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Whether I say old things or new things does not seem to matter. But whether I say true things does matter a good deal and all.

I know I could argue about the good and the bad, and lose myself by the way.

But I choose the other path—I go with belief.

The world is mine to do with it what I please, so I please to give it to love.

—Horace Traubel.

THE GAME IS OVER.

At last the reciprocity treaty has been approved by the senate and the big politico-legislative game is ended. What will be the consequences to the country—politically and economically?

The fight for the reciprocity treaty was distinctly a move for the popularization of the Taft administration. By the administration forces the treaty is applauded as a great thing and the opening wedge towards tariff revision. The president is the hero of the job and in the next campaign the spellbinders will point to his work as reason why he should be re-elected.

Of course the reciprocity treaty was passed by the democrats and they may rightfully claim credit for the same. They will point out that the republicans were in the minority in the house and were so divided in the senate as to be unable to pass the measure. Democratic orators will say that if there is to be any rewarding it should fall to them. They enacted the reciprocity treaty and they did it of their own accord—not because the president wanted it. The democratic party has always been for tariff reform and for a reduction in the cost of living.

But there has been a third element in the game—the insurgents. These men, led by LaFollette, have opposed the ratification of the treaty and they have produced some exceptionally good arguments to justify their position. In one of his speeches La Follette said:

"First. Considered as a measure of reciprocity, I shall undertake to demonstrate later in the debate that the bill violates every principle of reciprocity heretofore expressed in the platform declarations of the republican party and recommended by former republican presidents.

"Second. Considered as a tariff bill, it violates every tariff principle and platform promise upon which William H. Taft was elected president of the United States.

"In the beginning it was heralded as a blessing to the consumer. So was the tariff bill of 1909. It promises to reduce duties for the benefit of the people. It reduces no duties the effect of which can ever reach the people, but it does reduce duties for the millers, the packers, Standard Oil, the brewers, the coal combines and in some measure for the already over-protected interests. It is nothing that it pretends to be, and professes to be nothing that it is. It is a little brother to the Payne-Aldrich bill, the greatest legislative wrong inflicted upon the American people in half a century."

When the treaty was on its final passage men like La Follette, Cummins, Borah and Bourne voted against it. They said that if reciprocity is an entering wedge for tariff revision then the wedge has been poorly placed. They object because it gives free trade in farm products but continues duties on things the people actually consume. Wheat is free but flour is taxed. Livestock on the hoof is free but dressed beef and packing house products are barred. In other words the reciprocity treaty is harsh towards small producers of raw products but is kind to the big milling and packing interests. From the standpoint of the consuming public the insurgents say in effect the

reciprocity treaty is a nut shell game. It will be interesting to see how the country at large views the matter. Will the country think the reciprocity treaty is a good thing and if so will they give the credit to the president or to the democratic congress? Or will they take the view of LaFollette that the whole thing is a delusion and a snare.

The answer will be given in 1912.

FAIRNESS DEMANDS IT.

If the Pacific Power & Light company desires to sell electricity for cluster lights on Main and Court streets it is only fair the company should get its unsightly poles off those streets so as to make the cluster lights effective. At this time the effect of the cluster lights is spoiled and the people who are paying for those lights are not getting value received for their money.

Another feature in this connection that deserves the earnest consideration of the council is the fact that with the poles removed many additional cluster lights will be brought into use. The cluster lights should be placed at fixed intervals along the business streets and this will doubtless be done if the improvement now asked for is brought about.

This will mean increased revenue for the electric trust and it should fully make up for the expense of placing the wires underground. Besides the company is already charging such high rates in this city that it can well afford to spend a few thousand dollars improving its local equipment.

Why should Pendleton people be paying a basic price of 12 cents per kilowatt hour when at the Oregon Agricultural College electricity is secured at a price of two cents per kilowatt? Is not Pendleton money as good as the money paid by the state of Oregon?

HOW IT HAPPENS.

