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H. H. MULLIN, Editor and Proprietor
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Comic opera without comedy has produced one without music.

Six Haitian generals have been executed. But there are others.

It is safe to predict for the harem skirt a short life and an exciting one

Titled husbands seem to think they can train American heiresses when caught young.

A New York dentist was lately sent to Sing Sing for forgery. He evidently lost his "pull."

"Harvard is after \$1,200,000." Many of us would like to do the same thing but what's the use?

Telephone girls in Denver marry in 13 months. In New York the average is 23 months. Go west, young woman!

Massachusetts proposes imposing a tax on all bachelors of good standing and correct moral habits. How many will it reach?

Wellesley girls are to be taught the art of raising onions. We should think the art of eating them would be more important.

A Cleveland man is suing for a divorce because his wife has hardly spoken to him in years. Some men do not appreciate their blessings.

The czar of Russia has ordered an opera to commemorate the deeds of his ancestors. Possibly the music will be interspersed with bomb explosions.

The per capita circulation has reached the sum of \$34.43, but a good many people retire at the end of the week with less than 43 cents each to the good.

A learned professor has discovered that men prefer blond women. But he needn't expect husbands with brunette wives to help him prove it to the public.

The most polite man on record hid the fact until his death. He was a New York man, who apologized in his will to his wife for not leaving her more money.

Out in Washington a woman jury fined a man for swearing. Well, what is a man going to do when he swings a shovel of coal and misses the furnace door?

Inventor Johnson, who discovered Portland cement, is still alive and hearty at the age of 100. Maybe inventing is more conducive to longevity than Fletcherizing after all.

A Wilkesbarre Alderman has decided that face paint is a necessity and not a cause for divorce. Since when have Aldermen been given jurisdiction in divorce cases in Wilkesbarre?

"A man who allows his wife to have her own way," says a Boston professor, "is a philosopher and a diplomat." We might add that he is doing the only thing it is possible for him to do.

Three men in New Jersey, disguised in hobbie skirts, caught a highwayman who had been terrorizing women, residents of the section. This is another good word spoken for the much-criticized garment.

That Ohio Judge who ruled that a wife may annex a husband's cash without his knowledge or consent evidently has no desire to lead the bachelors away from their race suicide tendencies.

Travel to Europe this year will be heavier than ever before. Also the passing through the custom house, when the autumn leaves begin to fall, will be done much more carefully than in the past.

Ex-President Eliot of Harvard thinks six or eight children are the proper number for the average family. Does Dr. Eliot forget that children of the present day do not wear copper-toed shoes?

Professor Salisbury of the University of Chicago, of course, says the world is still growing bigger and some day will be twice its present size. It will need to be Chicago's dreams of future greatness are realized.

Automobiles are becoming so common that our social leaders are thinking of adopting the aeroplane. When the aeroplane has become common probably they will adopt submarines. After that, the Lord only knows.

A Baltimore paper publishes an article half a page long about an actress because she is able to make a good salad dressing. Yet the London Times querulously asserts that some American newspapers are given up to trivialities.

There has been introduced in the New Hampshire legislature a measure providing that people who eavesdrop by means of the telephone may be fined. Some people will be unable to understand why anyone should have a telephone in the house if it is not to be permissible to listen while others are talking.

HASTE NOT DESIRABLE

TARIFF REVISION A SUBJECT FOR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.

Seems improbable That Matter Can Be Properly Handled in Extra Session—Good Advice for Democratic Leaders.

Will congress, during the extra session, confine its attention to the Canadian reciprocity bill or will it attempt also to change some of the schedules in the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill? Doubtless there are Democratic members of the new house who are impatient to give immediate proof to their constituents of their zeal for revision. It remains to be seen whether there is enough of cautiousness and conservatism in the house to hold them in check.

It is not likely that congress will be imprudent enough to take up deliberately the entire subject of the tariff this summer. If it essays anything beyond the passage of the reciprocity bill it will probably be the amendment of one or two of the tariff schedules. And there is none it is more likely to select than the woolen schedule, which everybody, aside from the men it benefits and their friends, acknowledges to be unjust to the consumers. Yet if the woolen schedule is changed, the cotton and some other schedules must be changed also. Involved in them to an equal extent, and in fact affecting practically the entire act, are the questions of drawbacks, maximum and minimum provisions, and compound duties, specific and ad valorem.

