporize with personal government is to invite another national disaster.—The World.

We give Colonel Roosevelt credit for semiunconsciousness of the despicable nature of his performance. He is probably able to persuade himself for the moment that he is sacrificing himself rather than sacrificing another. Such pallatives of conscience are easily procurable by a man of his resources. Nevertheless we pity him sincerely all the same; pity him for the weakness he has shown; pity him on account of the place he has deliberately elected to hold in the pages of history.—The Sun.

The most unfortunate feature of his candidacy therefore, is the inevitable inference which it carries that the Taft administration has failed in the fulfillment of the policies he inaugurated. This inference, we believe, does the president an injustice. He has made mistakes, it is true, but every president—even Roosevelt himself—has made mistakes. His views on all subjects have not been in exact agreement with those of his predecessor. That, however, was to be expected. No two men ever thought precisely alike on every public question. Where he has differed from Roosevelt, it has undoubtedly been an honest difference. He would have been untrue to himself if he had not obeyed the guidance of his own judgment.—Democrat & Chronicle.

If the majority of the voters of the United States want Theodore Roosevelt to be the next president, they can have him. He is a dangerous man—far more dangerous than ever before in his public life—but let the majority rule. Mr. Roosevelt should be congratulated upon the commendable brevity of his letter

**OUR CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT**



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**PRESIDENT TAFT AT HIS DESK IN THE WHITE HOUSE**

announcing his candidacy, and nothing else in connection with so fateful an act. A period of bitter and ugly turmoil has been opened in our politics. Passions will run high before this new Caesar gains control of the government again. Unnecessary is his performance, if undertaken in the interest of democracy, and tragic some way the end the reckless adventure may prove to be.—Springfield Republican.

Mr. Roosevelt is peculiarly dangerous because the ambition and opinions of Mr. Roosevelt are the court of final appeal. He starts into this campaign with the egotism that he is set for the deliverance of the country, that he is the savior of the people, and he begins by declaring himself against all constitutional guidance and restraint. He will be sufficient! Emma Goldman could not make a more violent assault upon our institutions. The encouraging feature of the case is that the incident will reduce Roosevelt to a harmless position from the fact that his election threatens so much to the country. We shall hear the last of Rooseveltism. All of the insurgent isms and other disturbing isms which he has created will follow him in the decent. The American people will not substitute Mr. Roosevelt for their constitution.—Chancellor Day.

**River Rights to be Adjudicated Promptly**

Work to obtain adjudication of the water rights of the Deschutes River has been begun by State Engineer Lewis, according to George T. Cochran, superintendent of water district No. 2, who was in Bend last week, making preliminary arrangements for the work, which is acknowledged to be a task that may require several years' labor. K. C. Wyant, an assistant state engineer, has been in Prineville collecting data from the County records, preparatory to commencing the work of map making and surveying the river. This surveying probably will commence within a few weeks, and it is to include a thorough mapping of the entire Deschutes River from Crane Prairie, at its headwaters, to the Columbia, a distance of over 200 miles. Adjudication of the river water rights is of great importance to this section of the state, as the Deschutes is virtually the sole water source for the western part of Crook County.

Do you know that of all the minor ailments colds are by far the most dangerous? It is not the cold itself that you need to fear but the serious diseases that it often leads to. Most of these are known as germ diseases. Pneumonia and consumption are among them. Why not take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and cure your cold while you can? For sale by M. E. Snook.

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**HIS LAST RESOURCE.**

Tools Might Have Used It at First, but He Didn't.

J. L. Toole, the English comedian, dearly loved a joke and just as dearly loved the excitement of the gaming table, though he invariably lost. During a holiday that, says an English writer, he and I passed together at Aix-les-Bains he did his best to imperil the good effects of his cure by his constant attendance at the Cercle and the Villa des Fleurs. After a night in which he had been more than usually successful in exhausting the ready cash he carried about him we made our way on the following morning to the little bank in the main street of Aix-les-Bains in order that he might make a fresh draft upon his letter of credit.

But he did not at once reveal to the clerk in charge his serious business intent. Tapping lightly at the closed window of the guichet, he inquired in broken English, which he appeared strangely to believe would be somehow comprehensible to his foreign interlocutor, whether the bank would be prepared to make him a small advance upon a gold headed cane which he carried in his hand. The request, as might be supposed, was somewhat briskly dismissed, and the little window was abruptly closed in his face. Toole retired, apparently deeply dejected by the refusal of his request, but in a few minutes he returned to the attack, having in the meantime provided himself with fresh material for a new financial proposition.

Hastening out into the little market that lay near the bank, he hurriedly purchased from one of the fish stalls a small pike that had been caught in the lake, and, having added to this a bunch of carrots, he returned to the bank, where he carefully arranged these proffered securities on the counter, enforced by the addition of his watch and chain, a threepenny bit and a penknife.

When all was ready he again tapped softly at the window and in a voice that was broken by sobs implored the clerk, in view of his unfortunate position, to accept these ill assorted articles in pledge for the small sum which was needed to save him from starvation.

The clerk, by this time grown indignant, requested him to leave the establishment, explaining to him in emphatic terms and in such English as he could command that they only made advances upon circular notes or letters of credit.

At the last named word Toole's saddened face suddenly broke into smiles, and, producing his letter of credit, he handed it to the astonished clerk with the added explanation that he would have offered that at first if he thought the bank cared about it, but that the porter at the hotel had told him he thought that they liked fish better.

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