

THE MADRAS PIONEER

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Thursday, July 18, 1912.

Who is to Blame?

When the United States Senate voted that William Lorimer, of Illinois, who had occupied a seat in its chamber and had a voice in its deliberations for eighteen months, had secured his election by fraudulent means, and that technically there had been no election, it was a step in behalf of honest government that means much for the future. Too many members of that body have been members under suspicion, or at least under suspicious circumstances. One of the boldest accusers of the Illinois Senator, himself was under investigation not many months ago. Various other members have occupied a seat, while many persons have entertained grave doubts as to the legality and honesty of their election.

Whether or not these who have under the fire of criticism could have acquitted themselves had there been an honest and searching investigation is not of the greatest importance, grave though that issue might be. The fact that the senior legislative body of this nation must waste any considerable time investigating the credentials of its members, is a condition that should not exist. That the Senate and its members are continually under suspicion cannot but lessen its influence, and offer encouragement to those who have the power and inclination to resist the statutes enacted during its sessions.

Public opinion is to the effect that the issue between the Senate and Mr. Lorimer was decided according to the merits of the case. Whether Mr. Lorimer was actually guilty of all the offenses with which he was charged, the Senate believed he was sufficiently wayward in his conduct during the memorable session of the Illinois Legislature to have made himself ineligible to hold the position to which he claims he was honestly elected.

The entire proceedings leads to the question whether the same degree of proof should be necessary in determining whether an official has been honestly elected to an office as is required to convict a criminal of an offense charged. If in the former case the simple Scotch verdict "not proven" is the result of the investigation, it seems that such finding should be enough to disqualify the candidate from holding any position of trust. If an official cannot show a clean record in his election, all the proceedings coming under his supervision during his administration might reasonably be looked upon with suspicion.

There are several impeachment proceedings underway at present, and the Governor of one state is under investigation charged with graft. It is a serious situation, and one which demands the closest attention of those who go to the polls to cast their vote.

Colonel Henry Watterson, veteran editor of the Louisville Courier Journal was reported to have said after the Baltimore convention, that if the choice remained between supporting Woodrow Wilson and the Devil, that he was almost persuaded to render his support unto His Satanic Majesty. It has occurred to us several times of late, after reading stories each day of continued heat in the east and ex-

periencing some torrid weather in Madras, that probably it was all due to some of the campaign methods of the Colonel's choice, and that Marse Hermy was on the job a press agent.

Hogs From Nebraska

Speaking in good humor and disavowing any manner of offense, they are strong on the hog back in Nebraska. Here in Oregon we have the best hog raising state in the Union; but Nebraska has the fame and the game, and when we want to eat hog meat we send back there and get it.

Every now and again we read an item similar to that which appeared in the local market reports a day or two since, namely, "Eight carloads of hogs delivered from Nebraska." We compare these items with others which show the hog and cattle shipments from the eastern section of Oregon to the Middle West, and then we wonder how it all happens, or why it is that we do not raise our own meat for our own consumption and make it a little easier on "Jones who pays the freight." It is evident that with reference to this one item of hogs there is need of activity among the agricultural authorities of the commonwealth. If the Nebraskans are good hog-raisers—better than the Oregonians, for example—let the latter demonstrate that they've got the state for porkers, of all states under the Starry Banner, and our import from the region of the Platte will be people and not hogs. We may even overlook the secondary consideration of changing the character of our imports from Nebraska, and fix upon the thing that is of first interest, namely, the greater development of an agricultural industry that will pay and pay handsomely.

There is no more reason why we should import hogs from Nebraska, or from any other state of the Middle West than there is for importing hops. We raise all the hops we need and to spare. We can do the same thing in the hog line. It is simply a matter of push and education.—Evening Telegram.

Harvest begins next week and the week following the farmers should begin to realize that Crook County is not as bad as they have thought during some of the past years. The good checks that they will receive for their enormous crops this year, will make them ashamed of many of their past remarks.

RURAL WATERS THE CAUSE OF TYPHOID

U. S. Geological Survey Issues Warning in "Underground Waters for Farm use"

The rural sections, long considered ideal so far as concerns the health of their inhabitants, have been dealt a blow by physician investigators who maintain that two-thirds of the cases of typhoid fever in the city owe their origin to insanitary conditions in the country and to polluted water supplies.

Farms, which are generally remote from towns, cities, or other areas of congested population, would seem to be almost ideally situated for obtaining pure and wholesome water, but in reality polluted water is exceedingly common on them and typhoid fever rates are usually greater in country districts than in cities. Typhoid fever is now almost universally believed to be transmitted solely through drink or food taken into the stomach, and is especially liable to be communicated by polluted waters obtained from

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shallow wells near spots where the discharges of typhoid patients have been thrown upon the ground and subsequently carried down through the soil and to the wells, and it is doubtless principally this fact that accounts for the disease being so common in farming regions.

On a great many farms the well is located at a point that may be convenient to the dwelling, without any regard for the possibility of the pollution of the well water through seepage from barn or cesspool or through the circulation of water underground.

Information relating to the underground movement of water is particularly valuable, and on this account the United States Geological Survey is distributing a report on the subject—Water-Supply Paper 255—"Underground Water for Farm Use," by Myron L. Fuller. The demand for this publication has necessitated a third reprint. A copy of the report may be obtained by addressing the Director of the Survey at Washington, D. C.

SHERLEY GETS A CLASSIC PLEA FOR SEEDS

Kentucky Lawyer Uncorks His Eloquence in Letter to Representative.

A "seed letter classic" is the way Representative Swager Sherley of Kentucky speaks of a communication received by him from James R. Edwards, an attorney of Louisville, plaintively and poetically appealing for flower and vegetable seeds for his gardens in the Blue Grass state.

The letter says: Dear Swager—I am writing to divert your views for a moment from lofty heights of national politics and interrupt your endeavors in limitless fields of constructive statesmanship to call your attention to two spots on Cardinal Hill in the land that counts you its favorite son—the one which supplies the table with all the splendid vegetables that ripen under Dixie's sun, and of a size that has already spread the owner's fame abroad and of a quality to delight the palate of an epicure and cause old Lucullus himself to flee to some paying station of paradise and vault the weary gates of heaven to enjoy their excellence; the other, where in profound confusion all the variegated colors of the rainbow combine in a wealth of insurmountable beauty, where the fragrance of the violet and the tuberoses, the lily of the valley and the sweet pea, the hyacinth and the lilac, the daisy and the four o'clock melt and mingle and give their combined sweetness to the winds from the four corners of the earth with the lavish nonchalance of the millionaire spendthrift, drunk with the wines of southern France—a splendid, inspiring and quaint, producing a restful dreamless sleep—where nature dips her brush in sunshine and moistens it with rain and spreads upon earth's canvas every shade of delicate coloring from the pinkish sheen of the lustrous pearl to the deepest red of the magnificent ruby.

But no words without faith are as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals, so are garden spots without seeds as deserts in the wilderness. As ye sow so shall ye reap. One cannot gather figs of a thorn tree nor grapes from thistles. As the hart panteth for the water brook so panteth my soul for seeds—seeds of royal lineage, chemically pure, microscopically inspected and germ free. Mr. Sherley sent the seeds. He ordered a large consignment.

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