It must be borne in mind, also, that the present tariff law is obscure, complex and involved to such an extent that in many instances it is difficult to ascertain the amount of bounty it confers on its beneficiaries. Perhaps that was one of its purposes.

The deduction is logical that if even any of the schedules which most need reduction is taken up this summer for revision, congress will almost inevitably be drawn into the consideration of practically the whole tariff subject. And it is not in a position yet to do that.

Its more careful and far-seeing leaders will undoubtedly recommend that the tariff be left until next winter in the hands of the committee on ways and means. It goes without saying that the business interests of the country hope this counsel will be given and followed.

Financial Appropriations.

The division of the appropriations among several committees for different departments naturally induces each committee to try to grab all it can for its department. Another of the evils of that system, as Chairman Tawney points out, is the practice of making appropriations immediately available, so that many are in fact designed to meet deficiencies in the preceding year. His solution would be to have a general appropriations committee upon which all departments would be represented, so that each would check the other, while the concentration of responsibility would tend to prevent the comparative recklessness with which expenditures are now voted. Without some such centralization of responsibility the efforts to secure economy in the operation of the departments must be largely in vain. So long as the appropriations can be obtained the departments will not hesitate to ask for them or to spend them.

Task for Democrats.

When the Democratic party takes charge in the house it will find the way of the economist a hard one to travel. It may succeed in trimming off a few millions from the bills, but the net savings will be pittance compared with the needs of the government. It will do well to proceed on the theory that the appropriations are in fair measure representative of the country's necessities and obligations and not try for a record which cannot stand analysis.

Bailey's Position Illogical.

Senator Bailey says he is opposed to the agreement with Canada because it admits raw materials free or at greatly reduced rates and does not cut down the duties on manufactures. That is extremely foolish. He refuses to let the wedge be driven in because it cannot go clean through at a single blow. In reality he is simply serving local interests, like the lumbermen, whose plea he has already submitted.

Uncle Sam's Expenditures.

Chairman Tawney of the house appropriations committee announces that the total appropriations made at the last session of congress aggregated \$1,025,489,662, less than \$1,000,000 in excess of the estimates of the president. He predicts a surplus of revenues next year of not less than \$25,500,000.

"The extra session will cost \$1,000,000." When the Democrats get through tinkering with the tariff it may be found to cost more than that.

Scored Wealthy Women.

Miss Olive Gibson, missionary of the Congregational church of New Mexico, at the annual meeting of the Philadelphia Interdenominational Women's Home Missionary council, held in Philadelphia, said that if the church women would not wear so many expensive furs, but give the money to missionary societies, there would be an improvement. Two thousand dollars that a certain deacon had paid for furs for his wife, she said would have paid for the complete education of nine boys and girls.

HAS HEAVY BURDEN TO CARRY

New Secretary of the Interior May Properly Ask That People's Judgment Be Deferred.

If ever a man found himself with a strenuous job on his hands he is Walter L. Fisher of Chicago, who has become secretary of the interior in place of Ballinger. The work which confronts him is enough to appall any but the most highly developed American man of affairs.

To begin with, the department is in a more or less demoralized condition and much of its business not brought up to date, owing to the fact that for nearly a year it has been compelled to defend itself constantly against the most persistent and vigorous attacks. Among the great problems awaiting solution are those connected with the leasing of coal lands in Alaska, oil lands in California, and waterpower sites in various parts of the public domain, upon which subject congress failed to provide any legislation.

The Alaska railroad question must also be settled. Then there is the Cunningham coal case in Alaska to be disposed of and the highly important precedent thereby established must be carefully considered. Something must be done with a great number of prosecutions against claimants to public lands, already in course of preparation. A definite policy must be decided upon for the expenditure of \$20,000,000 in the completion of existing reclamation project. And on top of all this the new secretary must prepare for the investigation of his department threatened by the Democratic house.

But Mr. Fisher is a dauntless man of great force and high ability. He will undoubtedly do as much as any man could do. In all fairness, the country should not become impatient if he fails to get results as quickly as it would like in all the undertakings before him.

Senator Root's Plan.

