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THE JOURNAL'S PLATFORM A Trinity of Events Which Would Make of Portland the Mightiest City of the Pacific Coast. First—Deepen the Columbia river bar. Second—Open the Columbia river to unimpeded navigation at and above The Dalles. Third—Dig an Isthmian canal.

WAR AT ANY MOMENT.

THAT WAR is inevitable between Japan and Russia there is very little reason to doubt. That it has not yet started but is likely to be declared at any moment seems equally reasonable. Until Japan has received and considered the last Russian note, the matter cannot possibly come to a head, however briskly preparations for the inevitable eventually may in the meantime be hurried forward. It is not likely that that note, no matter how conciliatory the tone, will alter the status. The policies of the two governments clash too vitally and at too many points. In the oiliest of language the Russians are ready to concede the non-essentials in the controversy, while firmly, if diplomatically, holding to the essentials. Japan is wasting no time over the non-essentials, but it seems to be fixed firmly as a rock in demanding the essentials. What it demands is absolutely necessary to its own peace and even its national integrity. It is these very things which Russia cannot or will not concede and it is a realization of these facts that has caused both nations to hurry forward preparations for war while maintaining peaceful negotiations in the face of the world.

A FELLOW FEELING.

THERE is a human streak in Speaker Cannon that appeals to every man who has ever yielded to the blandishments of a book-agent and accumulated a mass of bulky volumes which seemed altogether vital to his existence. In signing a check to cover the amount of the cost this is the endorsement which he placed upon it: "This check is in full payment, both legal and moral, for 60 volumes of books called for in the contract with the payee. The books are not worth a cent, and are high at that. We are never too old to learn, but the way your gentlemanly agent came it over your 'Uncle Joseph' is worth the check."

PEKIN MARVELS AT THE CIRCUS

First Invasion of Manchu Capital by a "Greatest On Earth" Success. Eliza H. Schindler's Pekin letter in Chicago Tribune. The circus dower and the members of the court circle have had the time of their lives this year, when a real circus came from Shanghai and gave three performances in the summer palace grounds for their exclusive enjoyment. It was the real thing—a great round tent, a sawdust circle, and rows of plank seats, with trained horses, baby elephants, clowns, acrobats, and bareback riders. The peanuts and pink lemonade, the sideshows, and the "redies" for the court immediately following the performance in the ring, were all worthy of the most critical of American small boys. "Professor Chatter's Indian circus" is of Hindoo origin, and roams the East. It came up from Shanghai, returns there and goes on to Hong Kong and Manila. It is the same conventional affair we all know in our youth. To the august personage and the court it was a revelation, a most delightful novelty, and three performances did not weary them. Seated in a foreign upholstered armchair under a yellow canopy, the empress is described as enjoying the performance, laughing heartily at the two little Hindoo dwarfs who wore the Humpty Dumpty clothes of clowns, and was pleased with the trained dogs and horses. She used gold opera glasses to watch the trapeze performance, smoked cigarettes with graceful nonchalance, and was much taken with the circus woman.

world into their confidence and thus proclaim themselves of the sucker variety. They have suffered in silence, being prone to believe that they had yielded through inherent weakness of character, a weakness which was not shared by men of experience who could not be deluded into believing what they were told by the oily book agent rather than to accept the evidence of their own senses as shown in the books themselves.

It is for this reason that all these and such as these will hug "Uncle Joe's" experience to their hearts, expletives and all, and feel in a measure compensated for their own experiences in the realization that the same streak of weakness permeates the book loving class the world over and that the statesman and history maker is just as likely to yield to the blandishments of the suave sales agent as the humblest denizen of the remotest hamlet whose craving for the precious volumes outruns his judgment and discretion.

REPETITION OF THE KISHINEFF HORROR

TOMORROW is a day toward which the Jews of the world are looking forward with misgiving and trepidation, for it is the day which they firmly believe has been set for a repetition of the Kishineff massacre. According to their reports the domestic condition of Russia is in a state of seething turmoil and another massacre may be winked at by the authorities.

