

DAILY INTER MOUNTAIN

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BUTTE'S BUSINESS MEN.

It is said on good authority that the business men of Butte intend to take a prominent part in the nomination and election of the aldermen to be chosen for service in the new city council. That means a sudden and much-needed improvement in municipal legislation. The business men of Butte pay most of the taxes and should insist on the very best possible local government. Their interests are the city's interests. Most of them have been in Butte for a score of years. They have borne most of the burdens of the community. They have paid the taxes, extended credits, endured losses, encouraged the despondent in periods of depression, filled up the subscription lists, advertised the mines, developed prospects, and stood like pillars of adamant in support of all public enterprises, whether of a business or a charitable nature. They have a right, therefore, to demand the protection of the law, the reduction of taxation, honesty in public office, clean streets, modern sanitation and proper regulations for the financial, educational and moral welfare of the community. Particularly have they a right to representation in the city council. With proper organization they can do much in the way of reform.

The dignity of the American senate has been vindicated.

The two South Carolina senators who on Saturday disturbed the peace of that body like two drunken brawlers have been disciplined by suspension from their duties.

The spectacle presented by Tillman and McLaurin as they engaged in a brutal exhibition of fist-cuffs in the presence of the men whose duty it is to set an example of decorum and gentility to the American people was an insult to the national sense of decency. While there is no doubt that Tillman's vile charges against his colleague were false as they were foul, the latter had no right to employ the language attributed to him in reply. Such disputes should be settled outside of the senate chamber.

The action of the senate in suspending the belligerent senators will receive the prompt indorsement of every advocate of law and order in this country. With equal unanimity will the people approve the action of President Roosevelt in recalling the invitations issued to the two senators to attend the banquet to be given in honor of Prince Henry tonight at the White house. Such men have no right to carry their personal hatreds into the company of gentlemen, and the safe policy is to exclude them.

The purchase of the Colusa-Parrot mine from Senator Clark by the Amalgamated company is the most important mining transaction of the year in this state. Though the claim is but 300 feet long and 100 feet wide, the ore body already blocked out and ready for extraction is very rich and almost as large as the claim itself. For years it has been a continuous producer. Until the litigation arose which closed down part of the mine, it was one of the chief producers of the district. A competent authority says there is \$15,000,000 net in the property above the lowest workings. The sale price is not made public, but it is probably based more on the legal status of the property than on the ore in sight. The claim embraces some of the best developed ground in the district, thanks to the skillful management of Mr. Kilgallon, and its acquisition is not only a commendable stroke on the part of the purchasers, but it indicates a friendliness of business relationships in this district which augurs well for the future of the community.

It is estimated that the present mining litigation in Butte costs the litigants about \$2,000,000 per annum. That money, if not so expended, would largely be employed in the acquisition of property, in the employment of more men, in the building of more smelters, and for other purposes resulting to the public advantage. Sooner or later the terrible drain must be stopped. Every business consideration demands that it be stopped. A belief is current that already arrangements have been made by which the end is brought into sight. Denials more or less weak have been made, but all the "signs of the times" point to early peace and to the restoration of that amity which is the only possible offset to low-priced copper. Retrenchment must be the watchword of all the copper companies, particularly those not prepared to make cheap copper.

IF DOES NOT ENTANGLE.

Prince Henry of Prussia is here safe and sound and his reception is as cordial as could be wished. There is a good bit of curiosity in the interest shown in the prince's visit, but hospitable intentions predominate. A live prince is something not seen every day, and Americans will go out of their way to observe him. It has always been so when occasional visits of distinguished foreigners have been made. From Lafayette to Li Hung Chang an impartial cordiality has been extended. The Prince of Wales, now King Edward, and the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia came, as Prince Henry has come, without political business. They were met with a warmth of greeting that could not with propriety be extended to an ambassador. Just now there is a controversy on tap concerning the parts played by the nations of Europe during our war with Spain. The reception to Prince Henry need not be strained for fear it may be construed as setting the stamp of genuineness on Germany's friendship during those exciting days. Happily the prince is not here to represent his country in receiving compliments.