The bill to deal with deadlocks in the election of United States senators which Mr. Root has introduced contains this provision: "If no person receives such majority before the first day of March next preceding the beginning of the six years for which a senator is to be elected, then the person who on or after the first day of March receives a plurality of the votes of the joint assembly, a majority of all the members elected to both houses being present and voting, shall be declared duly elected."

If plurality votes are to give a good title to a senatorship, why insist on a two months' struggle to obtain a majority first? Why not elect by plurality votes at the outset? The senator in most cases would be no less representative of the people if chosen by a plurality than if chosen by a majority. The best way to deal with this matter is to elect by popular vote. There will be no legislative deadlocks then.

Senator Bailey's Weakness.

Senator Bailey of Texas is in many ways a strong man. He has knowledge, conviction, force. But he has weaknesses, and one of them is petulance. His resignation from the senate under irritation growing out of the failure of his Democratic associates to accept his leadership, was an exhibition of weakness, followed by still another exhibition of weakness in his withdrawal. Either he should not have resigned or he should have made his resignation stick. Whatever claims he may have had to the leadership of the Democratic group in the senate, he has now definitely lost. Probably, too, by this act he has lost consideration in his own state and in all likelihood his career in the senate will end with the expiration of his present term, two years from now.

The Japanese Treaty.

The prompt ratification of the Japanese treaty is in the first place a notable achievement of the administration. Seldom has any foreign convention of comparable importance been ratified so promptly and with so little opposition or criticism. It is also a triumph for the general principles upon which American diplomacy is conducted. John Hay epitomized those principles—with more truth than most epigrams contain—as a combination of the Monroe doctrine and the Golden Rule.

People's Interests First.

It is idle to talk at this time about a hurried session. The people's servants are on salary, and the people's interests should be their highest consideration. As for the weather in Washington, it is not oppressive in early summer, and lawmakers can work here without serious discomfort. When congress assembles it should be with the intention of legislating in workmanlike fashion on all the questions it decides to take up.—Washington Star.

If his resignation had been accepted, the thoughts of Senator Bailey, transferred to paper, would probably have looked like the entries in a Chinese junk's log book.

One of the "Sights" of Winnipeg.

Built by the "priest" or leader of a small handful of devotees of a section of the Russian Greek church, a "one-man church" was one of the "sights" of the foreign district in Winnipeg, Man. Most of the stuff consists mainly of old lumber, tin cans of all sorts and sizes, iron bedsteads, chairs, iron wire and rods of all kinds, most ingeniously put together and presenting a wonderful picture of great variety of colors and shapes.

IN THE LIMELIGHT

PRESIDENT'S NEW SECRETARY



The new secretary to President Taft who succeeds Charles D. Norton is Charles D. Hillis, until recently assistant secretary of the treasury. The selection of Mr. Hillis meets with the hearty approval of the friends of the president. Mr. Hillis is a native of Ohio, but was appointed to his present position from Dobb's Ferry, N. Y., where he was conducting a boys' school. Mr. Hillis is about 40 years old. He will receive an annual salary of \$7,500, congress having granted an increase of \$1,500 for the position. Under the reorganization of the executive force which has brought about Mr. Norton's short term at the White House, that force, with the exception of the secretary, will be practically a permanent body.

That women are keen observers and not always without a sense of humor has been demonstrated by a Virginia girl. When the announcement was made that Charles D. Hillis had been selected for the position of secretary to the president the young lady wrote to Mr. Hillis a congratulatory letter in which she invited him to read Leviticus, chapter 16, verses 20 to 23. Mr. Hillis borrowed a Bible and read the following:

"And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat. And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness. And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited, and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness."

Apparently the Virginia belle reads the political columns of the newspapers and knows how often it falls on the president's secretary to be "the goat."

HEIR TO THRONE OF MONACO



Prince Louis, who is heir to the throne of the little principality of Monaco, famous throughout the world as the greatest gambling resort in existence, may never wield the power now exercised by his father, Prince Albert. Although the profits from the casino pay all the taxes of the principality, thereby freeing every citizen from financial obligations to the state, the people are not contented. They have made demands upon Prince Albert for a constitution, and the prince, immediately after the expulsion of Manuel from Portugal, granted them one. They rejected it, however, demanding fuller political rights, and even made demonstrations before the palace, in which the red flag of anarchy was unfurled.

