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THE HEADLIGHT PIRATE

Does Out the Gems of Current
 News and Topics.

The greatest benefit conferred upon the American people by the recent trust conference at Chicago was the exhaustive presentation and discussion of the relations of trusts and corporate combinations to the producer, consumer and wageworker and the remedies to be applied for the repression of their most injurious tendencies. Most of the remedies recommended would, however, be found impracticable when tested by experience. The attorney general of Arkansas, for example, insisted that no corporation chartered in one state should be allowed to carry on business in another state without first procuring a license. This suggestion was also endorsed by William J. Bryan in his speech before the conference, with the further proviso that all corporations engaged in interstate commerce should be required to procure a license from some officer or bureau of the national government being permitted to carry on business outside of the state in which it is incorporated. This simply means the erection of a Chinese wall around every state and an intolerable, if not ruinous, interference with traffic that under the federal constitution should be free and untrammelled. Its rigid appliance would tend to paralyze industry by excluding commodities that are absolutely essential under modern civilization. Take for instance window glass, tin plate, matches and rubber goods, which are controlled by concerns that are operated as trusts. If these articles of common use could not be sold in Iowa or Nebraska without a special permit and the monopolistic owners decline to put themselves to the annoyance and trouble the people of Iowa and Nebraska would have to find a substitute for these commodities or import them from Europe. Then the question would arise whether a foreign trust which has the right to carry on traffic in America under treaty should enjoy special privileges over American factories and mills. It is hardly necessary to predict that at the very outset the Chinese wall remedy would come in conflict with the constitution and international treaties and prove abortive.

ONE of the great troubles in the West in former years has been the inability of the banks to secure proper financial accommodation to move the big crops. Every year the smaller banks have been compelled to secure advances from Eastern financial institutions and the cost of the accommodation has been taken directly from the profit of the farmers. A few weeks ago the political prophets of evil became very much alarmed over the situation. They saw in the formation of big syndicates in the east a demand for all available cash and immediately began drawing direful pictures of the condition of the Western farmer would find himself in when the time came to move his crops and all the money of the country would be tied up in industrial enterprises in the East. The time for moving the crops has about arrived and the predicted distress of the farmer is not manifest. Reports from banks all over the West and Northwest indicate that they have a surplus of ready funds and are carrying heavy balances in New York and Chicago. Kansas bankers have told their Eastern correspondents that Kansas banks will take care of the Kansas farmer this year and that Eastern help will not be needed. Iowa bankers have all the money needed for the moving of the Iowa crop, and are, in addition, advertising unlimited supplies of money which they are anxious to loan at 5 per cent. Nebraska bankers will not call for help. They have all ready cash needed for the

crop movement. These facts, taken from the report of the bankers, show a most encouraging situation, being conclusive evidence that the west, has gone back to its normal condition of prosperity, has got back to the position where it is no longer dependent upon the money lenders of the East.

An eastern paper expresses the opinion that the welfare of Cuba lies in annexation and suggests if it would not be wise, before trying to establish a government there, to permit the authorized voters to determine whether or not they would prefer annexation. It says: "Everything is tending toward annexation and our proper course, it seems to us, is to found local governments throughout the island and so establish the prosperity of Cuba under our direction that the desire will be general for the joining together of the two countries." There can be no doubt that the welfare of Cuba would be promoted by annexation, but what would be the effect on American interests with which those of Cuba compete? The New England association of tobacco growers has addressed to the United States senators from Connecticut a memorial in which is pointed out the disastrous effect on tobacco growing and its allied industries in this country that will inevitably result from allowing free trade with our new possessions. The status of Porto Rico and the Philippines is the question of immediate interest to the New England tobacco grower, but their objection to annexing those islands, or establishing free trade with them, applies with equal or greater force to Cuba. To annex that island and allow its tobacco to come into free competition in our market with that produced in the United States would undoubtedly be very damaging if not disastrous to the American interest and this country would derive no compensating advantage. The destruction of the home industry would result wholly to the advantage of the Cuban planters and at the same time the government would lose revenue.

The report from Manila of increased activity of the insurgents and the capture by them of a small gunboat that had been detailed to patrol a river emptying into Manila bay should not be disquieting, although it goes to show that the insurrection has by no means lost any of its formidable character. The American forces on the islands are naturally at a disadvantage during the rainy season and no aggressive operations can be expected until favorable climatic conditions can be depended upon. Until that time we should be satisfied to hold our own while making thorough preparation for an advance movement at the first opportunity. While the loss of the captured gunboat is not serious, it should remind the people of the United States of the necessity of supporting the plans that have been mapped out for the suppression of the insurrection. This is the first task the president and his subordinates have to perform and there should be no division of opinion at home on the question of first establishing the supremacy of the stars and stripes, no matter what may be the eventual solution of the problem of Philippine government. The administration is consistently pursuing its policy of reinforcing the troops in the far east to the extent allowed by the new army bill and the fact that the new regiments are being recruited with all expedition proves that the necessary enlistments will be had without difficulty. When everything is ready for the word to go forward, the encouragement taken by the insurgents from the capture of a small gunboat will count for little.