On the principle that one good turn deserves another, Americans have reason to greet visitors from abroad with hospitality. The tour of General Grant around the world proved foreigners were ready to extend every courtesy to the foremost citizen of the United States. Marked attentions were shown him by Queen Victoria, King Leopold of Belgium, Emperor William of Germany, King Humbert of Italy, and every potentate of Europe and the East where he visited in that famous trip. The American people did not fail in appreciation and have returned the compliment. In fact, they set the example in 1860 when our reception to the Prince of Wales was more cordial than was given him in Canada. There is no touch of Anglo-mania in all this. It is strictly impartial and entirely sensible. Should President Kruger come tomorrow he would be received as heartily and pursued with as great curiosity as any. The attention shown Prince Henry is pleasant neighborly courtesy merely. It is not dangerous and does not lead to entangling alliances.

SOME GIANT STRIDES.

A recent publication, called the "Statistical Abstract of the United States," is a really valuable book. It reviews a hundred years of the country's history, telling the story of the giant strides made in population and commerce by comparative tables. As it was in the beginning, it is far from being at this day with respect to the matters of which this condensed compendium of statistics treats. The marvelous growth in different directions is impressively told, and the fact that we are indeed a mighty nation is brought out with peculiar force and clearness. It is interesting to observe, for example, that in 1800 the gross area of the United States (exclusive of Alaska and Hawaii) was 827,844 square miles, and that today it measures 3,625,606 square miles. The population meantime has expanded from 5,308,483 to 75,692,724. Viewed in their comparative relation, these facts become absolutely picturesque.

A hundred years ago Virginia ranked first in population. Now the Old Dominion state is seventeenth. Pennsylvania is the only commonwealth that has held its own in this respect. It stood second then and is second now. New York, which ranked third at the beginning of the century, has gained first place. North Carolina was the fourth state in population when the century began, and now it is fifteenth. Kentucky has dropped from the eighth place to the twenty-ninth. Delaware from seventeenth to forty-sixth. Indiana has risen from the twenty-first rank to the eighth. Ohio has moved from eighteenth to fourth. The census figures reveal changes through which it is interesting to trace the trend of population.

The public debt was \$78.25 per capita in 1865; today it is \$13.45 per capita. Then the per capita interest charge was \$1.29; now it amounts to 38 cents. The savings banks deposits in 1820 were \$1,138,576, and the number of depositors was 8,635; in 1901 the amount of deposits had piled up until it was represented by \$2,449,547,885 and the number of depositors had increased to 6,107,083. At the former period the average sum due each depositor was \$131.86; in 1901 it was \$401.10. During the century the country's imports increased from \$91,000,000 to \$822,000,000, and exports grew in value from \$1,000,000 to \$1,487,000,000. One hundred years ago the imports exceeded exports nearly 30 per cent; today the exports are in excess of imports fully 80 per cent. Imports multiplied nine times during the century and exports twenty-one times. In all respects the past century has been a marvel of progress. The figures abundantly prove this.

The Inter Mountain is in receipt of an unsigned letter purporting to come from the employees of one of the mining companies, and protesting against the system of insurance adopted by the management. The letter, being anonymous, is not entitled to publication in these columns. If, however, the employees in question have any real grievance and have good reason to object to the insurance agreement, the Inter Mountain would suggest that they appoint a committee to wait on the management and respectfully present their side of the case, so that it may be decided on its merits and with due regard to the interests of the men for the protection of whose families the plan was no doubt put into effect.

HARMONY MEANS SUCCESS.

Great Falls Leader: The Butte Inter Mountain a few days ago made a plea for harmony in the republican party, in an effort to bring the recalcitrant republicans to a realization of the injury they were doing their own cause in endeavoring to promote differences in the republican ranks. The Inter Mountain article was received with favor by every one except the Helena Herald, but that paper says that it will never, no, never, consent to harmony until Senator Carter is driven from the republican ranks. It matters not what republican primaries and republican conventions may do, the Herald will remain unreconciled and unreconcilable until its behests are obeyed, until its wrecking qualities are recognized as the true principles of republicanism in Montana.

