

THE JOURNAL

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TWO CONVENTIONS

President Roosevelt will be the recipient of two votes of confidence yesterday, one by the Ohio republican convention and the other by that of Kansas. These endorsements were robust and unqualified, and as endorsements go two years before the coming convention, may be regarded as good starters for the strenuous president in the contest for the republican presidential nomination in 1904.

The Ohio republicans on the subjects of tariff and reciprocity might have sounded a clearer note, might indeed have adopted the interpretation of the party principles as set forth in the admirable speech of General Grosvenor at the opening of the convention. They properly extol the prosperity of the country and pay a strong tribute to the value of the protective system and heartily commend the proposition for reciprocal trade with Cuba "so as to benefit the trade of both countries." They lay stress, too, upon the fact that our exportations of manufactures "now constantly exceed their importations." General Grosvenor, in his speech, affirmed the importance of maintaining the policy of protection as the great stimulus of home industrial effort, but he took McKinley's position that we cannot perpetually add to our productive capacity and concurrently fall to gain new and wider markets for the surplus; the necessity is laid upon us to increase our foreign markets "through the medium of just reciprocity." General Grosvenor very plainly admitted the need of tariff revision when duties in the schedules enable producers to extort extravagant prices for the necessities of life or have, by the evolution of business, become the bulwark of unjust discrimination and extortionate prices. He stated the meaning of genuine protection with great specificity as the making good by tariff taxes and tariff schedules the difference in cost between the foreign article and the articles of home manufacture.

"The republican party," said he, "does not worship the tariff schedules like a fetish that is above consideration or criticism and which must not be interfered with under any conditions whatever. The conditions of trade and production necessarily change, and a tariff schedule which to-day is adequate for the purposes indicated, may be inadequate at a future time, and an item in a schedule that was proper at the time of its enactment may become oppressive or at least unnecessary, as evolution goes forward." This statement coincides with the prophetic language of the late President McKinley, whose vision penetrated the future to its proper purpose. It defines the practice as to protection and reciprocity by the United States in the future. The obscure utterances of the Ohio republicans point the same way.

It is noticeable that in their platform they do not qualify their deliverance on reciprocity by limiting products of foreign countries, imported under reciprocity, to articles not produced in the United States. The labor plank is sufficiently liberal to meet the most exacting platform critics and the trust question is most judiciously handled, as the republican party has the inside track on this initiative, as far back as 1890, in anti-trust legislation, and the current warfare against trust abuses, recognizing, as the party of progress, the

necessity laid upon modern business, under the changed conditions, to combine like interests to meet competition and secure the largest measure of economy, but subject to the rigors of the law, upon every deviation from a righteous conduct of business to the injury of the public. The platform emphatically demands the continual recognition by the government and the nation of its obligations and responsibilities and the faithful performance of the same in the insular dependence, notably the Philippines, where the work of uplifting some 10,000,000 of Malay and half caste natives and Chinese and negroes to the higher civilization is naturally accompanied by peculiar difficulties.

Cuba is exhibiting symptoms that show it to be worthy of progressive statehood. There, for instance, is the enterprise shown by a Havana paper in getting and publishing President Palma's message before it was delivered.

INVASION OF THE FLAT

One thing to which the real estate board of Minneapolis might possibly give profitable attention is the invasion of the best residence districts by undesirable buildings—undesirable from the standpoint of the home builder.

A resident of Minneapolis, who has the money to build with, and who would be glad to erect a fine home in this city, costing anywhere from \$25,000 to \$35,000 or \$40,000, has been for months studying the future of different localities in the hope of finding some quarter in which to build which would be not too far out and reasonably safe from invasion by the world of flats. Thus far he has not yet invested.

Minneapolis is running to flats. Quarters of that kind are no doubt very attractive for a certain part of the year in this climate, and homes of this character, confined to a reasonable height in residential districts would not be as seriously objectionable as the high flat buildings which are being erected in various parts of the city. It is easy to understand, however, why any man who plans to build a house for himself would not wish to have a four or five-story flat building put up beside him or standing with its anything but ornamental rear elevation exposed to view across the landscape. There appears to be, however, no locality in the best residential quarters of the city that is safe from the invasion of just that kind of building. The matter is really a serious one. It has no doubt a tendency to depress the price of residence property and to deter builders and investors, as in the case cited, through fear that first-class residences may be damaged by the erection of such buildings in their immediate vicinity.