A NEW destructive agency has appeared to create havoc in the fields. Chinch-bugs, grasshoppers, army worms, weevil and various other species of bugs and worms the farmer has struggled with in order to save his crops, and now another pest is added to the list. As many of the plagues have been transplanted to our soil from foreign countries, so did this one originate abroad. Russia gave us one form of thistle, Scotland another, and to the land of heathen we owe the new evil, for it originated there and came over in the same ship with the high-ball. In fact, the two are running mates—one is the complement of the other. While

golf has been recognized as a destroyer of time and temper and has even been known to affect the brain, it has not been considered dangerous to agriculture, except that many a fertile field that might be producing potatoes or corn has been laid into a waste of links. But a recent case reported from Iowa is occasion for serious alarm lest golf may become a direct enemy of agriculture—an actual destroyer of the fruits of labor as they lie ripening in the fields. In the instance referred to, a German gardener, whose patches adjoined the links of a golf club, became so infatuated with the game that he neglected his vegetables. His son, however, looked after the garden while the old man chased a ball from hole to hole, over the hills and faraway. But this was not the worst. The other day the son found Herr Hockerman, togged out in his Scotch clothes, in the cabbage patch making havoc with the fall kraut vintage. First one head and then another the old man would whack with his brassy, trying to lift it into the potato patch. He objected very strenuously when his son broke up his golf game abusing the young man for having no appreciation of a noble sport.

Rear Admiral Schley will accept his assignment to sea service as commander of the South Atlantic squadron, now under command of Rear Admiral Howison, who will retire for age next month. Schley desired sea service and while it is probable that he would have preferred a different assignment he has too high a sense of duty to complain of the action of his superiors in authority and his acceptance is a rebuke to those over-zealous friends who have alleged that his assignment was prompted by unfriendliness of the Navy department and a desire to practically shelve him. The Maryland friends of Rear Admiral Schley have been especially noisy in their criticism of the assignment and their course appears somewhat ridiculous in view of the decision of the admiral and his statement that he always obeyed orders and would cheerfully assume the duties of any post selected by the authority which has been his pride to serve for forty-three years. This is the spirit of a true American sailor and there is none truer than Winfield Scott Schley.

With regard to the Transvaal, the most important news of the hour is the reported acquisition by Great Britain of Delagoa bay from Portugal, a kingdom which, according to treaty, still in existence, is more or less subject to English protection, and one might almost say suzerainty. England's acquisition of Delagoa bay has often been announced and frequently denied, but the gravity of the present situation in South Africa, the interchange of communication between Lisbon and London and the frequent conferences of the German ambassador and of the Portuguese envoy in London with Lord Salisbury, all point to the conclusion of some such deal as this which would effectually cut off the Transvaal both commercially and otherwise from all the seaboard except by English permission and over English territory.

There is another American interest which is very much concerned in the question of Cuban annexation. It is the sugar industry. A free American market for Cuban sugar, which would inevitably ensue from annexation, would be as certainly disastrous to our sugar industry as would free tobacco to that American interest. It would give a tremendous impetus to the development of sugar production in Cuba and as this is carried on with much cheaper labor than here it could not fail to be destructive of the home industry. Here also there would be sacrificed an important interest of great promise without any compensating advantage to our people. Only the Cuban planters would be benefited, while the national treasury would lose revenue.

It has been several weeks since any Cuban general has announced his intention to head a movement to force the United States troops to retire from the island. The only men in Cuba not saying a word are the planters and laborers. These classes are too busy retrieving their fortunes to spend time or energy in political clamor.

Advice from Washington are to the effect that a more elastic policy will be shortly put in force with reference to the applications of the Chinese exclusion act to the Philippines. Make the law elastic and trust the almond-eyed Mongolian to see that it is stretched open enough to let him crawl in.

ACCORDING to reports, Mohammedanism appears to be growing rapidly in British West Africa and to be showing excellent results in the life of the people. Temperance and decency accompany the march of the religion of the koran.

FIGURES seem to show that France made 1,007,000 gallons of brandy last year and exported 3,000,000 gallons. When it comes to champagne the New Jersey cider must be thrown in to explain the situation.