The Leader heartily indorses the efforts of the Inter Mountain to have the whole matter settled in the primaries and in the conventions and believes these are the places in which to settle party differences. To be sure, the whole matter was settled at the fall conventions of 1900, but there can be no objections to settling it again, only the next time let all abide by the decision.

By all means, let us have harmony in the party; let us acquiesce in what has been done until such actions are undone by the proper authority—the people—and then let us acquiesce again in the decision. Let us not insist upon the reading of any man or men out of the party, but rather let us welcome all, providing they come with clean hands and pure hearts to the party altar, untainted with traitorous intentions and uncontaminated with democratic gold.

Butte Tribune: If the republicans would have success at the polls they must also have harmony within the party ranks.

RAILROAD DEAD-HEADS.

The question of free passes is still agitating the railway companies of the East. A few roads east of the Mississippi agreed that the first of January of the present year should be the "dead line" as far as free transportation was concerned. They decided to abolish the pass system, but their decision didn't abolish it. For one reason or another the roads that were parties to the agreement swung out of line, until now every system in the country is extending the customary dead-head privileges and no questions asked. Manifestly the way to cut out the pass evil is to cut it out, but the roads appear not to have learned how to do the trick.

Good authority supports the statement that the free pass evil has grown to tremendous proportions. It is estimated that the roads of the United States issue annually, in the form of dead-head passes, fully \$40,000,000 worth of transportation. Millions of railroad employees, congressmen, judges, legislators, and national, state, municipal and county officers, politicians, promoters of fairs and expositions, circus advance agents, heavy shippers of freight—all these and thousands more have a place on the dead-head list. Officials of railway companies say that the evil has become so great that every eighth passenger on a train is a dead-head. The average is five dead-heads daily to each passenger train in the United States.

The prediction is made that the time will come when the dead-head passenger will pass away with other evils that grow out of the present methods of railroad management. Commercial freight agents and traveling passenger agents are auxiliaries that in time will be dispensed with. These men frequently travel 5,000 miles in a month, and an army of them is required to cover the territory from which railroads draw their principal business. The cost of maintaining this expensive corps of men is charged up to patrons of the road just the same as the cost of carrying the dead-head passenger falls on the man who buys his ticket. Both customs will be supplanted some day by an arrangement that will evenly distribute the burdens of maintaining railroads. Just at present the failure of the anti-pass movement seems to indicate that the proposed reforms will be slow in coming.

OUR GERMAN POPULATION.

The demagogue outburst of Congressman Wheeler, democrat, of Kentucky, in the lower house last week, will have the effect of intensifying the cordiality of Prince Henry's reception. There are in this country millions of German-born citizens, and other millions of German descent. They are among the most industrious, intelligent, thrifty and patriotic people of the country. They are none the less Americans because of their love for the Fatherland and their respect for its royal family. The men who fought "mit Sichel" showed that they did not become naturalized Americans without imbuing at the same time an intense love for their adopted country and its flag. That nine-tenths of the German population are republicans is additional proof of their intelligent identification with the welfare of the nation. Prince Henry is a royal good fellow. He is a king among men and a man among kings. His welcome by the president of the United States this evening will be as cordial as it will be sincere. The two men represent diametrically different ideas of government, but tonight they meet on common ground, and every loyal American will hope for the best possible results.

The death of S. A. Kennicott of Anaconda removes from musical circles of that city a most gifted man. He has been a resident of Montana for about twenty years, having previously come from the East, where he was highly educated and was one of a distinguished family. Naturally he was a most courteous and kindly man. A homicide in which he figured in Butte affected his social status seriously, and later he moved to Anaconda, intending by an upright and honorable course to live down the natural effects of that trouble. He succeeded in so doing. Since his marriage he has been an industrious, patient, peaceful man, whose warm greeting and pleasant smile always made him welcome among his friends. His was a sad and not very successful life. Yet he always meant well, he did no man wrong. He had all the instincts of a gentleman. Even his failings leaned to virtue's side.