Strong pressure has been brought to bear upon the American and British governments to make such representations to the Russian government as will prevent a repetition of the massacre. While it is understood that this government might sever its diplomatic relations with Russia in the event of another massacre, the prominent Jews who are bringing pressure to bear upon the president say that this would be much like locking the stable after the horse has been stolen; that it is entirely within the power of the Russian government to prevent such massacres through the use of its military and police forces instead of confining them to their barracks as it did last spring when the most frightful crimes were committed.

A SATISFACTORY RESULT.

THE JOURNAL'S San Francisco representative intimates that some queer work must have been done at Washington to have given California such a preponderance in the disposition of the Philippine hay and grain contracts. However this may have been, and it would be idle to accuse the Californians of overlooking anything to their own advantage, the great point achieved is that Portland for the first time is permitted to get part of the business. It now lies with those interested here to push it, hereafter with a view of getting everything to which they are justly entitled. On the oats contract they have practically an open field and in a free competition for the best hay they can beat their southern competitors hands down. A good start has, therefore, been made in the right direction.

Once the Dix clears this port with its cargo, it will be an objection lesson which can no longer be overlooked. The stories so industriously disseminated about the depth of the water at the bar will then be so satisfactorily disposed of that this port can never again be indiosiduously attacked on these lines, which in the past has apparently been effectively done. Future competition will, therefore, be upon a more even basis. As that is precisely what Portland wants, in gaining that it gains everything.

TO SUPPRESS "TIPPING."

From London Truth. A bold attempt to suppress the "tipping" of hotel servants has been made by the proprietor of a well-known French hotel, the Hotel Uniers, at Lyons. Visitors to that hotel are now informed that "in order to palliate as far as possible the irritating question of gratuities or tips" they will be charged 10 per cent on the amount of their bills, and that this amount will be handed over in full to the staff and be considered as taking the place of the former gratuities.

NEW YORKERS IN WASHINGTON.

From a Washington Letter. For the sake of a congenial atmosphere many prominent New York women are moving to Washington for the season. A New York literary set is being formed with Mrs. Burton Harrison and Mrs. Van Rensselaer Cruger as backbone. The Duer girls will visit Mrs. Cruger. There is Mrs. Nicholas Felt, the widow, who hates New York since her husband's tragic death, and she has taken a house in Washington. While not precisely a literary woman, Mrs. Fish is extremely musical, and in small way will do some entertaining. Mrs. Cruger is the magnet that has drawn Mrs. Fish to the capital. There are many persons in Washington who make it a point to get New Yorkers there in the winter, and several recent dinners might have been on Fifth avenue, so distinct was the New York color to the feast. Senator and Mrs. Keen frequently have New Yorkers with them, and then the Roosevelt influence is felt. They are talking to him in New York.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF PROGRESS

From the San Francisco Examiner. When Governor Pardee told the California Teachers' Association that from our public schools depends the future of the state, he was guilty of no exaggeration. It is true beyond qualification that the progress of our nation depends upon the efficiency of our public school system. Modern life has grown complex. The old days when father and mother were sufficient as teachers, and their work could be taught by a few months' schooling or by apprenticing a child to a master workman—these are gone forever, with the simpler life that was then sufficient for the wants of men. The machinery of civilization has grown so vast that it cannot be carried on by the transmission of knowledge from father to son. From mother to daughter, to teach the new generation what the old generation has learned and discovered and invented requires the labor of thousands who make such teaching their specialty.

HEARST AT CLOSE HAND.

Looks at Congress Like Boy With New Toy, But Keeps Posted. Washington Correspondent St. Louis Post-Dispatch. An overcoat and slouch hat came dilly-dally into a little all-night dairy lunch room on Fourteenth street, just off Pennsylvania, about half an hour past midnight. The coat was black and cut with a waist, and the slouch hat was broad brimmed and high in the crown. They set coffee in this dairy lunch, and put it into heavy white mugs that look like the shaving cups that stand in the windows of the saloons in the country towns. It is good coffee. Then they have doughnuts and Maryland biscuits and egg sandwiches and other food of a similar kind, each unit retailing for 5 cents, except the eggs.