Arizona stands third in the list of copper-producing regions. Mining metals at the market rates is a prosperous business, much more so than trying to make them a legal tender at double their real value.

THE democratic party might go into the bankruptcy court and start life anew were it not for the fact that its only assets are a quantity of unfulfilled prophecies too intangible to bring into court.

It is a lucky thing for Cuba that it is under strong protection at the moment Spain repudiates the Cuban debt. A Cuban republic at this time would have more than its share of troubles.

There is no better test of expansion sentiment than the rapid growth of the new regiments.

Buttermilk and Health.

But few appreciate buttermilk. It would be a sorry day for the doctors and hogs if everybody ate and drank as much buttermilk as this writer, says A. X. Hyatt, in Northwestern Agriculturist. I give buttermilk considerable credit for the fact that I have never been so sick as to have a doctor come to feel my pulse and look at my tongue. I don't believe we would find half as much error and nonsense in our agricultural papers if all the editors would eat and drink enough buttermilk. Buttermilk clears the brain and cleans the blood.

A noted physician said not long ago that buttermilk is "a true milk pepton." That is, milk already partially digested. It is a decided laxative and nothing equals it in habitual constipation. It is a diuretic and is excellent for kidney troubles. It is the most refreshing and digestible of all the products of milk. Nothing is better in the treatment of diabetes. In some cases of cancer of the stomach and gastric ulcer buttermilk is the only food that can be retained. One of my neighbors spent money enough to go to the Philippines for doctors, drugs, etc., to cure his rheumatism, without getting any better.

I told him a few barrels of nice buttermilk would drive rheumatism from his anatomy, and it was done with less than a barrel, worth about 20c per 100 pounds; to feed hogs. I know of half a dozen in this county of buttermilk who lay the cure of their rheumatism to lopped milk and buttermilk. Any of you who think your system needs a little beer, whisky or tobacco, try buttermilk instead (give it a good trial) and become happier and healthier. The only stimulant this writer takes in his old age are buttermilk and lopped milk, and any friends (and I, too) are proud of me.

Any one who knows Mr. Hyatt will not need to be convinced that he has been drinking from the fountain of youth. If this is found in the buttermilk jar every farmer has it at his disposal. Buttermilk is food and drink, as most people know. If it is also medicine it is still more desirable.

A new idea for the bill collector comes from Louisville, where Manuel Corsico, a retired organ grinder, being unable to collect three months' rent due on a house he owned and had leased, took his instrument to the house and played it steadily until the tenant, assisted by suffering neighbors, raised the money owed and paid it. This new method in the case in point required only three hours.

FOREHEAD AND EYE STUDY.

Some Ways in Which is Exhibited by Them.

A head justly proportioned to the rest of the body shows steadiness and force of character; too large, it generally indicates grossness and stupidity; too small, feebleness and inaptitude of mind, if not constitution. The physiognomy of a forehead is seen in the form of the frontal bone, its height and proportion, regularity or irregularity; this marks the disposition and measure of our faculties, our fashion of thinking and feeling. Pathognomy should be studied in the covering skin, its color, wrinkles, tension or relaxation; this gives a clue to the passions, the actual state of the spirit within, the use it has made of its natural gifts. Foreheads seen in profile, are divided into three classes; projecting above, flat on the eyebrows; retreating from behind developed brows, and perpendicular. Broadly speaking, those with prominent eyebones act promptly, on the judgment, perhaps passion, of the moment. Yet they err but rarely, for their gifts of intuition and rapid deduction seldom fail to guide them rightly. High foreheads, lacking some part of this quick spirit, pause, consider and weigh the matter before taking action. Less passionate, less imaginative, less resourceful, they cannot afford to make mistakes. Short foreheads, prominent brows, belong to the man of action. High, well developed temples, to the man of thought. A perpendicular, flat forehead, with wrinkled skin stretched tautly across it, may be briefly dismissed as the forehead of a fool. Eye bones which project so sharply as to cause the hair of the brows to bristle outward show immense acuteness and genius for intrigue. Li Hung Chang, the great Chinese minister, and Prince Bismarck are good examples of this class. A forehead square on the temples and retreating into the hair on either side is a sign of retentive memory and excellent judgment. Lord Kitchener of Khartoum has the typical forehead of a leader of men. Short, compressed, with prominent eye bones and thick, straight brows, square and receding on the temples. A man with this forehead could not fail to judge character or circumstances with quickness and accuracy, to store such observations in a tenacious memory, and to act upon his conclusion with promptness and decision.

