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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

Massachusetts for Tariff Reform.

Although the tariff-revision movement in Massachusetts is rather lop-sided, it is nevertheless significant by reason of the fact that it is being promoted by Republican citizens of a State made enormously rich by the protective system. Gov. Guild and the members of the legislature who have signed the petition memorializing the Congress to take up the question of revision of the Dingley schedules at once are fresh from the people. In the case of the governor, he made his race for re-election on the issue which he is now forcing into national politics. Only two years previously a stand-pat Republican candidate for governor was overwhelmingly defeated by a Democrat who, himself one of the largest and most successful manufacturers in the country, appealed directly to the voters on the issue of lowering the rates then and now in force.

The Massachusetts delegation in the House is in complete harmony with the movement headed by Gov. Guild. Senator Crane is known to be in sympathy with it. Senator Lodge thus far has succeeded admirably in evading the issue. Mr. Lodge began his brilliant public career a generation ago with low-tariff convictions. It is said that at one time he was an active member of the Cobden Club. But for the matter of that, certain other Republican leaders of equal distinction with the senior Senator from Massachusetts—one of them of even more illustrious renown—entered public life with strong leanings toward the alluring theories of free trade. It is unreasonable to suppose that any of them has wholly abandoned

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This is a long-distance promise which the voters are to consider when making up their ballots. It ought to provide the long-sought issue for which the distracted Democracy has been waiting these many years. But there is reason to doubt that it will. If the Democrats could get together under aggressive and sagacious leadership, they would be able to force the Republicans to take up tariff rivision in the next Congress, and thus be instrumental in bringing relief to the business interests of the country before inevitable disaster occurs.

The real lemon of the Brownsville incident has been located at last. It is headed for Cincinnati.

The Warning of Hobson.

Of all the pesky and pestiferous individuals that roam this mundane sphere, the iconoclast, sometimes yclept "the knocker," is the most aggravating. He meanders about, seeking whom he may devour, and from the reach of his hammer even our most cherished idols seem not exempt.

Just at this time that animated bundle of concentrated wisdom, Capt. Richmond Pearson Hobson, is giving to the country great gobs of nerve-racking information concerning the precarious state of the republic. Mr. Hobson has ransacked the entire historical lore of the land, and nowhere can he find evidence that there ever before existed a crisis that parallels the awful probabilities of the present. He can sight a war cloud upon the fairest summer day, and he can smell the smoke of battle long before the powder is manufactured or the bullets molded.

Just now the doughty little kingdom of Japan, the "right little, tight little isle" of the Oriental seas, is troubling the erstwhile more peaceful sleep of the Alabama warrior. Scarce passes a night that the Mikado does not come forth and camp upon the manly chest of Capt. Hobson. Dragons, snorting fire and brimstone, are the stuff of which his dreams are made. For this proud and glorious republic of the West, the melancholy captain sees nothing but utter annihilation and ruin. Devastation and despair are the keynotes of his tale of woe, and he plainly warns the country, out of the frankness and depth of his soul, that unless it be up and doing, smiting right and left, the Japs will be upon us before we know it, and our national independence be promptly reduced to a cipher.

And what does this output of thrill win by way of reward from the country? Praise and thanks, as it should? Not at all. Here comes that chief of iconoclasts, the New Orleans States, and calls it "gabble!" "Gabble?" Gadzooks; and also zounds! What are we coming to? What's the use having heroes, statesmen, and—and—things standing around, ready to save the country, if the country is to laugh at them and cry "gabble?" Why should a legislative battle ship of the Richmond Pearson Hobson type go to the trouble and annoyance of getting himself elected to Congress if he is to be scoffed at and sniggered about? Why have war clouds at all, if such statesmen are not to be allowed to pull the strings without setting the galleries in a roar?

For our part, we hail the captain as a truly great magician. Others may have called in vain upon the spirits of the vasty deep, but when Hobson calls, they come. When he leaps athwart a thunderbolt and rides to glory or the grave, we clap our hands in admiration for the very boldness of the thing. Other lesser heroes may cry "wolf," when nothing more than humming birds are flitting from flower to flower; but when Hobson cries "wolf," we know that there are not only wolves galore on hand, but bears, and bobcats, and other varmints, too.

Therefore, perhaps we'd best prepare for grim-visaged war. The Japanese may not really want to fight, but it is altogether probable that they would do so in an emergency, just to please Capt. Hobson—that is, if nothing less will make us build a $200,000,000 navy.

"Why is Taft required to make the longest jumps?" asks the Buffalo Express. He doesn't jump; he takes the elevator, every time.

