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IN A NUTSHELL.... Some Boiled Down Facts About the New Navy.

A competent German authority says that making estimates on the basis of vessels built and to be completed in 1902 the American navy is the third in the world. Unquestionably it is at the present moment the fourth, only Great Britain, France and Russia being ahead of it. Ten years ago we had no navy in the modern sense. Ten years ago we had not a single battleship completed and not one armored cruiser. It is only nineteen years since the keel of the first cruiser was laid; only eleven since the keel of the first battleship was laid. The first appropriation for the new navy was only \$2,000,000. Ten times as much as that is now appropriated yearly for new construction. The tonnage of the American navy is now 476,739 tons; that of the English navy 1,838,470, of the French 695,635; Russian, 518,318; German, 401,826. But in the fact that most of our navy has been built within ten years we have an advantage that tonnage does not reveal. The recent great review of English ships brought out other hand the republican party has urged them to control the fifty-eighth congress that it may complete its trust regulation legislation and continue to vindicate the rational and beneficent insular policies and conclude the work begun by the gold standard act of March, 1900, by reforming our currency and banking system up to the business needs of the nation, and actualize McKinley's prescription for promoting profitable export trade. It will be well for the republican party to make such a fight for control of the fifty-eighth congress as it would make if the democrats had the presidency. A moment's thought will convince any republican of the immense importance of controlling the fifty-eighth congress. It is plain enough now why the democrats preferred John Lind to the man whom they selected to lead their forlorn hope. DUTIES OF STATESMEN It is conceded on all sides that congress has ceased to be a deliberative body. If our congressmen have ceased to deliberate, to what do they turn their massive intellects? Bernard S. Rodney, delegate from New Mexico, upon returning to his home in Albuquerque, made a speech that answers the question. That speech should be studied by the numerous Minnesotans who are just now striving to go to congress. Mr. Rodney printed and circulated at his own expense 3,000 circulars regarding statehood for New Mexico. He wrote 500 personal letters on the same subject. He sent to congressmen 2,000 letters containing statehood matter. He distributed in New Mexico 15,000 agricultural department bulletins and 40,000 packages of seeds. He ascertained the number of employees in every bureau in Washington charged up to New Mexico. He stamped statehood mottoes on 60,000 letters. He visited the prison office in behalf of his constituents over 500 times. He introduced an unusually large number of private pension bills. He answered 3,000 letters of inquiry and spoke a good word in behalf of 300 applicants for positions in non-contiguous territory. He settled controversies between applicants for 300 postoffices. He attended twenty-five meetings of western congressmen in behalf of irrigation. Also, he did a multitude of other things. On this report Mr. Rodney expects to be the senior senator from New Mexico when that territory becomes a state. Mr. Rodney's petty duties differed somewhat from those of the average member of congress, but it is the attention and exhausting effort required by such work as Mr. Rodney did that take the spirit out of so many of our congressmen and make them mere solicitors for the people of their districts. A man whose time is engaged with so much petty matter can hardly be expected, unless he is of very unusual ability, to shine as an authority on any great national question, or even to know much about it. Perhaps in this appalling mass of detail work may be found the explanation of the rarity of towering leaders in congress nowadays. The uniform necessity of transacting such a vast amount of exhausting work which is of no benefit to the general public or the nation at large, reduces congressmen to the level of poorly paid drudges and erases any ambition to be about time to consider a different standard of qualification and to call for a higher conception of a representative's duties, and responsibility. If we are to look for a wise and statesmanlike solution of the great questions of the day. TARIFF REVISION IN CANADA Tariff sentiment in Canada is in a curious state of flux. The liberals who were strongly in favor of tariff reductions and reciprocal trade with the United States when they came into power five years ago, seem to be veering around toward protection. The conservatives who used to be supposed to represent the concentrated British loyalty and sentiment of Canada are beginning to shy at preference for British goods, care little about reciprocity, and are strongly in favor of a much stiffer tariff. It would not be a fair statement of the case to overlook the fact that a portion of the liberals is even more strenuously than ever for lower tariffs. But the cabinet, with Mr. Tarte as the extremist, seems now to be leaning towards a protectionist policy. All the liberals are still strong for the British preference and many of them would like to hold the duty on American goods while maintaining the preference. They favor reciprocity of trade or reciprocity of tariffs with the United States. Not having been able to get the former they propose the latter. If this element controls the government there will be tariff legislation at Ottawa this winter hostile to America. If the free trade or low tariff liberals triumph, however, the tariff question will likely be the issue in the next elections. Another possibility is that the tariff will be revived in the near future with pro- tections of devotion to the general prin-

