ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE

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UPTOWN BRANCH OFFICES.

At Thomas W. McAuliffe & Co.'s Drug Store, southeast corner of Tenth and J streets.

OAK PARK AGENCY—Carter's Blacksmith shop, corner Thirty-fourth street and Sacramento avenue.

Weather Forecast.

Northern California: Fair; warmer Monday; fresh northwest wind.

WITNESSES TO PROSPERITY.

Though the calamity shriekers and Mr. Bryan insist that the country is not prosperous to the degree represented by those who believe that the conditions are in the high degree what they should be, the trade papers of the nation with more dignity of insistence, tell us that a splendid wave of prosperity is with us.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" says: "It would be difficult to exaggerate the degree of prosperity which the country is now enjoying." It warns the people that it is prudent to remember that the rate of increase in the volume of business in the past few months cannot be indefinitely continued, though there are few clouds upon the commercial sky, and though there is the utmost confidence in trade circles that existing conditions will last for some time.

Of course the rate of increase in the volume of trade cannot indefinitely continue. No one expects it. It would be unnatural to think it. For there is a limit to any rate of increase. But this does not mean that there is to be necessarily recession. Fluctuation we are to expect, of course, but that the prosperous trade conditions of to-day are unnatural no one will contend, except the hopeless pessimists.

The "Literary Digest," the business of which is to review the expression of all leading journals and present typical extracts from their estimates and editorials, says: "The business outlook in nearly every field of industry, the country over, seems to be one of unexampled prosperity." "Bradstreet's" declares that business troubles have declined to the minimum and it adds:

It may well be considered a special index of the widespread activity in trade during the period under review to find that business embarrassments for the first half of 1899 make just as favorable a comparison with the preceding periods as did the record of the first quarter of the year.

"Dun's Review" shows that the amount of liabilities in failures in the second quarter of the year, was smaller than in any previous second quarter for twenty-five years. It is added:

Wages in almost every line of industry have been advanced, and in many instances a second and even a third advance has been made since the beginning of the year. The deposits and loans of the banks as well as their clearings, the activity of all manufacturing plants, and the distribution of goods from all centers, afford evidence of a degree of prosperity that has never been exceeded and in which there is so moderate an element of speculation that it is reasonable to expect its continuance for a considerable period.

The "Digest" says that the Southern papers generally show that the commercial uplift has reached that part of the country, and that railroads, furnaces and other industries are in a thriving condition. The "Tradesman," Chattanooga, Tenn., declares that it could fill three pages of his journal with proofs of Southern prosperity.

The "American Grocer" says:

There has not been a period in years when the retail grocery trade was so free from the influence of the cutter as at present. Few complain, and such as have grievances find that in nine out of ten instances the fault lies with themselves, and not with the general conditions.

The "Digest" furnishes us still other witnesses to prosperity:

"The American Wool and Cotton Reporter" (Boston) says of the dry goods and clothing trade: "Not in years has there been such an influx of buyers in the cities of New York and Chicago as have come during this month. Among them are many men who have not gone to market to buy goods for a long time. The travelers are all at home and are kept busy selling goods 'in the house' daily. * * * The industrial and agricultural conditions throughout every section of the country seem to warrant fully the belief, so widely prevalent in the clothing circles, that business will be exceptionally good in every section of the country this fall and winter. * * * The boys' clothing houses are doing the biggest business in their history.

"The Textile World" (Boston) says: At no time, except immediately after the passage of the present tariff law, has the wool market been in such an excellent condition as it is now, for sustaining prices. The supply of desirable wool is quite within the limits of the demand, if it does not greatly fall short of it, not only in this country, but abroad. This condition has been growing for the last number of years, especially in relation to the supply of fine wools. * * * The cotton situation, as regards the raw material and manufactured goods, is in a fairly satisfactory condition, especially for the latter."

As to the cause of our present flood-tide of prosperity, "The Textile Record" (Philadelphia) avers that it is due in great part to the presence on this side of the water of large quantities of gold: "The prosperity of this nation at the present time is not only gratifying in itself, but it may be made profitable for instruction if the people will regard it in the light of certain theories which in the past they have been invited to accept. It has long been a favorite doctrine of the free traders, for example, that a nation must be better off with the balance of trade against it than with the balance in its favor. The argument advanced in support of this proposition has never commended itself to really sound judgment, but it has been urged with vehemence, and, by some persons, accepted with confidence. After a long period of depression the business of this country began to improve when its export trade began enlargement; and at this moment prosperity has come to us again, in some measure, chiefly because last year we sold 600,000,000 more than we bought. The effect followed the cause, not solely for the reason that we pocketed the profits upon the excess transactions, but because the balance in our favor was paid in gold, which came here in unusually large quantities, and by its mere presence strengthened the market, inspired confidence, and put up prices.