The Board of Education.

The court has upheld the board of education and the superintendent of schools in their efforts to maintain discipline in the schools of Washington. All the talk we have heard about the public school system of the District going to smash has been set at naught. We are too much in the habit of crying out that systems are bad just because one link in the chain seems a little weaker than it ought to be, and now, even that one weak link seems strong enough to pull the load we have to carry.

The Washington schools are good schools. We want them to become better schools. We want them to be the best in the land. Judged by his past record, rather than from what he has accomplished here, we believe that Dr. Chancellor is a good and capable superintendent, and we know, from the character of the men who comprise it, that our board of education is as good as any similar board in any city in the country.

The schools of the District must not continue to be made a storm center. The Cardozo case is not an altogether savory one. Let us hope that it will quickly vanish from public view, with other unpleasant things attached to it. The decision of the court leaves no doubt that there is power sufficient to run the schools efficiently and well. The average pay of school-teachers is higher in the District than it is anywhere else. We ought to have the best schools in the country.

Congress is not going to pass any new school law. The Smith bill, the Greene bill, and other school bills that may bob up will be put in pigeon holes. The present system will stand—stand until it has had a fair test, at any rate. This statement made by The Washington Herald may be accepted as authoritative.

It is time for peace, and good, earnest school work.

Mr. Hughes may think he is a "safety device," but Mr. Hearst probably looks upon him as an entire block system.

Government Right of Appeal.

The bill conferring upon the government the right of appeal in criminal cases on questions of law would introduce an innovation in practice before the Federal courts, as Senator Hale correctly observed; but it is an innovation amply justified by the anomalous situation in which the government is placed by the clever maneuvers of corporation lawyers, who obtain the annulment of a law by the dictum of an inferior court, and so free their client from the possibly unpleasant consequences of prosecution. Senator Bacon well stated the purpose of the measure when he declared its principle to be "that wherever there is a decision saying that an act of Congress is unconstitutional, that question shall not be determined finally by the most inferior in rank of judges, but shall come ultimately to the highest court, provided especially for the determination of such fundamental questions."

It is no real objection to the bill to urge that it adds to the power of the government, for it does not detract one iota from the constitutional rights of any defendant, while it does strengthen the hand of the Executive in enforcing the law against powerful corporations. There are some Federal judges whose possession of the qualifications of Caesar's wife may be reasonably doubted, and it is a manifest absurdity, as President Roosevelt has remarked, to permit one of these judges to declare an act of Congress unconstitutional, while the government stands powerless to appeal the legal question to the highest judicial tribunal.

A French scientist has discovered that some animals have two minds. They ought to be very happy, then, for they may change their minds without mean and pointed criticism from their fellow-animals.

Sidelights on Ship Subsidy.

From Boston comes the mournful announcement that three American steamers will be withdrawn from the Oriental trade on account of the competition of Japanese subsidized ships. Before this unhappy incident is magnified into an argument for ship subsidies it would be well to examine into the facts regarding the withdrawal of the Boston-owned steamers from the Oriental route and their entrance into the coastwise trade. When the news was given out at Seattle that these steamers would abandon the trans-Pacific route, it was accompanied with the intimation that their owners acted in the belief that Congress would not pass the ship-subsidy bill.

The real motive, however, was a purely financial one—namely, that the steamers could make more money in the coastwise trade than by carrying goods to the Orient in competition with British and Japanese steamers. This competition has reduced freight rates from $5 a ton to $3.50 and $4 a ton, whereas the coastwise rate is $6.50 a ton. As it took one of the American steamers sixty or seventy days to make the round trip to the Orient, and they can make five coastwise trips in the same time, they can earn, to quote the Portland Oregonian, from which these facts are taken, $6.50 a ton in one-fifth the time they have been using in earning $4 a ton.

Commenting on the reduction of freight rates by reason of Japanese competition, the Oregonian says that it gives "the producer from $1 to $1.50 a ton more for his shipments than he received before the rates were cut; so that it is quite clear that he will not suffer by the retirement of the American steamers." It would require, the Oregonian thinks, a subsidy of at least $10 a ton to induce the American steamers to remain on the Oriental route under these circumstances. If a subsidy were given them sufficient to enable them to meet existing competition, it would amount to a payment out of the pockets of the American people to shipowners of an equivalent of the sum which now goes to Western producers and shippers by reason of competition. In other words, it would be an artificial attempt to nullify the operation of the laws of competition so far as they affect shipping. Moreover, as the Oregonian points out, subsidies to Oriental shipping cannot insure the carriage of our products to Japanese ports in American steamers, for the Japanese have a habit of buying cargoes with reservation of the right to ship on their own steamers. If Congress ever gets to the point of passing a cargo-shipping bill, will not some patriotic member find it necessary to propose an amendment forbidding the exportation of American products in any but American bottoms?