After what those congressmen who investigated the southern negro at home say about his ideal life, we begin to feel sorry for ourselves.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE IN KINGSTOWN

Nothing will stir the average English colonial paper out of its routine and deliberate methods. A copy of the Times of Kingston, St. Vincent island, date of May 9, has been received by The Journal, but to the casual glance there is nothing in the paper to indicate that it was published the day after the destructive eruptions of La Soufriere on its own island and Mount Pelee in nearby Martinique.

Nevertheless, the paper contains the most important news that has appeared in the island for ninety years—since the last eruption of La Soufriere in 1812. It did not know the full extent of the damage in St. Vincent, but it did know that at least 200 people had lost their lives, and it gives a good account of the eruption. With an uninforming single line head it begins its account with: "Our readers will remember that as far back as last February we called attention to the fact that many of them, and they tell us that the description which concludes with our country to-day as it was in the civil war and in the Spanish war, to freely lay the best service we can give to our country and flag, and to the utmost that is symbolized by that flag of peace, prosperity, safety, honor and blessing. This is the duty of good citizenship. It is no less a claim therefore upon the living to maintain our country's integrity and to do so the maintenance of the community's integrity and honor and well-being is just as necessary. Memorial Day has its peculiar inspiration to civic duty. Wreaths and rhythmic strains and eloquence characterize the outward homage to the soldier dead. All individuals should make an appeal to the individual to recognize his individual duty to make the best use of the noblest use of the liberties purchased for the living by the blood and wounds and valor of the dead and of the survivors of the bloody struggles of war."

The council can hardly spend \$1,000 to better advantage than in giving that sum to help pay for free band music in the parks.

THE TROUBLES OF TRUSTS

The directors of the United States Rubber company, which is a "trust," got together recently at Brunswick, N. J., to hear the reading of the annual report. The president was able to show them that the company has a deficit of \$1,110,344. Not a very cheerful report surely, yet not a very great surprise. For a long time the affairs of the rubber trust have not been such as to cause much joy among the stockholders, as may be judged from the fact that the preferred stock at one time salable above par, has long been quoted in the 50s, while the common sells around 10s.

Probably no trust ever started with better prospects. Ten years ago the company began as the result of consolidation of a number of smaller companies. The process of absorption continued. By 1893 the company controlled nearly the entire output of rubber boots and shoes. Of course, it was overcapitalized. And as more companies were bought in to stiffen competition the capital stock grew. Preferred and common it carried the burden of \$46,000,000 of capital stock, the total changing with every new purchase for control.

At the outset the question arose as to whether the stock was worth its face. Right here the promoters brought out the grand old argument, still doing duty in the cases that earning capacity makes value. What if the company was paying

with a short cord and were not excessively fed his liver would not be so fat. Since it must be conceded that a tethered goose is an abnormality, as is also a goose with an abundance of food, it must be admitted that the aforesaid abnormal geese's excessively portly liver must also be abnormal—but diseased, never!

With this sort of strategic introduction Albion takes up the charge that beef and pork have been substituted for the fat liver. He avers that the facts are these: In packing the pates de foie gras the packer cuts out a hunk that approximately fits the can. But there remain intestines that safe transit requires to be filled. These are filled with hashed liver or pork. Over the whole is then poured melted fat of the liver or of beef suet. Experience has developed the fact that the pates keep better when suet is used, and also that the American taste prefers liver, thus prepared to those bathed in "the greenish fat of the goose," which is repulsive to persons with weak stomachs and Americans in general, who have a national dislike of "messy dishes."

Instead of being an adulteration or substitution of this method of preparation and packing is a special adaptation to the American taste. The sublime pates de foie gras d'olo of old France have been completely vindicated. As soon as our salary is raised we shall begin to eat them. Judge Tourgee has restored French confidence in American fair play and has rescued from undervalued obloquy French commercial honor.

It says to come France will raise a monument to Judge Tourgee, even as America has but recently honored the memory of Rochambeau.

We still have a few brilliant orators left—Senator Hoar, for instance—but the trouble is that oratory doesn't make votes in congress any more.

