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Don't waste life on doubts and fears. Spend yourself on the work before you, well assured that the right performance of this hour's duties will be the best preparation for the hours or ages that follow it.—Emerson.

In view of the depressing effect of politics on business, some of our conservative farmers do not feel that they can fatten a pig for market this fall the same as usual.

It hardly seems of much use for our wives to solve the obscurities of Browning until they can grasp the complexities of the grocer's bill.

The gulf between the highest pitch of happiness and the lowest depth of misery is mostly measured by things imaginary.

Although Standard Oil may not really be dissolved, they have had to write on 34 different letterheads, by crackey!

THE KING STORY.

The avidity with which men of average intelligence swallow absolutely ridiculous political charges, without stopping to think or investigate, is beyond comprehension. For example, the opponents of Roosevelt are persistently, and with some success among unthinking persons, circulating a story that he is so insanely ambitious that he aspires to be king. Through his sole popular force he would change our form of government to a monarchy and raise himself to the throne. At the same time Mr. Roosevelt is busy fighting for four principles the establishment of which would lead the country directly away from monarchy toward pure democracy. Who is there who believes that monarchy could be established through the general primary system? One of the main planks in the Roosevelt platform is for the extension of the primary so it will apply to the nomination of United States senators and to the president, and for the direct election of these by the people. He favors the recall. Imagine, if you can, that principle being applied to a monarch. He favors the initiative and referendum. Imagine a monarch issuing an edict with the force of law over the power of initiative and referendum.

It is utterly unthinkable.

Yet many men pass along the charge that Roosevelt aspires to be king. Such are either dishonest or unthinking. They promulgate a charge which cannot stand for one moment before common reason.

After all, the king story is about as reasonable as many others incubated in the mind of special privilege and circulated in the hope of weakening the popularity of Roosevelt. Take the Standard Oil campaign contribution story for example. At first it was stated that Standard Oil contributed one hundred thousand dollars to Roosevelt's campaign fund; that he accepted it and came back for one hundred and fifty thousand more; that Standard Oil turned him down for the last amount; that after he was elected he immediately began prosecution of Standard Oil because it did not come through. A very good story to show bad faith on the part of Roosevelt both toward the people and Standard Oil. Now it develops that instead of the transaction being as the story relates, it is this way: Standard Oil contributed one hundred thousand dollars to the Roosevelt campaign fund. Mr. Roosevelt ordered the contribution refused and sent back to Standard Oil with the statement that because he deemed it his duty to refuse the contribution it was not to be implied that he was rabid against Standard Oil; that he would give Standard Oil the same consideration, and no more, that was accorded by the administration to other business concerns. So, instead of appearing as talking against contributions from big business and secretly accepting them, as the opponents of Roosevelt who circulated the story hoped, it develops that Roosevelt acted in an honorable and highly commendable way, dealing absolutely squarely with them and the people.

When the truth is understood regarding the story of his friendliness for the Harvester and Steel trusts they will be seen to have as little foundation as the king and contribution stories. Such stories are not circulated because there is foundation for them, but are concocted by his opponents, without regard to fact, for the damaging effect it is hoped they will have on his candidacy. When the light of truth is turned on they fade, like unsubstantial dreams of prejudice, and leave not a rack behind.

THREE PARTY TRUST POSITIONS.

That big business is generally beneficial is the economic experience of the world for a generation. Great material development rapidly increases common wealth and advances the chance of prosperity for the individual.

Since big business developed its scheme of combination with interlocking directorates trust abuses have grown up. Through one board of directors controlling the operation of many naturally competing concerns, those behind big business are enabled to appropriate an unjust share of the benefits arising from large operation, thus increasing their power for greater abuse, and through that power depriving individual enterprise of its just opportunity to prosper. The oppression felt throughout the country by reason of such abuse has given rise to a general demand that the evil be remedied through the powers of government.

The progressive party is the only one offering intelligent and honest methods through which that can be accomplished without sacrificing the common benefits of big operation.

Mr. Taft's party is satisfied with the laws under which trust abuse multiplied and flourished. It advocates non-interference. It is content that the attorney-general win trust victories on paper and that the offensive name be blotted out. That prices continually go up to the consumer and dissolved trust stocks soar high on the market, it holds to be rightly chargeable to others, and natural economic causes, rather than lax application of court orders to dissolution under the Sherman anti-trust law.

The trust plank in the democratic platform rejects the idea of the Sherman law and relies alone on stopping big operation by making it impossible for monopolies to exist, regardless of whether it hinders the rapid creation of common wealth and decreases the chance of prosperity to the individual. It would do away with big business instead of its abuses.

Both the Taft and Wilson platforms rely upon compelling competition.

The progressive platform starts with the economic truth that competition may be harmful and combination helpful, depending upon the extent and degree of competition and the economy and regulation of combination. It proposes to stop the abuses of trust combination that society may get its just share of the benefits of an economy only possible through big operation without hindering the proper movement of large undertakings. Mr. Roosevelt holds that the Interstate Commerce Commission machinery is effective for correcting railroad abuses, and that the Sherman law can be made equally so for stopping evil practices in interstate commerce.