Eyes, mirrors of the soul, may, perhaps, be considered more beautiful and attractive than any other feature. Dividing them into great classes, light and dark, it has been said that the dark indicated power, the light, delicacy. Black eyes, so called—for they are really of so deep an orange that they appear black contrasted with the white surrounding them—are tropical. Sometimes they seem dull and sluggish, but the forces they betoken are only slumbering, so that any chance spark may set them ablaze. With such eyes the intellect will be powerful and the passions strong. Clear blue eyes belong to temperate regions. Other intellectual indications being equal, what they may lack in power and passion they will make up in subtlety and versatility. Hazel eyes show steadiness and power of constant affection; green, cat-like orbs, though frequently fascinating, are dangerous, for they are a sign of coquetry and deceit. The eyes of genius are said to be of varying tints, like the sea, sometimes blue, tinged with green or orange, in certain lights or when affected by emotion, deep and almost dark. These are but few of the infinite varieties in tint. It should never be forgotten that eyes are more capable of misleading than and other feature. Form and color may indicate much; the glance, steady or soft, perhaps even more. Widely expanded eyelids see much without reflecting greatly beyond the present moment. Eyelids half closing over the eye denote less facility of impression, but clearer insight, more definite ideas, greater readiness in action; they notice less, but think and feel intensely. Deep-set eyes with wrinkles at the outer corners show penetration and a sense of humor. Eyes set near together, especially when there are wrinkles across the nose, are a sign of cunning and meanness in small things, money matters and otherwise. Set wide apart, the character will be generous. If

too wide, careless and extravagant. The proper distance between the eyes is the length of one eye.

The Coming Man.

A pair of very chubby legs
 Increased in scarlet hose;
 A pair of little stubby boots,
 With rather doubtful toes;
 A little kilt, a little coat—
 Cut as a mother can—
 And lo! before us stands in state
 The future's "coming man."
 His eyes, perchance, will read the stars,
 And search the unknown ways;
 Perchance the human heart and soul
 Will open to their gaze;
 Perchance their keen and flashing glance
 Will be a nation's light—
 Those eyes that now are wistful bent
 On some "big fellow's kite."

Aud blessings on those little hands
 Whose work is yet undone;
 And blessings on those little feet,
 Whose race is yet unrun!
 Aud blessings on the little brain
 That has not learned to plan!
 What'er the future holds in store,
 God bless the "coming man."

Not Envious.

"No use o' talkin'," said Farmer Corn tassel, as he sat down in the rocking chair and began to clear the ashes out of his pipe by tapping it on his boot heel, according to the Washington Star. Then he blew through it and eyed it with the air of a connoisseur. As he proceeded with great deliberation to fill it, his wife turned back to the task of clearing away the supper dishes with the remark: "Josiah, I guess you're right. There ain't." "There ain't what?" he asked, as he threw a bit of blazing paper back into the stove and began to puff. "Any use o' talkin'." But folks will keep on doin' it jes' the same." "That's just my way of interducin' the conversation," he explained, in a tone of apology. "When I say 'there ain't no use o' talkin', it means I am going to remark somethin' very serious an' emphatic. What I meant to say is, 'Look at Admiral Dewey, for instances.'" "That's what I'm goin' to do," she rejoined, as she set a dish down with a business-like rattle; "even if I've got to walk every inch of the way to town when he arrives."

"That's right, Mandy. Them's my sentiments. An' if there's any walkin' to be done, it won't be no solo. I'll be 'longside of you, keepin' step. But I was jes' a thinkin' that this world was fitted for all kinds o' folks. Much as I admire the Admiral I don't envy him. I s'pose he's used to that sort o' thing, but of what I read o' these banquets, I'm willin' he should have 'em all. The time that's comin' for the Admiral will be fine an' purty, but it'll have its drawbacks. The admiral's a brave man, but he wouldn't dast sit down in his shirt sleeves an' eat his dinner, an' ask fur two helps o' soup. An' ef I couldn't do that way, I'd rather go hungry."

Quaint Features of Life.

An old soldier in a Michigan town, who had a leg amputated ten years ago, had it buried in a coffin in the cemetery and funeral services held over it, at which he wept profusely. Ever since then, all through the summer months he has placed flowers each week upon the grave.

A young man in Buffalo, from some impulsive freak, took it into his head to save all his cents. He wore after two years when he got 1,200 of them and tried to sell them, but nobody would buy even at 80 cents on the dollar. Some shopkeepers intimated that he might have been robbing poor boxes, and the agony of the young man is not to be measured by a cigar box full of cents.

Farmers in Androscoggin county, Maine, complain bitterly of the injury done to their crops by the protected and rapidly increasing deer. "Whiv," says one, "if there was any owner of them I could complain and make him take them off, or pay for damage. At this rate it will not be long before we must keep a man with a club in every cornfield in the state."