The reported intention of the Butte, Anaconda & Pacific Railroad company to change the time table so that the train hitherto leaving Butte at 4:50 p. m. will hereafter leave at 11:30 or thereabouts would work a great hardship on the traveling public and prove a great inconvenience. Many people who had business in the Smelter City in the evening were able to make the round trip, thus saving the expense of remaining there over night. There are many other reasons against the proposed change, and it is hoped that the company, which has ever had courteous regard for the public interests, will see its way clear to keep on the early train.

One of the remarkable features of the copper stock market of late is the rise in Tri-Mountain, owned by the Amalgamated people. Three months ago the shares were quoted at \$17; today they touched \$24. The rise is attributed by a Boston paper to the fine Italian hand of the Rev. Thomas Lawson, but the encouraging fact of the situation is that unless the copper market were showing signs of early improvement it would be impossible for any stock to show such an advance. One reason, perhaps, is that Tri-Mountain is free from lawsuits.

The charge is openly made by a Helena paper that the state educational authorities have allowed themselves to be outrageously swindled for two years past by Eastern book concerns. High prices and poor quality have characterized the books purchased, and a demand is made for a change by the Helena paper. Why not first have an investigation and bring out the proofs of fraud? It is well to be right before going ahead.

Mrs. Carrie Nation was recently presented with a hatchet by a Chicago firm. While the strenuous advocate of temperance was admiring the gift it accidentally slipped, and, falling, struck one of her toes, almost severing it. Lockjaw is threatened, and Carrie's last joint-smashing incident seems likely to be the most popular of all.

Prince Henry having landed, Representative Wheeler of Kentucky will kindly resist the impulse to throw another oratorical fit.

MAXIM GORKI

[New York Tribune.]

A Russian journal has recently published some reminiscences of Gorki, the remarkable young novelist whose pictures of Russian life have attracted so much attention. They are by a station master on a Russian railroad. Twelve years ago Gorki was a railroad employe at a little station near Zarizau, in the province of Saratov, Russia. He was a night watchman of railroad cars.

The station master says that he paid close attention to his duties, and soon showed that he had a good education, for which reason he was pushed ahead, and in a few months was put in the place of the weigh master. He had no notion of saving his wages, however, and spent his money in what the station master calls "queer ways."

"He spent it foolishly, as we used to say—on his comrades who had families, or on the poor, a ruble to one, 50 kopeks to another; or he would buy postage stamps in large quantities, for he kept up a very large correspondence, and got letters from somewhere almost every day. Nobody knew with whom he corresponded, or about what, though these things didn't interest us much.

"In his leisure moments you could always find him in the midst of a group of workmen, delivering an address or reading to them from some book of moral or religious tendency, or about geography, history, astronomy, etc. His reading evidently gained the applause of his auditors, for he read well, and had an uncommon gift of speaking. The workmen went to him in perfect crowds, in their endeavors to hear something interesting from him. And we, too, in the office were soon to have occasion to know Pjeschkow—Gorki's real name—better.

"One day as I was reading a novel—or some book, I don't remember now just what—I came upon the name of an organization or secret society unknown to me, and as I knew nothing about their doctrines I went for information to our station master, as the best read man of those parts. But he could tell me nothing about it. By chance Pjeschkow happened to be in the office during our conversation.

"Will you allow me, Ivan Ivanovitch," he said, turning to the station master, "to tell you something about that?" And then he gave us a regular

Not Even Au Revoir. [Kansas City Star.] The reported parting of Miss Stone with the bandits seems to have been much adieu about nothing.

A Tinge of Yellow. [Chicago Tribune.] Some esteemed New York contemporary should hasten to make arrangements to have Prince Henry edit one of its issues.

