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WHAT MORE NATURAL? SENATOR BOURNE is not to be the high priest in the disbursement of federal patronage in Oregon, why not? Is not the senator almost the apple of the president's eye in the matter of his political and economic views?

REGULATION OF RAILROADS. IT HAS BEEN observed that some of the big railroad men have recently experienced an apparent change of mind with respect to federal control of railroads.

SPOKANE AND OTHER CITIES. THE Spokane Spokesman-Review says: Commissioner Prouty logically and properly cut short the testimony of Portland shippers relative to water competition.

rates, making it clear that to grant that city's contention must involve an equal or greater reduction to interior points, and manifestly, the water competition being established, from coast to interior points also—that is, a wholesale readjustment.

In its contention that rates to interior cities are too high, Spokane may be right, but that Spokane should be singled out for further favors, as against both seaports and other interior cities, cannot be reasonably predicated on Mr. Prouty's remarks.

ROOSEVELT AND BRYAN.

IN REPLYING at Chattanooga to John Temple Graves' speech in which he urged that Bryan in the next national Democratic convention should place Roosevelt in nomination for president, Mr. Bryan said: "As at present advised I shall not present the name of Theodore Roosevelt to the national Democratic convention. Bear in mind, I say 'As at present advised.'"

The phrase "as at present advised," especially when repeated and emphasized with the caution to bear it in mind, seems significant of a possibility that Bryan might do, or desire to do, what Mr. Graves suggested. It sounds as though Mr. Bryan was not disposed to reject the suggestion as something impossible or absurd, but rather that he was open to consideration of it, and further advice about it.

These two men, from the present outlook, will dominate the two conventions. If Roosevelt would accept the Republican nomination probably there would be no opposition to him in the Republican convention, as probably there will be little or none to Mr. Bryan in the Democratic convention. The two men have much in common. Roosevelt has the advantage in having behind him a greatly dominant, though by no means united party. Bryan should have the advantage of representing more and greater reforms than Roosevelt has yet proposed.

Roosevelt has been a great educator of the people, and no doubt a large majority of them want to keep him for president another term, but since he will not have it, can he throw his strength—not in a convention but at the polls—to another, especially if the people have a chance to vote for an even greater reformer than he?

But a slight consideration will no doubt show Mr. Bryan the absurdity of Graves' proposition, for if Roosevelt will not accept the Republican nomination he certainly would not accept a Democratic nomination.

It is reported that the president has sent a special message to Emperor William presumably proposing an offensive and defensive alliance on the peace proposition. What they agree on will no doubt "go far" with the Hague conference, for if they cannot get the kind of a peace program they want they may declare war against peace.

It costs San Francisco \$70 a day to guard, feed and lodge \$700 during all this time between his recapture and trial. Since he is said to have made a million out of grafting, it would seem that he might be required to pay for extras not allowed to ordinary prisoners.

Did Senator Dick think it was necessary or of any interest to announce that he was for Foraker? Does he suppose that everybody doesn't understand that he is only a me-too?

He Wants to Know. From the Silverton Silvertonian-Appel. Silverton is attracting widespread attention at present, and has been heard of away up to Wolf creek by a man who wants a change of climate on account of his "rheumatism."

Hasty Marriages

The vexed question of an early marriage is one that we constantly hear raised. The whole thing greatly depends on circumstances. There seems no harm whatever in a young girl marrying a man whose means are amply sufficient to maintain a wife, and provided that man possesses the necessary moral and physical qualities which go to make an ideal husband, there can be no possible objection to the knot being tied as soon as it suits their convenience.

Each marriage is the rule among the workers, but it must be remembered that these early marriages are not always advantageous to the contracting parties. The pretenses incidental to early youth fades quickly away, and the very young wife soon becomes a mother. Then come the stern realities of life, the responsibilities to be faced by two young, happy, inexperienced people. Perhaps the nurse is a man and the babies are plump, plump and healthy, and need plenty of good wholesome food when they begin to grow up.

Young men should economize for the sake of their wives, and young girls for those of their husbands. All marketing should be done as economically as possible. Never waste a penny. Extravagance has wrecked many early marriages.

It being proposed that the New York public utilities commission shall be non-partisan, the World remarks: "That need not mean that part of the members shall be Democrats and part Republicans, but that they shall be so capable and deserving of confidence that no one will care how they vote."

Mr. Goodwin, once America's leading comedian, opened his regular engagement at the Helix last night in "An American Citizen." About Mr. Goodwin and his acting there are pleasant and frequent suggestions of the delightful and charming actor he used to be.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin. London's trouble is her fog. Tokio's trouble is earthquakes. In her Tokyo trouble is cholera. Calcutta's trouble is cholera. The bubonic plague is the trouble of Bombay. Each city pays for her trouble an annual tribute of 5,000 souls.

From the Philadelphia Press. "We never openly complain about any of the cooking," began Subbubs, who was taking Chitman home to dinner. "For sure the cook will get mad and leave!"

A Strap Hanger's Decalogue

By Carolyn Prescott. Do you ride in the streetcar? Unless you're rich enough to own or hire a carriage, and as only a very small percentage of the people in the world have money enough to indulge in this extravagance, it is taken for granted that you are an occasional "strap-hanger."

Have you noticed that the streetcar gutter is disappearing, or at least growing beautifully less? He is. He flourishes in the summer time, but when cold winds blow he vanishes. Riding in the streetcar four times sometimes six times a day, I have noticed this and speaking of it to a friend, who has also noticed it, we have come to the conclusion that it is because many people have recently returned from trips to other cities. Any one who visits other cities comes home impressed with the kind of politeness found in other cities.

Where is Root? From the New York World. What has become of the Hon. Elihu Root? Where does he stand? We recall him distinctly as a sturdy buttress of conservatism whose function it was to protect vested rights from the assaults of cowards and traitors.