READY TO SANDBAG ROOSEVELT.

The Hanna Cabal and Some of Those Who Compose It. "The Hanna cabal," says the Washington correspondent of the New York Press, is still secretly plotting against Roosevelt, but the latter's friends are ready to sandbag him. Hanna's determination not to concede to the president's desire to have him retain the chairmanship of the national committee has been followed by the refusal of Senator Nathan D. Scott of West Virginia to decline to serve in the next campaign as chairman of the national executive committee.

THE GREATEST LESSON IGNORED.

Herbert Spencer. Sad, indeed, is it to see how men occupy themselves with trivialities and are indifferent to the grandest phenomena of the heavens, but are deeply interested in some contemptible controversy about the intrigues of Mary Queen of Scots—rarely learned critical over a Greek ode, and pass by without a glance at that grand epic written by the finger of God upon the stars of the earth.

HE WON'T BE.

From the Washington Post. The sultan need not be surprised if he discover a "constructive" necessity of taking Constantinople for a coaling station the next time an American consul is jobbed.

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STRIKING EVENTS OF THE PAST YEAR IN ENGLAND

London Correspondence of the Chicago News. Two men—King Edward VII and Joseph Chamberlain—have largely dominated British affairs during the last year. The work of both has been initiatory, constructive and epoch-making. The king has devoted himself to the fortification of international peace. He visited Lisbon, Rome, Paris and Vienna, where he was magnificently received and made a deep impression upon both the governments and the peoples. The principal result is practically a second triple alliance embracing Great Britain, France and Italy and enjoying the sympathy of democratic nations throughout the world.

TRANKS ARE DUE THE FARMERS.

From the Chicago Tribune. The farm value of the crops of corn, wheat, rye, oats, hay, barley, potatoes, raised in each of the states of the United States in 1903 is estimated at \$2,600,000,000 by the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture. To that great sum may properly be added about \$700,000,000 for the value of the cotton crop. This is an amazing aggregation of "quicksilver," which can be turned into money whenever it is needed. It is a gigantic pile of commodities which are needed abroad as well as at home. If America is still in debt to Europe, the means with which to pay the debt are at hand, thanks to a generous soil and to unvaried cultivators.

ADVICE TO THE LOVELORN

BY BEATRICE FAIRFAX. My Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young lady 25 years of age and am in love with a man four years my junior. He boards in the same house as myself. My father does not sanction the attention given me by this gentleman, for the reason of his only earning seven (\$7) dollars per week, and my father does not think sufficient to support a wife. This young man has proven his devotion to me in many ways. He takes my dog out walking every evening and never flirts when in my society. I feel as though I could never care for another man, and should I marry it is to the brightest, there is a chance for an increase of his salary the first of the year. He also expects about \$200 from a house left him by his uncle, so I am in a quandary just how to treat this most important matter. That would your advice me? WORRIED. Seven dollars is certainly a small salary on which to marry. Why not wait until he has an increase of salary. If he loves you he will work hard. Be very sure of his love before you marry a man four years your junior.

ITALY'S ARMY OF EMIGRANTS.

Rome Letter to Fall Mail Gazette. Those who follow Italian affairs are perfectly astonished at the statistics of emigration. In 1889 what was considered the immense number of 119,000 men left their native country, the emigrants declining between that and 185,000 up to 1891, until in 1897 those numbers were 216,000, rising to 290,000 the very next year. Arrived at this figure, it seemed as though the maximum must have been reached and that the numbers would decline, but instead in the first two years of this century Italy sent over 1,000,000 souls to other countries to enlarge there the already numerous Italian colonies.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

From the New York Press. Jealousy grows without feeding on anything. Men wouldn't mind being baldheaded if only it didn't hurt so much to brush the hair they haven't got. The thing that makes a man want to kiss a girl is that it is something he wouldn't want to do if they were married.

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