"Marked With Flame." [New York Tribune.] The present year is young, but its record so far gives token that it will be remembered at least by the fire insurance companies.

The "Legend" Ruined. [Springfield Republican.] If Lord Pauncefoot thought armed intervention "unjustifiable," he was guilty of no crime. There were many good Americans who held the same view. But if he proposed a collective note by the powers expressing an opinion to that effect, all that can be said is that the "British legend," as the Germans call it, is irretrievably ruined. The presumption is strongly against the Pauncefoot story, and it needs to be strongly confirmed that the British ambassador would have done such a thing as that the Russian ambassador would have done it.

Unconscious Humor. [St. Paul Globe.] There is a great deal of unconscious humor exhibited on both sides in the prevailing discussion going on in German and British circles regarding the real extent and character of the friendship of Germany and England respectively toward the United States. The discussion seems to have been started by the London newspapers, whose sense of humor is not universally recognized. They appear to have started it, moreover, as the result of the contemplated trip of Prince Henry of Prussia to this country, to which they insist on attaching a deal of political significance which nobody but themselves seems quite able to comprehend.

Somewhat in Doubt. [Los Angeles Express.] There is a formidable number of citizens of this country who would like to intervene in foreign affairs at the present moment. They would stop the South African war forthwith, demolish the tottering kingdom of Abdul Hamid, free Ireland and administer a spanking to several South American republics. The only thing which prevents action is the same delicacy which caused the powers of Europe to tell Spain that they sympathized with her, but advised her to see the other parties and come around some other day after sufficient time had elapsed to think it over. In other words, there was an indisposition to interfere, without a clear notion as to which way the cat intended to jump.

Disaster Averted. [Kansas City Star.] The foreign offices of Europe continue to pour floods of light upon the vexed question of which government saved the United States from annihilation in the Spanish war. Certain interesting statements in foreign journals have been overlooked in the United States. Here is what the Berliner Tageblatt says in an inspired article—although all articles in the foreign press are "inspired" for that matter: "The Tageblatt has it on unimpeachable authority that as soon as the Spanish-American trouble developed, the kaiser called in Herr Poutney Bigelow, his eminent American school friend. 'Pout, my boy,' said his majesty with emotion, 'let me assure you, as my college chum, of my undying devotion to you. You may use this interview as you think best.' Undoubtedly this incident prevented the British lake fleet from bombarding Chicago."

lecture about the secret society, with so many details that I really don't know where he could have got them. As I have already said, he spoke charmingly, and so held our interest that if a train had arrived then we shouldn't have heard it. "Fortunately no train was due, and so two hours slipped by without our noticing it, while Pjeschkow entertained and instructed us. When he left us the station master turned to me and said: "Do you know what I think? This Pjeschkow is an expelled student or something of that sort, for he is altogether too clever and well read for a baker's apprentice and cook. Lord save us from having any trouble with him!"

"He stayed at work at our station only a few months. One fine day he appeared before me in the office, asked for his discharge and gave me notice that he would no longer work for us.

"I paid him what was due him, and offered him a third-class ticket to any station on our line, but he declined it and said he was going on foot. Then he clapped his fur cap over his ears, lifted his little bag of belongings to his shoulder and marched off along the railroad track in his felt shoes, bidding farewell amicably to the employes of the station as he passed them.

"Soon I got hold of Maxim Gorki's stories; when I read them I had the feeling that I was reading something I had heard before, but had long forgotten. And when I saw the portrait of the author I recognized in him at once our former weigh master. But that he never had any schooling, as they say who write about him, I shall never be able to believe."

Retribution. [Boston Traveler.] A Yankee burglar having robbed a Paris police commissioner, the American eagle may now scream.

A Hale Old Scholar. [New York World.] Dr. Gilman, just elected president of the great Carnegie Institution in Washington, is 70 years old. In the realm of high thought and vast enterprise this is not yet exclusively "the young man's age."

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