Roosevelt says that the development of Alaska is retarded through the operations of big syndicates and through members of congress who either under the influence or through fear of the hostility of the corporations, decline to permit the passage of legislation, enabling the people to work honestly and develop the coal fields with a fair profit to themselves while doing justice to others.

That is the situation exactly and the colonel presents the facts clearly and without fear as is customary with him. Corporation influence in legislation—whether it be municipal, state or national, is the bane of the country.

The people elect legislators to serve the public welfare but through weakness, fear and often because of other considerations many fall by the wayside.

If the Round-Up visitors are to be accommodated there is but one way to do. They must be provided with beds and with eating places. The Round-Up organization cannot do it and it is up to the people of the city. Let everybody help the accommodations committee. They have the hardest job of anyone connected with the big show.

"When the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill was enacted President Taft and many others heralded it as a great thing for the relief of the country. But the people did not see the thing that way and it will be interesting to see what they think of the reciprocity bill.

How about that vacation?

POLITICS AND POLITICIANS

Friends of Dr. Wiley, head of the Bureau of Chemistry, declare he will remain.

Japan owed \$1,325,000,000, which means a debt of \$26.75 for every man, woman and child in the entire kingdom.

Detroit, Mich., has passed the half million mark, and if it continues to increase at the present rate, it will be able to be enrolled in the million-population-city class in the next census ten years hence.

The democratic legislature of New York has passed a law requiring the same registration in the county as in the city even to identification by a signature. The measure has been attacked by both the democratic and republican press of the state, as being a Tammany instrument.

Mrs. Rebecca Battinger, who recently died in Moore's town, N. J., willed \$5000 to be held in trust and the income paid annually to the National Suffrage association until women get the right to vote in every state in the union.

The initiative and referendum league is a recently incorporated organization in Illinois formed for the purpose of securing the enactment of laws of popular initiative and referendum. The principal office is to be maintained in Springfield, where the officers and most active members may be constantly on the scene during the sessions of the state legislature. Dr. C. E. Merriam, who ran for mayor of Chicago in the recent election, is one of the incorporators. The Aluminum Company of America of Pittsburgh, which has been receiving some investigatory attention

from the department of justice which is anxious to know whether it is a trust or not, is one of the most remarkable industrial corporations ever organized in Pennsylvania. Through its patents for the development of aluminum from the metal industry, making it possible to use aluminum in forms hitherto undreamed of.

Mrs. F. M. Abbott, the magazine writer, who is responsible for the wide publicity given the alleged "Dick to Dick" letters whose revelations have stirred the entire country, would hardly be taken for a woman who would care much about coal land scandals or any other public deals in which the government had an interest. She is exceedingly girlish-looking, hardly appearing to be 26 years old. She weighs about 110 pounds and hails from Boston. A graduate of Radcliffe, she became a student of forestry and conservation problems, won various prizes in literary and investigation work. Interest in forestry and her studies of it brought her finally to an editorial position with American forestry, which she still retains.

JULY 24 IN HISTORY.

1704—Gibraltar captured by a combined British and Dutch fleet, from the Spanish.

1722—Wearing of broadswords prohibited in Edinburgh, Scotland.

1799—Unsuccessful attack by the British on Santa Cruz, Lord Nelson losing his right arm.

1804—English Baltic fleet attacked the French squadron at Havre, doing considerable damage.

1817—After a loud detonation in broad daylight Lake Canterno, in Italy, totally disappeared.

1820—The thermometer at noon in Boston stood at ninety-five degrees. At sundown it dropped to fifty degrees and fire was made.

1833—Lisbon surrendered to the army of Dom Pedro.

1847—Mormons founded Salt Lake City, Utah.

1854—The federal diet met at Frankfurt, Germany, and decided to join the alliance of Austria and Prussia.

1854—British captured American fishing vessel Ellen Morrell and carried it into the port of Bathurst, causing much excitement among the fishermen.

1893—Time set for the ratification of the St. Thomas treaty between Denmark and the United States having expired, the treaty was dead.

1904—The British steamer Knight Commander, with a cargo worth 50,000 pounds, was sunk by the Russian Vladivostok squadron.