What if the ground hog did see it? He is one of the charter members of the Ananias Club.

Central Labor Union and Cheaper Gas.

Central Labor Union has set itself right. It has rescinded its extraordinary action in favor of high-priced gas.

In the whole local history of organized labor, there has been nothing quite so remarkable as the report of the special committee appointed by Central Labor Union to consider this gas question. One would think that working people would unanimously favor the Madden bill. As a matter of fact, over nine-tenths of them do. But this special committee brought in an elaborate, cunningly devised report, which constituted in its very essence a special plea for the gas monopoly. Just think of it! A labor committee pleading the cause of a corporation swollen out of all proportions; doubting the wisdom of curtailing profits netting nearly 50 per cent; telling the community it would be impossible to produce and distribute gas for less than a dollar a thousand feet; speaking out for a monopoly whose stock is full of water and whose record is smirched with scandal of the ugliest sort!

If the gas company's attorney had written or revised this Central Labor Union committee's report, he would not have dotted an "i" or crossed a "t." He could not have done it better if he had done it himself. Naturally, the report carried with it its own condemnation. The odor of the gas house was over it all.

That such a report did not represent the honest sentiment of Central Labor Union was quickly made manifest. That body has vindicated itself, of course. It has repudiated the thing. Its affiliated bodies, the subordinate unions, have been heard from. The working people do want cheaper gas. It is they who would be helped the most by such a reduction. They know that gas can be sold at profit for 75 cents. They know that other cities are paying less than Washington pays. And they know, too, as the whole community knows, that the pending bill is based upon equity and right.

Central Labor Union is a conservative body. It has shown both conservatism and wisdom on this proposition, in laying on the table the committee's report.

An Oklahoma editor says, "There are two ways of spending a dollar." Not the same dollar.

Senator Looney has introduced a bill in the Texas legislature said to be a genuine trust buster. Of course, it will be known as the "Looney bill."

"The serpent of temptation leads us into license, luxury, and licentiousness, and then casts us out of the paradise of pleasure and virtue," says the Baltimore American. In other words, he makes you walk right in, turn right round, and walk right out again.

A Missouri legislator has introduced a bill making it a misdemeanor for a woman in that State to buy more than two hats a year, neither to cost more than $1.98. Doubtless the approach of the Easter season has gone to the man's head.

The women of Alabama are up in arms against the anti-euchre bill. The ladies ought to be calm; they will not be hurt, because they do not play euchre.

These "downtrodden masses," waiters, porters, elevator boys, and the like, who attended meetings and demanded the abolition of railroad passes for legislators, are finding out how it feels now that the legislators throughout the land are agitating the abolition of tips.

We shudder to think of the comic valentine the Mikado is going to get from California.

Mr. Rockefeller could win the gratitude of a great mass of people by giving Chancellor Day's old college all that it wants, and be done with it.

Gov. Hughes won't even take newspaper advice about how to run his business.

A good many of our esteemed contemporaries seem disposed to make merry over the fact that several lamp-posts have recently been stolen in Washington, though we beg to assure them it is not a matter to be handled in a light or frivolous manner.

That "Salome" press agent who pushed business so hard that the show was suppressed ought to form a mutual admiration society with the one who stirred up the preliminary rumpus preceding the recent appearance of "The Clansman" in Philadelphia.

So far as the Thaw tragedy is concerned, the sooner we reach the "exeunt omnes" stage, the better we shall like it.

An elephant regularly takes up a collection in one of the Hindoo temples. An elephant goes around taking up a collection all over this country once in every four years.

Objection is raised to the proposed "anti-blind tiger" bill now pending before the Indiana legislature, upon the ground that its passage would be "an insult to every retail pharmacist." Besides that, it would make existence extremely inconvenient in certain sections of the Hoosier State.

A Chicago man has invented a combined automatic stenographer, office boy, and mailing clerk. This invention will come in handy and save much time the next time Mr. Roosevelt feels symptoms of a return of the message-writing habit.

Mrs. Russell Sage has given $1,000,000 to a polytechnic institute and $25 to the Toronto destitute. The former will purchase quite a handsome monument, the latter a number of square meals.

Perhaps Shakespeare was written by a stock company.