Such quotations might be continued quite indefinitely. But sufficient has been given to show that the business journalism takes a very different view of the conditions of the country to-day, from that entertained by those who are so pessimistic as to preach as fact the untruth that the country is in distress and its people oppressed by unprosperous conditions.

It is said that in certain lines of business, such as harness and saddlery in this State, alarm is felt for the trade because of the expected introduction of the automobile and a corresponding decline in the demand for harness and saddlery. This fear need not be entertained in this State, nor in the larger portion of the United States for very many years, for two all-sufficient reasons, namely, the cost of the automobile carriage and the lack of roads upon which it is capable of propulsion. For hills—except very steep ones—and for rocky roads the automobile has no fear, but in mud and dust and oversoft and ungraded roads it simply cannot be run at all, no matter how great the power applied. It follows that the horse is not going to be displaced generally for a very long time except in cities with exceptionally good streets. It will take a decade, for instance, to establish a good road system for California and as yet we have not made a beginning, save in two counties.

"A BLACKMAILER AND A BANDIT."

Refering to Aguinaldo's appeal to the powers for recognition of the independence of his so-called Government, the Boston "Journal" well remarks that it is the rule to base all such appeals upon military successes, as the Confederates did after the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, the Peninsular campaign and the second Bull Run. That is true. To what successes can Aguinaldo point over American arms? What battle can he name in which his troops have not fled? Where has he won a single fight? In what instance has his army dared to engage us in open battle? His entire contending has been of the guerrilla order. His men have fought from trenches but invariably have fallen back and scampered and scattered when our forces have located and advanced upon them. In short, Aguinaldo has administered no reverses to our arms, he has been kept too busy dodging and running. The ignorance of Aguinaldo is supreme. By what right does he project the claim that his followers are capable of taking their places among the civilized states of earth, when they commit the atrocity of retaining some thousands of the people of a now neutral state as "prisoners of war"? What possible shadow of excuse can this fellow who wants to be "recognized" make for holding Spaniards as prisoners when he is not at war with Spain. He acts precisely as do the brigands of the mountains. He holds prisoners for coin ransom and impudently tells Spain that he will release the captives for $1,000 a head. That is the method of the blackmailer and the bandit as the Brooklyn "Eagle" well puts it. That paper sharply adds:

He wants this money for his own purposes, and in order to obtain it he will put to continued suffering some hundreds of men with whom he has no quarrel, with whom he is not at political odds, who are as neutral under present circumstances as are the French and the Norwegians. His pretensions are absurd, his course is criminal, and his hopes are vain. For Spain to recognize the independence of the Philippines would be a virtual declaration of war against the United States, and after its recent little difference with this country we have a notion that Spain is not anxious to renew hostilities.

Aguinaldo might once have been respected, but that time is past. He is a nuisance, now. He will have to suppress himself or be suppressed. He is not acting for the people of the Philippines, but only for a certain faction in Luzon, and while he is in a position to make trouble for a time longer by a system of guerrilla warfare, retiring into the jungle after every raid, it is a satisfaction to know that the vigorous hand is to be employed in his island. The new Secretary of War, Mr. Root, will not continue the dilly-dally policy. He will not countenance skirmishing on the fringes of the Filipino army, but will send to the Philippines a force large enough to crush the insurrection and restore peace. It is only Luzon that is involved, and this makes the task one of reasonable certainty, if not ease.

In the last year or two the curtain has been lifted just enough for us from the system of procedure in criminal, civil and military cases in French tribunals to make us, with all our growling at our courts, lawyers and juries, a great deal more content with the American way of doing things. It is at least more merciful. We do not presume men to be guilty who are merely charged; we do not permit witnesses to testify to opinions; we do not put the accused into a magistrate's sweat-box to be racked with inquisitorial questions before he even knows with what he is charged; we do not permit the law to be used to extort from prisoners confessions for fear of greater punishment if they deny; we do not require the accused to stand up in his own defense and make response to his accusers regardless of his ability to do so. In short, with all its defects, its too great meed of mercy, its delays and uncertainties, give us the American judicial tribunal system, in preference to the French.