MEMORIAL DAY

Forty years ago this month over 600,000 men had been called out and were in active service in the patriotic duty of putting down the rebellion of the southern slaveholders.

In 1861 the proposition to call out 300,000 men at once to meet the emergency was treated as the product of a disordered mind. Before that great conflict ended more than 2,600,000 enlistments were found necessary. On May 1, 1861, there were 156,150 men mobilized to preserve the national union and to suppress insurrectionary combinations.

Americans knew what was really meant. It was the greatest war of the nineteenth century and it was the means of disposing of some of the most serious questions pertaining, not only to this country, but to the whole civilized world. It removed all doubts as to the unity of the American people into a cohesive national whole. It destroyed all the ardent hopes entertained by Europe that the great republic of the western hemisphere would be wrecked and with it the aspirations of the lovers of liberty world wide. The triumph of American unity stimulated national development and led up to the great triumphs witnessed to-day in our industrial, financial, power and influence, our development as a naval and military power.

Memorial Day comes again and it is natural to turn from the imposing recital of our indivisible unity to the voices of the dead who speak to the living on the morrow. One recalls the magnificent speech of Colonel Ingersoll at Cincinnati, in which he so eloquently portrayed the uprising patriotism of the men and women of 1861, who in the spirit of self-sacrifice took up the burdens of the civil war. These recognized the highest claim upon all the best they had of talent and energy and endurance to be that put forth by their country in her hour of peril.

They served their country to the extent of death and wounds and maiming for life. Many of them, and they tell us that the same claim is laid upon us by our country to-day as it was in the civil war and in the Spanish war, to freely lay the best service we can give to our country and flag, and to the utmost that is symbolized by that flag of peace, prosperity, safety, honor and blessing. This is the duty of good citizenship. It is no less a claim therefore upon the living to maintain our country's integrity and to do so the maintenance of the community's integrity and honor and well-being is just as necessary. Memorial Day has its peculiar inspiration to civic duty. Wreaths and rhythmic strains and eloquence characterize the outward homage to the soldier dead. All individuals should make an appeal to the individual to recognize his individual duty to make the best use of the noblest use of the liberties purchased for the living by the blood and wounds and valor of the dead and of the survivors of the bloody struggles of war."

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When a horse ran away on Fourth street today about forty men cried "Whoa, Bill," thus showing the prevalence of Elks on the streets.

Amos Cummings' will was probated yesterday and it was found that the ex-newspaper man and congressman had accumulated the goodly sum of \$1,600. No real estate of any kind was found on the list, but Mr. Cummings got his hands on this \$1,600 since he has been in congress. Otherwise how can you account for it? There are a number of good stories about Cummings going around. At the time when President Ben Harrison was much out of favor for what was then called his "shameless" administration called at the White House to see him. He was greatly disgusted when the interview was denied and expostulated vigorously with "Lige" Harrison, saying: "I am sorry, Mr. Cummings, but the president cannot be seen to-day," said Halford.

"Great heavens," spluttered the congressman, "has my back, 'has he got as small as that?"

TWO JOURNAL FEATURES

There are two features in the Minneapolis Journal that the Review particularly approves—One the Journal Junior, which appears as a daily folksy article in the other hand, and the other is the "Nonpareil Man" which is a weekly feature in the paper.

The quality of the humor in the man who controls the brush differs from that of any other man. He has a sense of humor, and is no disparagement to them to say that we like his work best. All are not of this opinion. Yet his cuts are great favorites with the man who controls the brush.

At the outset the question arose as to whether the stock was worth its face. Right here the promoters brought out the grand old argument, still doing duty in the cases that earning capacity makes value. What if the company was paying

fancy prices for plants acquired, and was carrying a capitalization largely in excess of what the duplication of the plants would cost? Was the good will worth nothing?

And what mattered the particular figure at which the capitalization was fixed? If the company earned enough to pay dividends to the stockholders, were not the stocks worth full value? And why distribute large dividends, since it had a clinch on the rubber goods production?

And so business began. The company made money and as late as 1900 there was a surplus of \$322,000. Meantime, however, more competitors were bought up, and the company had to bid for the plants, which were necessary to the maintenance of its position.