and without intention of returning, and as King is indicted and convicted, it will not be short of disgraceful to have their names on the ballot. 'THE TRUE REFORMERS' Persons interested in the negro problem should read the history of 'The True Reformers,' written by William Taylor Thom and published in the July bulletin of the department of labor. It is a wonderful showing of what negroes can do in a business way. 'The True Reformers' were organized in Richmond, Va., in 1881, as a sort of mutual benefit insurance and endowment association. This feature of their work has been conducted successfully but several other departments have been added. These include a real estate company, a bank, a hotel, a mercantile and industrial association and an old-folks' home. The insurance department has paid in death claims \$606,000 and in sick dues \$1,500,000; the membership is over 50,000 and it owns real estate of the value of \$223,800. The bank has more than 10,000 depositors and has done a total business of \$7,500,000. The real estate department is in a very flourishing condition. The old folks' home owns a square mile of land near Richmond. The mercantile and industrial department operates stores in Richmond, Washington, Portsmouth and Roanoke, Va. These stores do a combined business of \$75,000 a year and are rated 'O. K.' by the mercantile agencies. Their business methods are sound and they are conducted on a cash basis. The same department conducts the Hotel Reformer at No. 300 Sixth street N, Richmond. A recent amendment to the charter gives the 'reformers' the rights to own property of the value of \$500,000. The head of the organization is the Rev. W. L. Taylor, born a slave. The organization is managed and controlled exclusively by negroes, although all of the administrative and executive officers are of mixed blood. Such a business work as 'The True Reformers' are doing, taken along with such a practical educational work as Booker Washington and men like him are doing, gives promise that the negroes will solve for themselves their problem, so far as its economic side is concerned. On the political side the southern whites have solved it for them for some years to come, at least. The average citizen has been kicking for years because he had no chance, as he said, to influence the choice of the candidates of his party. Now that the primaries have been fixed to suit him it remains to be seen whether he will have the conscience to vote as his judgment dictates. The test of the direct nominating plan is going to be pretty severe this time. The telegraph brings a report of a gas consumers' panic in Indianapolis. It isn't due here usually till the first of the month. Mr. Rosings' 'first gun,' alias 'key-note,' is one long search for an issue, crowned with failure. 'Busts' Fusion. Halder E. Bohn is keeping up his record as a fusion snapper. The democrats and populists of Ottumwa have elected him to combine on a legislative ticket. Senator Daly filed for renomination, and in this campaign he was backed by Charles S. D. Rider, Knud Peterson and Ole O. Sageng. One house place was conceded to the democrats, and John F. Nangle of Ferguson Falls filed for it. At the last minute the populist nomination stepped up to the county auditor's office and filed as a populist candidate. There is no way to stop him, and he will be one of the populist nominees for congress. He will be shut out, and at least one republican candidate for the house will be elected. Primaries or Petitions; Not Both. The prohibitionists of the state are circulating petitions for candidates in a number of counties, and the Crookston Times calls attention to the fact that those who sign the petitions are debarred from voting at the primaries. This also applies to independent candidates. The attorney general holds that the voter signing a petition has made use of his right to take part in nominating candidates, and that he is ineligible to vote at the primaries. So, if you want to vote at the primaries, fight shy of petitions. Vice versa, after you have voted at the primaries, your name will be off account on a petition. Three More for Knatvold. Within the week three first district papers have come out in the open for Knatvold. The papers are the Herald, the Democrat and the Citizen. Each editor totally compares the candidates, much to the advantage of Knatvold, and it is said that the article reflects conditions in Washington. The paper is owned by former Senator Collette, Postmaster Swartwood and other prominent business men of the town. The Rushford Star of Fillmore county and the Spring Grove Herald of Knatvold county have also declared for Knatvold. The campaign in the first district is largely in the newspapers and the individual efforts of the candidates. The average voter is too busy yet