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

EXTRACTS FROM EDITORIAL EXPRESSIONS.

State and Coast Opinions on Subjects of Living News Interest.

Fresno Republican: In a lecture at Worcester, Mass., the Rev. Dr. Hall advocated the relaxation of the rules against fighting by schoolboys. "I believe in working off some effects of anger by well-regulated fighting among boys," said he. "To teach children not to fight is to train them to be moral cowards." This pedagogical movement which is making a fetish of the things that are "natural" to children is going a great deal too far. There is evidence that stealing and lying are natural to children in certain periods of their development. Cruelty is a natural quality of childhood. Pretty soon we shall have some pedagogical expert who will advocate full freedom of lying, stealing, and torture, so that each child may outgrow them by his own personal experience of their unworth and danger. The old notion of repression as the chief aim of school government is of course all wrong. Children must be taught to express as well as to repress themselves. But life is not all free expression. It is a strenuous thing, and one of its hardest lessons is self-repression. A school life which is all instructive play is poor preparation for an adult life which must be mostly work and endurance.

WHAT THEN?

Vacaville Reporter: Some of our contemporaries are against the cession of any lands to the States, to be used as sites for reservoirs for the storage of water. They see in it lots of opportunity for speculators and capitalists. Possibly, but not necessarily. But suppose it appears that the government will not undertake the work, what then? Are we to waste years in ineffectual labors to secure benefits which the States may obtain by their own individual efforts? No one objects to the nation building reservoirs. We have wished for a decade that work of that kind might be begun and prosecuted until every available site was utilized in all the Western States and Territories. But we are of the opinion that National legislation cannot be secured, hence we believe the people of California should try and do for themselves what they have been asking Congress to do for them.

ELECTRICAL ADVANCE.

Stockton Independent: What might Franklin think were he only permitted to return to this earth and view the marvels accomplished through that subtle agency to which he devoted so much thought? His slender knowledge of electrical science would not qualify him for admission to a grammar school. And when we consider the patient study by which the single element of aluminum that affords the medium to this energy has been evolved from nature's great chemical laboratory to become the handmaid of modern industry, we are still more impressed with the wonderful progress that has carried the present era way beyond even its own comprehension.

FOUND IT OUT.

Humboldt Standard: The Populists have at last discovered that Bryan is a Democrat—one of those Democrats they have so long and loudly demanded—and at the next National Populist Convention Bryan, though professing to love the Populists and agree with them in many things, will be turned down. The Populists wrecked their party by indorsing Bryan. They could not win alone; they did not win with Bryan, but they lost their independence and almost ruined their organization. When the children of Israel went off after strange gods they always got into trouble, and repentence in sack-cloth and ashes was the only alternative. The Populists have probably learned a lesson along the same lines.

A NOTE OF WARNING.

Los Angeles Express: Bishop Mitchinson, the recently elected master of Pembroke College, Oxford, has created a sensation throughout England by entering a vigorous protest against the modern craze of athletics. "A college," says the reverend gentleman, "is more proud of a man who rows in the university eight than of one who gets a double first. The censure applies not to any particular college or university, it is generally true throughout England. A first-class match at cricket or football, the boat race or any athletic display, draws larger and larger crowds every year, and the accounts occupy more and more space in the newspapers."

As exactly a similar development is going on in the United States, Dr. Mitchinson's opinions are of as much interest to Americans as to Englishmen. He says that while athletics should not be undervalued, as they have their place in education, their importance has been exaggerated by the present idolatry. They develop the muscles, increase physicial strength, bring out a number of valuable qualities, and they have also a moral value. To be able to fight a losing battle, to curb vexation at being worsted in an honorable contest, is worth learning; but they sometimes do more than this. A life of training is one of self-restraint, and has helped to keep many a young man from vicious practices. But Dr. Mitchinson's contention is that in the work of life the brain is needed even more than the muscles. As he truly says, muscles never ruled the world, but mind did and always would, and when a nation placed physicial enjoyments before culture of mind it has started on the down grade. He boldly declares that this is the case at Oxford, and the same holds good as to most of the other great colleges of Great Britain and this country.

THE WATER STORAGE PROPOSITION.

Stockton Mail: The agitation for the storage of water by the State for the purpose of irrigation is arousing considerable interest, and it is probable that the convention to be held in San Francisco in October will be largely attended.