The Yankees Sweet Tooth. Americans certainly have a sweet tooth. They eat more sugar than any other people—twice as much as Swedes at home, nearly three times as much as Frenchmen, and more than 12 times as much as Italians.

From the Philadelphia Press. "The day after the production of a new melodrama," said Mr. Thorne, "this manager wrote to his leading man as follows: 'Dear Sir: Your performance last night was so bad that 11 deadheads have written to me demanding that their names be stricken from the free list.'"

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Dinkelspiel Talks on Housecleaning

By George V. Hobart. (Copyright, 1907, by American Journal-Examiner.) Home—Now. Mein Lieber Looey—Ve had received your letter from Eau Claire, Michigan, and your mother made a choke about it. You see, "Ach Looey is a nut!" Chocolate Eclair, and I suppose tomorrow he will leave for Charlotte Russy.

Der full name of der girl was Helga, but always in our hearts she will live for der faint syllabus of der name. Anyhow, Looey, after your mother had made signs mit der fingers and shouted at Helga for five minutes, der girl finally went up der stepladder to brush der pictures of Chorge so she could get der dust off der river and make der ice look cool and refreshing for der Summer.

Today in History. 1547—Charles V. defeated the Protestants at Muhlberg. 1629—Peace treaty at Susa, ending war between France and England. 1704—First issue of the Boston News Letter, first American newspaper.

From the Worcester Telegram. The New York World is having the trouble of its existence trying to find somebody to answer the question, "What is a Democrat?" It reminds some of toasts they heard "way back in 1840. One other says a Democrat is a memory. That needs the adjective bad before it. And all the attempts at answers are a return to agree on any three Democrats up in the running roll of the old party who might be expected to get together and make an acceptable answer. Nobody knows who constitutes a Democrat, but there is one characteristic by which a Democrat can always be pointed out in a crowd, and that is opposition. If he sees a lamp-post standing respectably in the world, he concludes, he opposes it. He tries to take its place on the supposition that he can light the world to better advantage with his Democracy.

Boyhood of a Great Man. From the Chicago Tribune. The subject of this sketch, while a boy went one day to visit a relative in the country. "Uncle," he said, as he followed the old farmer out to the barn after dinner, "don't you want me to do something to help you?"

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Small Change

Teddy will be it, or name the man. Spring also avoids the Fairbanks region. He's back for a little while—Big Bill Taft. Mr. Eggert got his divorce—her name was Mand. Little Dick of Ohio has emitted a machine squeak. But money doesn't do all the talking; there are women.

The candidates may promise to vote 'or straight, but the voters don't promise. Editor Harvey of Harper's Weekly thinks there is also a dementsia Rooseveltiana. By the way, speaking of I-ra, has the president ever observed the weather forecasts?

Non-in-law Longworth says he spoke for himself only. Then it doesn't amount to much. "Whom can we believe?" asks a Berlin paper. Are nearly all people liars over there, too? Secretary Taft will have time to do quite a lot of fence building in Ohio before he starts for the Philippines.

But Mr. Hermann perhaps remembered the Bible charge of the man who did not take care of his own household. A club woman says wearing clothes is a mistake. It is—wearing such clothes as the fashions impose upon women. If there was any corporation or combine that wanted to rob the people that didn't employ Ruess it has not been heard of. It is officially stated that most women in Morocco do not wear stockings. But perhaps the poor things have no money. Evelyn should take good care of herself, for her pictures will all have to be published over again when another trial occurs. If the Wisconsin legislature can't elect another senator, the state can congratulate itself on having one who is better than the two of some states.

A Kentucky man has been awarded \$10,000 damages because the Republican county committee read him out of the party. The Republican party there must be of a good deal better character than it is in some places, or else the defense might have shown that the committee did him a favor and not an honor.

North Bend is to have a new box factory. One man near Pendleton has 10 acres of garden. Haines saloons must close from 13 m. to 5 a. m. For the first time, a big circus is to show at Dallas. Lexington's new creamery is in successful operation. One man who has arrived at Pendleton intends to buy 170,000 eastern Oregon sheep this spring. Another Danish colony will soon be located near Junction City on two large subdivided farms. A Corvallis man has bought a farm of 262 acres near that town at \$60 an acre, and will divide it into five-acre fruit farms. An Echo man last week sold his desert claim near the Colter Springs dam for \$4,600. He purchased it about a year ago for \$800. The Echo Register issued last week an illustrated and interesting supplement about that thriving and rapidly growing town. It is uphill work, says The Dallas Chronicle, for the officers to keep the streets clear of stray cows and horses. It should also be downhill work part of the time. Timber land values in Linn county and in Oregon seem destined to increase right along, until they are quoted on the basis of \$10 to \$15 a thousand stumps. The six sons of a Washington county farmer who sold his milk to the Forest Grove condenser made \$52 net in one year. Dairying, even on a small scale, can be made to pay. Nearly every stockman of the Ince locality is busy putting his fence on his own land. When Uncle Sam's forces reach that locality the fence question will be settled. Madford dealers in dirt report that the inquiries for good buys are many and that they are receiving many letters from persons in this and other states who are intending to come here to make their residence, says the Mail. The company which is installing a canning plant at Brownsville recently purchased 139 acres adjoining the site of the cannery, and has sold it out in five-acre tracts, with the agreement that the land so acquired shall be devoted to raising produce for the cannery. An Echo man sold 75 steers averaging 1,650 pounds, at \$5.20. They were taken to Toppenish, Washington, to be pastured two months, then will be taken to Seattle to Valdez, and then will be driven over the trail to Fairbanks, a distance of 480 miles, where they will be butchered and frozen for next winter's meat.

The Play

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