In the war of American Independence it was the "embattled farmers" at Concord bridge that made the first stand and fired the first shot against "taxation without representation." That battle is not yet fully won. There is still one class of American citizens that is taxed without any voice of their own, and governed by officials they have no part in choosing and laws they have no part in making. Every voter's wife and mother and sister are of that class. Is it not time to end this inequality before the law, and to be true at last to American principles? The men of Oregon will have the opportunity of enfranchising their women folk on November 5, by passing Amendment No. 1.

It's hard to feel much sympathy for the woman who growls about the high price of meat, and then buys twice as much as her mother used to have, because it is too much bother to fix the leavings over into hash.

The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

This is not the first time, nor perhaps the last, that I have touched on the subject of "Breaking Home Ties." But it recurs again because of a little scene of which I was a witness lately.

A boy—such a little boy he seemed, in his first pair of long pants—got on the train with a suitcase as big as himself. He was possibly fifteen or sixteen years of age—and he was going out to earn his first real money.

His father and mother were with him. They did not get on the train with him, but stood outside his window talking to him until the train pulled out.

The mother's bravery and courage in seeing her one lone boy, as the conversation proved him to be, going from the shelter of her influence, was a beautiful lesson. She was not particularly cultured, perhaps, and she plainly did not belong to the "eggshoosives," but she was a woman. "Be a good kid," she admonished him, in a world of maternal anxiety in her tone, and then as the boy gave signs of showing that, after all, he was only her little child, she added, with a catch in her voice that belied the lightness of her tone, "And don't forget that your mother was a McGill."

Then she stepped back while the father talked to him, and her face, as she watched her boy, was a study in expression. There was pride, and love, and grief, and renunciation all coming, but the instant he turned toward her, she met his glance with a cheery smile.

"You've got a peach of a day to start in, kid," she told him. And then, "Don't forget your manners. I don't want you to come back eating with your knife." The boy winked away the tears, and smiled back at her.

"If you get homesick, just stick it out, son. It won't do to be a piker," this brave mother further said. And then she stepped back again to gain a little more courage while the father gave the boy advice and instructions as to how to reach the camp.

"I'll miss you, son," his mother said, and then added with a pitiful attempt at gaiety, "I won't have anybody to tease me now."

The engine whistled, the conductor called "All aboard," the last of the gay, laughing crowd of tourists on pleasure bent hurried into the car.

The mother stood and smiled with her lips, while her eyes showed the grief she was trying to suppress—as the train carried her boy away from her into his first venture. He turned to look back at her, then quickly looked away again, swallowing hard as he did so. And behind him, though he knew it not, sat a foolish man who wept for the mother who was going to an empty house.

The boy will go back again. But will he go back with all the sweetness and freshness of unsullied youth upon him?

That is the question that mother is asking herself tonight, as are countless other mothers who have opened the door that their young might go forth to battle for life.

It is a question as old as time. It is the question every mother has to meet and to which there can be no definite answer. And the manner in which she meets it, proves her mettle. The mother I have cited is eating her heart out in loneliness and grief, I doubt not, tonight, for I read her motherhood in her eyes—yet, though she may not suspect it, she has met the test bravely and nobly.

BRITAIN TO APPEAL.

Panama Case Likely to Go to Hague Tribunal.

Washington, D. C.—Great Britain has reaffirmed its protest against the Panama canal bill. In a note filed with the state department by A. Mitchell Inness, charge d'affaires of the British embassy here, it was said that if a satisfactory agreement could not be reached Great Britain would appeal to The Hague tribunal for arbitration.

The note submitted says Great Britain will give careful consideration to both the bill and the message President Taft sent to congress relating to discrimination in favor of American coastwise shipping in the canal. If, after due consideration, it is found that no satisfactory agreement can be reached in the matter, Great Britain declares it will be necessary to appeal to arbitration.

Mr. Innes was instructed by the government to file his protest. It is a brief note, saying merely that Great Britain still stands in her previously explained attitude in regard to the Panama bill, but its tone, as has been said, makes it appear Great Britain believes it will be necessary to subject the question to arbitration.

PEDDLERS' LAW VALID.

Judge Hands Down Decision in Important Case.

Salem.—Judge Galloway Friday gave down a decision against the Spaulding Manufacturing Company, which some time ago brought an injunction suit against District Attorney McNary and his deputies, alleging that a law under which certain of the company's agents had been arrested was unconstitutional.

The statute in question is the peddlers' law, which requires a license from salesmen traveling about the state. The Spaulding company, whose salesmen were selling bugles, attempted to show that the Oregon law was contrary to the constitution of the United States. It is believed that the manufacturing company will appeal the case.

The Tidings is for sale at W. M. Poley's Drug Store, 17 East Main St.

