

THE DAILY JOURNAL WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1904

TELEPHONE CALLS. Either carrier—7 a. m. to midnight through the week and from 6 p. m. to midnight on Sun. days, ask for the Journal, then ask the Journal operator for the department or individual.

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New York liquor dealers pay \$25,000,000 in taxes each year. But that is a mere bagatelle in comparison with what they pay for police protection.

A New Orleans paper says that all that prevented the triumph of the Southern Confederacy was the interference of Russia. Well, yes—that and the Union army.

The United States consuls are on their way to Antung and Mukden. If all reports are true, they will have to hire a detective with a search warrant to find the towns for them.

Some congressmen oppose the acceptance of the status of Frederick the Great on the ground that he was a despotic example of militarism. But it would be a constant reminder that he is dead, wouldn't it?

The Kentucky Legislature has appropriated \$25,000 to erect a statue to the late William Goebel. The report is untrue, however, that former Governor Taylor has been asked to perform the unveiling ceremony.

Talk about organized crime—China is the place where it has reached its most striking stage. The government troops have been defeated in a bloody battle by an army of 1,600 opium smugglers.

Germany's readmission of the Jesuits is not altogether a triumph for that order, for though its members may come into the empire they are still denied entrance as an organization. It is a surrender of Bismarck's position, but the German government feels the need of Roman Catholic support in the Reichstag.

Here is the way they deal out justice in the German army. A lieutenant fought duels with three brother officers. He was court-martialed and sentenced to four months' imprisonment. His antagonists were sentenced, respectively, to six, fifteen and twenty-four months. The Kaiser says he is determined to stamp out the practice of dueling!

A dispatch from Paris says it is the expectation in official circles there that France and the other signatories of the Berlin treaty will unite in emphatic representations to Turkey against carrying out the Sultan's plans for the suppression and probable extermination of a considerable portion of the Armenians.

Russia is fighting for an outlet and open harbor on the Pacific, and Japan is fighting for self-preservation and national existence. The latter is the higher motive of the two, but that of Russia will inspire her to the greatest possible efforts. Japan will fight as long as she has a man or a dollar left, and Russia will never relinquish her cherished scheme as long as there is the slightest hope of realizing it.

Moreover, Japan is fighting for recognition as a first-class power and Russia against the humiliation of being beaten by a second-class power. The disparity of force between the two combatants is largely counterbalanced in favor of Japan by her nearness to the scene of action and by the now established superiority of her navy. Russian soldiers are undoubtedly brave, but the Japanese are equally so, with the added inspiration of intense hatred of a traditional enemy and utter indifference to danger or death.

For these reasons it looks as if the war might last longer than any war of recent years before reaching a point where either of the belligerents will be willing to yield.

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Armenia the powers ought to combine in the interests of humanity and drive Turkey out of Europe.

HEARST AND THE LABOR VOTE. The Hon. J. O. Henderson says the Hearst boomers have reason to believe that he is strong with workmen and if nominated will receive the bulk of the labor vote. It would be interesting to know Mr. Henderson's reasons, or those of any other person, for entertaining this view.

The Hearst newspapers make the assertion very confidently and constantly, but that does not signify anything. They make so many ridiculous claims for him as to discredit all. If his boomers dared to tell the truth it probably would appear that they claim he is strong with workmen because his papers are all socialistic and more earnest in promoting discontent and class hatred than they are in advocating any healthy political doctrine.

In fact, it is a peculiarity of the Hearst papers that they do not discuss national questions nor advocate or oppose any of the established policies of either party. They simply try to sow the seeds of discontent and class hatred. They are not party papers nor political papers—they are simply Hearst papers. They are not even independent, because they subordinate everything to Hearstism.

The Hearst boomers pay a poor compliment to the workmen when they assume that a candidate for office can make himself solid with them by advocating socialistic doctrines and fomenting class hatred. True, there is a socialistic element in the labor unions, but it is not numerous nor powerful. It lacks very much of being the controlling element. Time and again it has been outvoted on test questions or in attempts to get control of labor organizations.

And if Socialists are in a minority in labor unions they scarcely constitute a perceptible element in the great body of workmen and laborers composed of nonunion men. These vastly outnumber the union men, and as they are found mostly outside of large cities, they are very little affected by socialistic ideas. Hearst's socialistic doctrines may take well with a certain class element in labor unions, but they will meet with no favor among the great body of workmen and wage-earners.

The theory of the Hearst boomers involves another fallacy besides that of thinking that the so-called labor vote can be captured by preaching socialism. It assumes that organized labor votes as a unit and can be switched off here and there and delivered to any candidate for a consideration. This is a great mistake. Insofar as the phrase "labor vote" implies such a condition it is a misnomer. Properly speaking, there is no such thing as a labor vote, any more than there is a lawyer vote, a farmer vote or a merchant vote.

All of these classes and all others in American society are composed of individuals, who do their own thinking and vote according to their personal convictions, preferences and tastes. The workmen of the country divide on political lines just as the farmers and all other classes do, and it is misleading to speak of them as if they voted in droves.

The man who speaks of the labor vote in the sense of a vote that can be swung here and there as a mass, or hived like a swarm of bees, shows very little appreciation of American character. The prediction of the Hearst boomers that he will capture the labor vote by his advocacy of socialistic ideas will not be fulfilled.

THE EASTERN WAR MAY BE A LONG ONE. It begins to look as if the Russo-Japanese war might be one of the longest of recent times. It might be that and still be short compared with some of the wars of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, some of which lasted from thirty to fifty years.

The great improvement in machine implements of war, projectiles, etc., has tended to shorten wars while increasing the casualties. All the wars of the last fifty or sixty years have been comparatively short. The Crimean war lasted only two years, 1854 to 1856; the Franco-German war less than a year, from July, 1870, to May, 1871; the war between Russia and Turkey one year, from 1855 to 1857; the war between Japan and China about seven months, from September, 1894, to April, 1895; the war between the United States and Spain eight months, from April to December, 1898. All of these wars were very short compared with many of those of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

One thing that will tend to make the present war in the East comparatively a long one is the fact that it is not a war of the causes that led to it. It is not about a mere boundary dispute, a question of international etiquette, or some claim that could be adjudicated by the Geneva tribunal. It is a question of life or death on both sides. Russia is fighting for an outlet and open harbor on the Pacific, and Japan is fighting for self-preservation and national existence. The latter is the higher motive of the two, but that of Russia will inspire her to the greatest possible efforts. Japan will fight as long as she has a man or a dollar left, and Russia will never relinquish her cherished scheme as long as there is the slightest hope of realizing it.

Moreover, Japan is fighting for recognition as a first-class power and Russia against the humiliation of being beaten by a second-class power. The disparity of force between the two combatants is largely counterbalanced in favor of Japan by her nearness to the scene of action and by the now established superiority of her navy. Russian soldiers are undoubtedly brave, but the Japanese are equally so, with the added inspiration of intense hatred of a traditional enemy and utter indifference to danger or death.

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