To earn dividends on the increasing capitalization prices had to be pretty stiff, and soon the business was on a basis where there was money in it for other people. There was a right on buying up competing plants as fast as built, or out to profits down to a point where new capital would not be attracted. A campaign along the latter line was planned, and the company did a business one year of \$21,000,000, selling the product at cost. Smaller competitors were put into the hole, but the trust fell into the hole with them.

Now President Coit frankly says the problem is how to manufacture and market a large product at a fair margin of profit, and yet keep prices down to a level where outsiders will not find it profitable to invest capital in competition with the company. The whole shows the difficulty of running a trust successfully where the supply of raw material cannot be controlled, and the company is overcapitalized, as nearly all individual companies are. Yet even the control of the raw material does not insure security for ever.

The Standard Oil company is probably the most important illustration in the world of a successful trust, yet even this powerful trust must now fight the development in the new oil fields being opened up, or buy control. And so Mother Earth by laying bare new treasures from time to time helps to prevent total monopolization of any product. There are many things that favor the trusts, but nature is on the side of the people.

Mr. Kenaston's prediction that western Canada will soon have a population of 40,000,000 or 50,000,000 is too strong, but when a man of Mr. Kenaston's conservatism becomes so enthusiastic as to make such a statement it is reasonable to expect that that country will have a population of 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 within say, thirty years.

After weeks of discussion the senate will vote Tuesday on the Philippines bill. Not a vote has been changed by all the talk. Just the same, the senate knows what kind of a bill it is about to pass. The house rarely knows anything about the bills it passes.

The Nonpareil Man

Casually Observed. In the Iowa State (Dakota) where the Le Mars leather mowers tried to do something for the Rock Rapids fire breathers they were tossed into the stone crusher by a score of angry farmers who had a quarrel with the mowers. The writer of the letter of commendation is a member of the mowers' union.

They have been washing some of the buildings in London in preparation for the coronation, and the reduction in size of some of them was quite startling.

The stage locomotive in Chicago ran into May Hooper, but was "derailed" and slunk off to the sea. The engine was a fine one, and the driver was a first class man. The engine was a fine one, and the driver was a first class man.

At Monday's eruption the dispatches state that the people at Morne Rouge did not stop to look. Anybody who would live in Morne Rouge, after what has happened, would attempt to block one of Mr. Morgan's stock games in the open street.

Cable messages from the car have been received at Fogel-de France hospital for the worst in the case of George Keenan.

When the nine waltz a game it is prudent to "holer" right off quick and not wait for a repetition.

The language of the Ohio republican convention is a foretaste of 1904.

The congressional committee that went into Alabama to see how much prosperity the colored people were absorbing decided that the negro was considerably in advance of the procession. Mr. Fullman's employe is certainly not taking anyone's dust, nor, come to think about it, there is another possible meaning to that phrase.

Mr. Haana and the former party opposition to him in Ohio went on each other's necks yesterday and there was a general love feast. Not only suspicious republicans but demagogues were called in to testify on behalf of Uncle Mark if he has not been pictured in the past.

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MINNESOTA POLITICS

HENNEPIN'S DELEGATION. The selection of Hennepin's 113 delegates to the state convention is a subject that is giving considerable worry to local politicians. No one questions that the delegation should be so named as to be in the hands of the local candidate, but there is opposition to favor the whole contingent selected by one man. Many favor allowing each ward delegation to select its quota.

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RAWSONVILLE'S SENSATION

BY WILLIAM RANDALL

Copyright, 1902, by the S. S. McClure Co. On a certain Tuesday night the village of Rawsonville, containing about 1,000 inhabitants, went to bed. Before 8 o'clock Wednesday morning there was a buzz of excitement and down its length. Two events had happened which 98 of the inhabitants slept the sleep of the just.

One of the general stores was owned by George Carter. He was a bachelor of 40, who bearded with the Widow Brown, and the widow had reported his mysterious disappearance. As Deacon Spooner put the case to the crowd while standing on the horse-block in front of the store, he had had been seen since the afternoon before. Here was mystery No. 2. Deacon Spooner was still hoping to deliver that Fourth of July address, but he had been so busy with the case that he had not had time to do so.

George Carter had vanished off the face of the earth, and it devolves upon this community to unearth the mystery. The community first declared its belief that the delegation should be so named as to be in the hands of the local candidate, but there is opposition to favor the whole contingent selected by one man. Many favor allowing each ward delegation to select its quota.

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