It has been charged that a corrupt condition of things exists. By the terms of the last concession granted to the Casino, about \$2,400,000 was handed over annually by it to Prince Albert, who also drew about \$800,000 a year from the local post-office and stamp duties. Of this total \$2,200,000, the prince was supposed to retain \$800,000 as his civil list, while the remainder represented the revenues of the state and were to provide for its maintenance. Now the people assert that the prince had allowed these sums and their true destination to become confused and has amassed a fortune of \$16,000,000, most of which he has, with proper caution, invested in France.

Whether the people will go to the extreme of revolution in case their demands are not granted only the future can tell. But the situation does not augur well for either Prince Albert or Prince Louis.

FISHER SUCCEEDS BALLINGER



Walter Lowery Fisher of Chicago, succeeds Richard A. Ballinger as secretary of the interior. Mr. Ballinger's resignation was presented in January, but at the request of the president, was withheld until after congress adjourned. Mr. Fisher is a lawyer, and has served in several public capacities. Singularly, he has been one of Gifford Pinchot's staunchest supporters in the matter of conservation of natural resources. He was president of the Conservation League of the National Conservation Congress, which succeeded the league and of which Mr. Pinchot is president.

He has always taken a deep and active interest in conservation. He was instrumental in the formation of the Municipal Voters' League of Chicago and was its president in 1906. Recently he was appointed a member of President Taft's commission to investigate the feasibility of regulation of stock and bond issues of railroads. He is a native of West Virginia and is 49 years old. Mr. Fisher said that no change in the personnel of the department would be made.

Mr. Ballinger says he intends to prosecute those whom he considers have been his enemies. In defending himself against those who have been waging war upon him Mr. Ballinger says that he spent \$25,000 and is today a poor man. His health, too, has been impaired.

MAINE GOVERNOR AN EDITOR



Gov. Frederick W. Plaisted of Maine is a newspaper editor before he is anything else. He has passed the greater part of his life in the atmosphere of a newspaper office and will never get the stain of the printer's ink from his fingers. His apprenticeship was served under one of the old school of Maine journalists, Gen. Harris M. Plaisted, his father. For many years they published the New Age together, and the paper lives today, a monument to their efforts.

Governor Plaisted leads an ideal home life. Mrs. Plaisted was Miss Frances B. Gulliver, and for several years assisted him in the New Age office. She still retains a lively interest in that publication and, although the wife of the governor of the state, democratically lays aside her social duties and plunges into the grind of "getting out" the paper whenever she can conjure up an excuse for so doing.

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Shillalah Still Useful.

The shillalah, which showed at Louth that it has not entirely lost its old importance as a factor in deciding elections, is no raw limb of a tree. It is almost as much a work of art as a well balanced cricket bat. The old shillalahs were as carefully looked after by their loving owners as is a rifle in the wilds. Cut from the sturdiest of young blackthorns, and showing as little taper as an ebony ruler, it was weighted with lead or iron at the end nearest the grip, so that its center of gravity was about four-fifths of the way from the hitting end. When properly seasoned by being kept in the neighborhood of the farm oven for a few months, it became a thing of supple steel. And the proper pronunciation of the name of this fearsome weapon is the melodious one of "shil-ally," with the accent on the "all."—London Chronicle.

Perhaps Not.

An instructor in a church school where much attention was paid to sacred history, dwelt particularly on the phrase "And Enoch was not, for God took him." So many times was this repeated in connection with the death of Enoch that he thought even the dullest pupil would answer correctly when asked in examination: State in the exact language of the Bible what is said of Enoch's death. But this was the answer he got: "Enoch was not what God took him for."—Brooklyn Life.

Why Maria Laughed.

Hiram paused at the door and holding up a steel trap, said: "Maria, when you see this trap again it will have a skunk in it." Fifteen minutes later he reappeared. "Maria," he yelled, "you come here and loosen me out of this all-fired trap." And then he got mad at "Maria" because she laughed.

Too Costly.

"When I want to flatter a man I ask him for advice." "I take it for granted that you never want to flatter a lawyer."

Faith must become active through works. Deeds must spring spontaneously from the divine life within the soul.—C. W. Wendte.

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