to talk politics, and in many localities it is impossible to ascertain sentiment. Both Tawney and Knatvold men agree in this complaint. Thorpe and Grue Again. It is Grue against Thorpe again in Kandiyohi county, but conditions are not the same as in 1898. The candidates are L. O. Thorpe will return to the state senate. Thorpe was very last month, and only filed at the last minute. Kandiyohi county is the hub of populism in Minnesota, but the third party has not heavily there, and a republican victory is predicted all along the line. Andrew O. Nelson is the house candidate of the populists, but P. A. Garud, the republican who represented the county in the last house, is a candidate for renomination. Press Agents Debate. Frank A. Day, manager of the democratic press bureau, says in his Fairmont Sentinel: 'There is no fight between democrats and populists in this state. They are both striving to improve conditions, and if they differ as to methods, it is nobody's business. Our republican friends will not gain anything by showing the state to be a C. S. Mitchell, manager of the republican press bureau, comes back in his Alexandria Post News: 'Quite so. Coming over populists and tossed them overboard, the democrats now are only anxious for them to keep still and not kick.' It will be interesting to hear in this connection from Victor J. Nelson, manager of the populist literary bureau. They Found a Man. The Island News says: 'Fenneman and Representative Lee of Anoka were in town Sunday attempting to secure a candidate for the house. They were trying to defeat Senator J. H. B. and hoped to elect a man in this county in their shams. A man was caught in a trap of this kind will have a severe fall when the vote is cast. Isanti county has but one candidate and wants other candidates. According to this a severe fall is coming to one Louis Peterson, who has since fled for the house from Isanti county. Some of the town boards in country districts are said to contemplate not holding a primary election. Their duty is as binding as at the general election, and if they fail to make provisions for the election they are guilty of a misdemeanor. Charles B. Cheney. ONE USE OF GENIUS. It is doubtless true that a book some times sells at sight because of its name and sells in a very extraordinary manner. The name may be a quotation, alliteration, or a very original and catchy phrase; but if intended to sell the book, it must be attractive, peculiar and catchy. While this is true as to the commercial value of a book, it is likewise true that a book not infrequently becomes, through its title, a very effective advertising medium for reality. After Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe published her 'The Pearl of Orr's Island,' that neglected but really came into the market and for some time the rush to get eligible tracts and lots bore some resemblance to the tumultuous passage of 'romance' in an early day. Millions of men and women of less plethoric purses, secured cottage sites and Orr's Island became the objective of excursionists, clam chowder and the ship of Harrowood. Mrs. Stowe, of course, in selecting the picturesque title of her story, had no conception that it would not only sell the book well, but that it would create a building boom, whose profitable effects are felt to-day when visitors and sojourners are still hunting for the peacocks and the 'pearl' of Orr's Island. The Boston Herald thinks that the happy lot of the Orr's Island community is a brilliant object lesson in the relation of genius and real estate. It looks like there are other neglected islands along the Maine coast, but they can't be deemed 'romance' until they have no genius to write into them some human associations, historic or imaginary, of a pathetic or humorous character. Mrs. Stowe unraveled, and by the stroke of her pen, made Orr's Island, twenty-two miles from Portland, Maine, famous. Whittier must be credited with helping in the work by that breathing of his genius. 'The Pearl of Orr's Island' is a true story, also, that our Falls of Minnehaha would not have world-wide recognition had not Longfellow sung them into conspicuity with all the melodic power of his genius. NEW BOOKS MEN AND MEMORIES. Personal Reminiscences. Edited by Mrs. M. D. Russell Young. Two volumes. Second Edition. New York: F. T. & J. C. McMillan & Co., 1902. Price, \$5. JOHN RUSSELL FERGUSON. One of the most interesting of raconteurs. He had, during forty-two years of activity as a journalist and litterateur, acquired a large knowledge of public men, public people and public affairs, and his fund of incident and anecdote seemed inexhaustible. He began his newspaper experience under Colonel John Fenneman of the Philadelphia Press, and was quickly advanced to the editorial staff, and was correspondent of that paper in 1861, and gave the first accurate account of the first battle of Bull Run. He was one of the few, on that occasion, who kept a cool head. After the war he was managing editor of the New York Tribune under George W. French, and was a correspondent of New York Herald's European correspondent, and in 1877, accompanied General Grant on his trip around the world, during which he wrote a series of articles on the events witnessed for the Herald, which were subsequently issued in two volumes. 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