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LIKE A BIG CIRCUS

Washington so Finds the United States.

BIG THREE RINGED AFFAIR

Western Man Preaches of Seriousness of Oriental Question to the Phlegmatic Easterners—Other Gossip of the Nation's Capitol.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—The United States, these days, is like a great three-ringed circus, and Washington is finding it difficult to President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft, and here at home. The national capital no longer is the center of attraction, and Washingtonians are endeavoring to digest the six addresses made by President Roosevelt enroute down the Mississippi River, the while following the doings of Secretary Taft in the Orient and keeping in touch with affairs in the shadow of the Capitol. Naturally, interest has centered in the journey and speeches of the Chief Executive. It is recognized here that Mr. Roosevelt's influence and words have lent a powerful impetus to the movement inaugurated some six years ago by the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, which was organized and has worked for the sole purpose of bringing about, through regular Federal appropriations, the scientific development of the rivers and harbors of the United States. The organization is backed by the leading commercial bodies of the en-

the country, as well as by prominent public men, and during the last year has extended its membership to such an extent as to make the ultimate success of its object sure. However, its secretary and treasurer, Captain J. F. Ellison, of Cincinnati, realizes that his organization cannot have too strong a backing, and is therefore putting forth his best endeavors to recruit an even greater membership before the next annual convention is held. This meeting is scheduled for the first week in December, next, anti-dating by a few days the opening of the Sixtieth Congress.

"Button, button, who's got the button!" meaning of course, the button from the Mississippi valley. According to Alfred Peters, of Iowa Daily, who is here this week, this particular button seems to be used daily by thousands upon thousands of individuals, not alone in the United States but in practically every country where clothing is in style. While Mr. Peters is aware that his section of the country is famed for its corn and wheat crops, he believes that some of the other industries of the great Middle West should be brought to mind in appraising that vast territory and the commodities it produces. As an example of one of these "other industries", he points to the pearl button business, declaring that in Muscatine alone, where button-making flourishes and where about 5000 persons are employed, \$2,000,000 worth of high-grade pearl buttons were turned out last year and entered into successful competition with the product of France and Germany. The extent of this button trade, Mr. Peters insists entitles it to honorable mention.

If the people of the eastern states, of the Middle West, and of the South could realize how serious the Oriental has become they would co-operate with the people of the Pacific slopes in effectually shutting out the brown men as laborers. This is the opinion of L. B.

Francis, a prominent "native son" of San Francisco, who while in Washington on business, has taken every opportunity to further the work of the Japanese-Korean Exclusion League, of which he is a firm advocate. Mr. Francis sees a growing menace in the ever-increasing influx of the Orientals, asserting that they will, in the course of a few years, constitute a serious race problem, that will be felt alike by the East and West. It is a noteworthy fact that just at this time, with the San Francisco and Vancouver race riots fresh in the public mind, the American Sociological Society is preparing to discuss at its next annual convention, to be held at Madison, Wis. in December. This meeting is to be largely attended by many of the most prominent sociologists of the United States, including such men as Ward, Giddings, Peabody, Graham Taylor, W. L. Thomas and Miss Jane Adams. The elaboration of the program is in the hands of the secretary of the society, Dr. C. W. Veditz, who in addition to being a member of the faculty of the George Washington University, is a criminologist and socialist of some note. Dr. Veditz is too busy with his work as acting dean of the college of the political sciences of the University to draft the program for the Madison convention at this time, but promises shortly to make public the plans he is preparing.

A surprise, no less startling than the recent order of the President concerning the equestrian stunts through which rotund office warriors were to be put, was occasioned in army circles by the other day by the posting of the announcement at the War Department that Mr. Roosevelt has directed the appointment of Col. Charles S. Smith, ordnance department, to be brigadier general on the retirement of General Godfrey this week. The bulletin announced that the President directed the appointment and "wishes it announced that the appointment is made in recognition of

Col. Smith's exceptional services in connection with the establishment of the coast defense of the United States and the supply of the artillery services with modern armament". Col. Smith's ability as an ordnance officer is not questioned at all; for he is admittedly one of the best officers in this branch of Uncle Sam's service, but the fact that although he was not in line for promotion he was jumped over the heads of no less than fifty-three colonels of whom fourteen are in infantry and in direct line of promotion, has caused comment. Not a few of these fifty-three colonels, and their friends, are inclined to feel "sore".

Former Senator Francis Marion Cockrell, of Missouri, now a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, this week held leaves at his office and received the congratulations and good wishes of his many friends on the occasion of his seventy-third birthday. For some weeks he had been kept at home on account of ill health brought on by overwork, but he was impatient to the back "in harness" again and selected the anniversary of his numerous messages of felicitation, and in the course of the day a large number of government officials called to statesman has been almost a total abstainer during his long life, having early made a resolve never to drink at any public function, and to the fact that he has never taken liquor except as medicine he attribute his good health and young appearance. Senator Cockrell also believes in plenty of sleep, hard work, and outdoor exercise, having always walked from his home to his office, unless the weather was especially inclement.

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HAVE NEW DIVISION

Southern Road Provides for Difficult Transit.

FROM RED BLUFF TO ASHLAND

Division Includes Mountain Climb on Shasta Route Over Which Three Locomotives Are Required For Ordinary Freight—New Division to be a Benefit.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 12.—To divide responsibility for two of the most difficult operating problems on its lines and also to provide for proper handling of extensions now being made from the Shasta route to keep up with the traffic demands of this territory, the Southern Pacific Railroad has created a new division which will include the territory from Red Bluff, Calif., to Ashland, Ore. The old Sacramento division of the Southern Pacific, out of which the new jurisdiction has been carved with Thomas Ahern as division superintendent, until now consisted of 735 miles of road, including the crossing of the Sierran Mountains to the north and the crossing of the Sierras eastward to Sparks, Nevada.

The division now created includes only one of these mountain climbs, that of the Shasta route, over which to Ashland three locomotives are required for a freight train of ordinary weight. The jurisdiction of Mr. Ahern will also include the California Northeastern from Weed to Kalamath Falls, where event-

ually it will connect with another new road being built by the Southern Pacific from Klamath to the main line at Natron, Oregon. This will give the Southern Pacific an entirely new route for half the distance between Portland and San Francisco, completely avoiding the present heavy grades.

The California Northeastern is now in operation for 40 miles above Weed, and by the 1st of next month will be completed to Dorris, 63 miles. Beyond this point a tunnel, now under construction, is necessary and this will probably delay until next spring the opening of the line to Klamath. The construction of the road involves some heavy work through lava formation, with which it has been found very difficult to deal by ordinary methods.

Mr. Harriman, who has been closely associated with carrying out these projects, spent his recent vacation in the new territory that will be developed by the building of the railroad from Weed through the Klamath district. Thousands of square miles of virgin territory with immensely valuable timber and farming land will be opened up here. The new roads run through the government's Klamath Lake reclamation project, and to the north skirts Crater Lake, one of the world's natural wonders which has hitherto been practically inaccessible to tourists.

PLOTTED TO KILL THE CZAR.

KIEV, Russia, Oct. 12.—The police have arrested a revolutionist named Kruglikoff, alias Spransky, who is accused of having been an important accomplice of Boris Nikitenko, a retired naval lieutenant, in the plot against the life of Emperor Nicholas, for which Nikitenko was executed September 3.

A big Russian fleet made its way from the Baltic to the Sea of Japan without any difficulty about coal. It had troubles, but that is another story.

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