The proposition is not a new one, even in the United States. It has often been urged that Congress ought to appropriate money to experiment as to the advisability of constructing reservoirs to store water for the irrigation of arid lands in the West, especially in the Great Basin, but that body has hitherto done nothing, and the only work that has been done by the general government has been the issuing of reports on the subject by the Department of Agriculture and the United States Geological Survey, and incidental reference to it in the report of the Census Bureau.

At present it does not appear that the general government will do anything in the matter, and if anything is to be done, it must be done by private corporations or by the State. The enormous expense involved before any returns can be expected and the element of uncertainty that hovers around the scheme would doubtless deter private capital from this field of investment for many years, so that the only chance for any action in the near future is through the State. The matter is of vast importance and deserves a careful investigation at the hands of the press and the public generally.

SCHOOL LAW.

Santa Rosa Republican: State Superintendent Kirk has issued an order declaring that the law requires School Boards to meet and in open session transact the business of their district. He holds that school orders issued without such a meeting are worthless. Doubtless he has stated the law as it is and certainly as it should be. School business should be transacted by the Board of Trustees collectively and not by its individual members. In fact they have and should have no power to act in their individual capacity. For them to attempt to do so is contrary to public policy. It gives book agents and solicitors for school furniture and apparatus orders undue advantage of the people to be permitted to get the signatures of first one Trustee and then another in taking orders for such things. If all the members of the board meet and together discuss such propositions there will be less likelihood of extravagance and the making of foolish contracts. Mr. Kirk has done the State good service in promulgating the order, and its enforcement should be insisted upon.

CORRECT INFERENCE.

Los Angeles Express: The irresistible inference from the methods of the Dreyfus trial is that in France a defendant who is able to secure the largest number of influential witnesses to stand up in court and proclaim that he is innocent, irrespective of the legal facts in the case, stands the best show of acquittal. It does not seem to be so much what witnesses know as what they believe that counts.

MOVES TO AMEND.

Napa Register: We move to amend the motion made that charges preferred in the public prints against the Agnews Asylum and other State institutions be thoroughly investigated, by adding the provision that wherever charges prove to be gross fabrications the writer responsible for them shall be prosecuted and punished by the State for criminal libel. There are too many people interested in the proper care of unfortunates to treat lightly well founded charges or to excuse airly the most cruelly conceived lies.

Roosevelt's War Horse.

In days to come, when the memories of the Spanish-American war are mellowed by the hand of time, and when the men who participated in it have each been given a niche in the hall of fame, there will be statues erected to perpetuate the deeds of bravery done, and among them will undoubtedly be an equestrian statue of Theodore Roosevelt. This being so, it may be worth while now when the memory of deeds done is still fresh in the minds of men, to record the kind of fiery untamed war horse the Governor rode at San Juan Hill.

Just before the Rough Riders left Tampa for the seat of war a friend of the Colonel sent him a horse that was magnificent. He was finely proportioned, he threw his head in the air, his nostrils were distended, his tail and mane were the most beautiful adornments ever beheld, and he was easily worth $500. The Colonel looked the animal over and gave a sigh as he realized that he must forego the pleasure of using the animal that just fitted into the story book idea of what a war charger should be and just the kind that would disarrange a whole army when a gun went off. He gave him to one of the attendants and had him carefully looked after at Tampa while he was away. Then he went out and looked at his two old faithful steeds, which were worth about $10 each, and which would have been fine ornaments for the front end of a horse car, had them put on board the vessel to take to Cuba. The Colonel understood the value of a true, steady friend, that even shot and shell could not disturb. Only one of these horses got to go where the battle was fought, but he was of great value, and now he is with his companion out at Oyster Bay, doing quiet service, carrying the little Roosevelt children around on his back—a sort of sword turned into plowshare.

Maintenance of Roads.

Without proper care the most expensive road may go to ruin in two or three years and the initial expense of constructing it be nearly lost. It is of great importance, therefore, that all good roads should have daily care. They not only wear out, but wash out and freeze out. Water is the greatest road destroyer.

It is necessary to the proper maintenance of a road that it should "crown," or be higher in the middle than at the sides. If it is flat in the center it soon becomes concave and its middle becomes a pool or a mud hole if on a level or a water course if on an incline.