1909—Bierot crossed the British channel in a monoplane.

1910—Barcelona, Spain threatened with strike riots.

SAME OLD LESSON.

He said he'd help the world along, and win a golden crown;
 He gained the highest hilltop, then came a rollin' down!

And the people, high and low,
 Did they pity him? Oh, no!
 They merely said—
 With shake of head:
 "We told—we told you so!"

He said, "I'll find the priceless mines,"
 and toiled till midnight dim;
 There came a shaking of the ground;
 an earthquake swallowed him.

A bitter tale of woe!
 Did they pity him? Ah, no!
 Still, still they said—
 With shake of head:
 "Too bad! We told him so!"
 —Atlanta Constitution.

THEIR FEARS.
 (Oregon Journal.)

Because a 5,000,000 bushel wheat crop is expected in Umatilla county and The Journal printed statements to that effect, this newspaper is in disgrace with L. D. Eaton of Pendleton and C. C. Connor of Helix.

Both have expressed their views in the East Oregonian. One doubts if the Umatilla crop will reach 5,000,000 bushels. Both fear that the news of a bumper crop in Umatilla will reduce the wheat price. One suggests that the publication may have been in the interest of bearish wheat buyers.

Mr. Connor says he is very familiar with crop conditions. He says: "The predicted yield of Whitman county, Washington, has been lowered from 60,000,000 to 34,000,000 bushels."

Mr. Connor's familiarity with crop figures is indicated by the fact that Whitman's yield last year was 8,000,000 and in 1909, 13,000,000. The Journal's prediction for this year for Whitman is 15,000,000. Nobody ever heard of 34,000,000, much less 60,000,000.

The fears of Mr. Eaton and Mr. Connor are not justified. The Journal, not wheat buyers, sent its market editor to investigate the wheat crop of the great inland empire. It

has followed the practice for seven years. Its predictions have always closely approximated the facts. It predicted a 4,000,000 crop in Umatilla last year. Umatilla had a fraction over 4,000,000.

In any event, the reports from Umatilla will not make the world's market panicky. Though a splendid county, Umatilla is but a small part of the planet.

The United States produced last year nearly 700,000,000 bushels of wheat. Of what concern to this country is a few hundred bushels more or less in Umatilla county, Oregon?

The world's wheat crop is, in round numbers, 3,500,000,000 bushels. In such a wilderness of wheat, do Mr. Eaton and Mr. Connor really believe that news of a crop failure from Helix or Pendleton would send the world's wheat prices aviating? Do they think the news of a bumper crop at Helix would demoralize the markets of the earth? Nobody else does.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY SKETCH.

Miss Ellen Marie Stone, the missionary from whom Rais Ull, the Moroccan bandit made a demand of nearly \$100,000 before he would release her and who before the United States government succeeded in securing her freedom, is sixty-five today, for she was born in Roxbury, Mass., July 24, 1846.

It is doubtful if any woman ever engaged in missionary work ever had such thrilling experiences as Miss Stone went through. When it became known that she was being held for ransom, \$110,000 was the sum asked for one period for her imprisonment—the people of the United States raised a subscription of \$65,000, which was finally accepted by the bandits. Miss Stone was educated in the public schools of Chelsea, Mass., where she taught after her graduation. Giving up teaching, in 1867, she joined the editorial staff of the Boston Congregationalist, which position she held for eleven years.

Then she became a missionary, locating at Somokoy, Bulgaria, where she remained for a number of years. In 1880 she removed to Salonica, with which mission she is still connected. Mrs. Katherina Stephanova, wife of an Albanian protestant preacher, was with Miss Stone when she was captured on a mountain road and during the six months they were held captives, they were forced to travel in the wildest country and suffer the greatest hardships.

PLAN WORLD AIR MEET.

New York—Preparations for the international aviation races, which will be held in this country again next year as the result of the victory of Weymann in England, are under way. The Aero club of America will name a full cup defense committee next month. Already a delegate has taken up with American aeroplane manufacturers the subject of producing racing machines.

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