ROOSEVELT'S "CONFESSION OF FAITH."

(Fourth Installment.)

Food Law Should Be Enforced.

No people are more vitally interested than workmen and working-women in questions affecting the public health. The pure food law must be strengthened and efficiently enforced. In the national government one department should be instructed; with all the agencies relating to the public health, from the enforcement of the pure food law to the administration of quarantine. This department, through its special health service, would co-operate intelligently with the various state and municipal bodies established for the same end. There would be no discrimination against or for any one set of therapeutic methods, against or for any one school of medicine or system of healing; the aim would be merely to secure under one administrative body efficient sanitary regulation in the interest of the people as a whole.

There is no body of our people whose interests are more inextricably interwoven with the interests of all the people than is the case with the farmers. The country life commission should be revived with greatly increased powers; its abandonment was a severe blow to the interests of our people. The welfare of the farmer is a basic need of this nation. It is the men from the farm who in the past have taken the lead in every great movement within this nation, whether in time of war or in time of peace. It is well to have our cities prosper, but it is not well if they prosper at the expense of the country. I am glad to say that in many sections of our country there has been an extraordinary revival of recent years in intelligent interest in and work for those who live in the open country. In this movement the lead must be taken by the farmers themselves; but our people as a whole, through their governmental agencies, should back the farmers. Everything possible should be done to better the economic conditions of the farmers, and also to increase the social value of the life of the farmer, the farmer's wife and their children. The burdens of labor and loneliness bear heavily on the women in the country; their welfare should be the especial concern of all of us. Everything possible should be done to make life in the country profitable and a desirable standpoint and also to give an outlet among farming people for those forms of activity which now tend to make life in the cities especially desirable for ambitious men and women. There should be just the same chance to live as full, as well-rounded and as highly useful lives in the country as in the city.

Farms Ought to Improve.

The government must co-operate with the farmer to make the farm more productive. There must be no skinning of the soil. The farm should be left to the farmer's son in better, and not worse, condition because of its cultivation. Moreover, every invention and improvement, every discovery and economy, should be at the service of the farmer in the work of production; and, in addition, he should be helped to co-operate in business fashion with his fellows, so that the money paid by the consumer for the product of the soil shall to as large a degree as possible go into the pockets of the man who raised that product from the soil. So long as the farmer leaves co-operative activities with

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their profit-sharing to the city man of business, so long will the foundations of wealth be undermined and the comforts of enlightenment be impossible in the country communities. In every respect this nation has to learn the lessons of efficiency in production and distribution, and of avoidance of waste and destruction; we must develop and improve instead of exhausting our resources. It is entirely possible by improvements in production, in the avoidance of waste and in business methods on the part of the farmer to give him an increased income from his farm while at the same time reducing to the consumer the price of the articles raised on the farm. Important although education is everywhere, it has a special importance in the country. The country school must fit the country life; in the country, as elsewhere, education must be hitched up with life. The country church and the country Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations have great parts to play. The farmers must own and work their own land; steps must be taken at once to put a stop to the tendency towards absentee landlordism and tenant farming. This is one of the most imperative duties confronting the nation. The question of rural banking and rural credits is also of immediate importance.

Many Do Not Prosper Enough.

The present conditions of business cannot be accepted as satisfactory. There are too many who do not prosper enough, and of the few who prosper greatly there are certainly some whose prosperity does not mean well for the country. Rational progressives, no matter how radical, are well aware that nothing the government can do will make some men prosper, and we heartily approve the prosperity, no matter how great, of any man, if it comes as an incident to rendering service to the community; but we wish to shape conditions so that a greater number of the small men who are decent, industrious and energetic shall be able to succeed, and so that the big man who is dishonest shall not be allowed to succeed at all.

Our aim is to control business, not to strangle it—and, above all, not to continue a policy of make-believe

strangle toward big concerns that do evil, and constant menace toward both big and little concerns that do well. Our aim is to promote prosperity, and then see to its proper division. We do not believe that any good comes to anyone by a policy which means destruction of prosperity; for in such cases it is not possible to divide that there is nothing to divide. We wish to control big business so as to secure among other things good wages for the wage-workers and reasonable prices for the consumers. Wherever in any business the prosperity of the business man is obtained by lowering the wages of his workmen and charging an excessive price to the consumers we wish to interfere and stop such practices. We will not submit to that kind of prosperity any more than we will submit to prosperity obtained by swindling investors or getting unfair advantages over business rivals. But it is obvious that unless the business is prosperous the wage-workers employed therein will be badly paid and the consumers badly served. Therefore not merely as a matter of justice to the business man, but from the standpoint of the self-interest of the wage-worker and the consumer we desire that business shall prosper; but it should be so supervised as to make prosperity also take the shape of good wages to the wage-worker and reasonable prices to the consumer, while investors and business rivals are insured just treatment, and the farmer, the man who tills the soil, is protected as sedulously as the wage-worker himself.

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