A hollow, rut or puddle should never be allowed to remain, but should be evenly filled and tamped with the same material of which the surface was originally constructed. A rake should be used freely, especially in removing stones, lumps or ridges.

Ruts may be avoided by using wide tires on all wagons which carry heavy loads. If this is not always possible the horses should be hitched so that they will walk directly in front of the wheels. This can be accomplished by making the double or whiffle tree of such length that the ends may be in line with the wheels. A horse will not walk in a rut unless compelled to do so, and, consequently, if all horses were hitched in this way ruts would eventually disappear from stone roads.

If stones are cracked on a road with a hammer, a smooth surface is out of the question. Use stone slips for repairing stone roads, and remember that all foreign material and rubbish will ruin the best road and that dust and mud will double the cost of maintenance.

Ordinarily the chief work done by country people on highways is repairing the damage resulting from neglect. Why this negligence? The adage "A stitch in time saves nine" can never be applied more appropriately to anything than the maintenance or repair of all kinds of roads.

Another Leveler.

"There's no leveler like love," said the sentimental Eastern visitor to the Kansas farmer.

"Guess you never tackled a real live cyclone," cackled the farmer behind his lace curtain whiskers.

Nothing contributes more toward a sound digestion than the use of the genuine Angostura Bitters of Dr. J. G. B. Siegert & Sons. Ask your druggist.

Had Horse Sense.

"One reads so many stories about animal intelligence that it would be hazardous for a doubter to express his belief in almost any gathering of men at the present day," remarked a well-known Western physician to a "Star" writer recently. "A little instance came within my own observation a number of years ago, when I was studying medicine, that convinced me that the members of the horse family should, at least, be credited with the possession of a very considerable amount of reasoning power.

"It was the custom for the students at the medical institution at which I pursued my studies to wear a small badge upon their coats to distinguish them from others at the college. A horse belonging to the establishment was used a great deal about the medical department, and the animal seemed to have a special preference for the embryo doctors. Well, one day, while a number of us were gathered in a little circle upon a lawn in the rear of the college, the animal in question, which used to be turned loose to nip the grass in the location, came toward the group limping very badly. He came to a stop a dozen or more feet away from the crowd, and, carefully surveying the lot of us, finally made up his mind what he wanted to do, and without any hesitation limped directly to my side, whinnied, stuck his nose against my body and held up his left foreleg.

"Looking down, I discovered a large nail imbedded in the frog of his hoof. This had evidently caused the lameness, and I soon realized the interesting fact that the animal desired me to attend to his foot. I extracted the nail with some difficulty, and the horse whimpered with relief and walked away. Being curious to know why the beast had picked me out to attend to his wound, I glanced at my fellow-students, and found the solution to the problem. Not one of the group had his medical badge upon his coat but myself. The horse had, therefore, plainly recognized the insignia, and acted accordingly."—Washington Star.

The Point in the Case.

How a great trouble overshadows a lesser was aptly illustrated in one of the minor courts the other day. The accused was a big, strong, honest faced German, greatly excited and disposed to do more talking than is permissible under such circumstances. The court distinctly said that the big man was charged with disturbing the peace and asked him whether he was guilty or not guilty.

"Dot vos not'ing, shudge," came the response. "Der prew'ry he hired me ter drive dot vagon. Tony Velters, he say, 'Shake, it vos besser and you yoin der union,' und den he say vhy I dond't vait a leetle and see how vos it. So I vait.

"Purdy gwick der boss he say, 'Shake, you can get your money und give up your deam. We vos a union prewery.' I say I vould see Tony und ask him vot der reason mit him dot he adwise me out of a yob. Vhen I find Tony he say did I haf some sense, und I told him he vost schmarder und I vos und he didn't know not'ings."

"But they say that you argued with a club and that Tony's strongest proposition was a brick."

"Dot vos not der point, shudge. Vot I vant der find out is, how do I stant on der union labor guestion?"—Detroit Free Press.

Strict Ideas of Etiquette.

We like to see people eat heartily at supper when they go to a dance, but would draw the line at carrying away sandwiches in their pockets.—Windsor (Wis.) Herald.

Chance for Some Genius.

A fortune awaits the inventor of a noiseless lawn mower or one that cannot be operated until after 6 a. m.—Cleveland World.

It takes a strike to make laboring men stand around.

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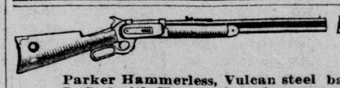

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