It now transpires that the Virginia lady who handed her baby to a bear did so under the impression that it was her husband. She is not the first woman of record who couldn't see any difference between the two.

Footpads returned a dollar to a Pennsylvania man when he told them he was on his way to purchase medicine for the baby. That sounds very nice, and it is to be hoped he didn't really sneak the dollar out of the baby's bank for something else.

Prof. Wolif says "reporters see too many meteorites." And if it were not for the reporters, a good many of them would keep right on being meteorites, and nothing more.

It is suggested that Mr. Wu Ting-fang be made a Senator, in the event of China being given a constitution. Think of the talk in case of a yellow Brownsville debate!

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

UNACCOUNTABLE.

Why am I broke, when Belgian hares
Would bring me gold?
Why do I dwell a prey to cares,
When eggs are sold
With guarantees to duly hatch
In some old box,
And start me with a goodly batch
Of Plymouth Rocks?

How can I be a toiler—shucks!—
At trivial jobs,
When I might well go into ducks,
Or maybe squabs?
The magazines are full of ads,
And methods sure
To show one how to get the scads,
And yet I'm poor!

Naturally.

"I went home corned last night."
"And what did your wife do?"
"Oh, she beefed."

Forethought.

"And this million-dollar trust fund?" inquired the old family lawyer.

"I leave that," responded the cynical millionaire, "in case any of my cigarette-smoking, soubrette-fancying offspring wishes to buy a little unwritten law."

Honorable Ancestors.

The Japs in noble forbears believe,
As we all know,
But those are not the kind to leave
Behind much dough.

Earmarks.

"See that long-haired, ragged chap."
"Looks as if he might have been a poet at one time."
"Looks as if he might be a poet now."

Didst Not.

"'Twas ever thus," I said one day,
"I've seen my fondest hopes decay."
"Your pardon, friend," a stranger cried.
"Didst ever use formaldehyde?"

Quite So.

"Pa, what is penury?"
"The lot of the average man, my son, who tries to earn a living by means of his pen."

FACTS AND FANCIES.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

Nomenclature.

There was a young lady named Alys,
Of whom people stated in malys,
During poverty's reign, 'twas Alice—just pleign—
But not since dad builded a palys.

Warned.

"Say," remarked the boss insinuatingly, "you attend to business a little better or I'll treat you like a Thaw juror."

Then the menial knew he had a slender hold on his job.

Meeting the Emergency.

A strenuous executive had heard murmurs that he was running the country according to an "unwritten constitution."

"Write a note to these kickers," he instructed his secretary, "and tell them that if they object to an 'unwritten constitution' I'll write it out for them, and add that my aim is to please."

A Difficulty.

"Here," growled the copy reader, "you write of 'chortling.' There's no such word."

"Isn't, eh?" replied the reporter. "Then how are you going to describe the act of the man who chortles?"

Where Women Vote.

"Ladies," said the male speaker at the suffrage convention, "there is a way out of all your troubles. There is an easy method by which the foot of tyrant man may be lifted from you."

There was a murmur of applause and then breathless interest.

"Just move to Colorado," continued the speaker.

Then they remembered that the West had agents out to drum up population.

Different Tools.

"The Man with the Hoe"
The poet has sung.
'Tis one with a shovel
Your doorbell has rung.

Promoting a New Industry.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The ingenious Kentuckian whom one of this morning's dispatches reports as planning to raise giant African spiders in incubators and sell their webs in competition with hemp, has not got his spinners into the country yet. Much depends on whether they are invoiced as unenumerated nonmanufactured articles, textile machinery, or wild animals.—New York Evening Post.

As it is well known that spiders can walk upon water, they will be considered, for purposes of legislative regulation, Kentucky's merchant marine, and a subsidy of $600,000,000 will be asked to promote the industry. Gen. Charles H. Grosvenor stands ready to introduce the bill, and the President is counted on to write a special message advocating its passage.

An Inference.

From Puck.

The Study Club was reading about Constantine, and had come to the circumstance of his having a thousand cooks.

"Will Mrs. Ultry-Mural," said the leader of the day, "kindly tell us what she infers from this?"

"Why," replied Mrs. Ultry-Mural, "it would seem that the emperor must have lived in a very remote suburb, or else he didn't possess the despotic power we have sometimes supposed."

Thinking in Billions.

From the American Review of Reviews.

Until we learn to think in billions we cannot measure the meaning of the material development of the United States during the last quarter of a century; much less can we mentally grasp the potentialities which the coming years have in store for us. Our progress, however, has only been the pioneering work of clearing the wilderness, of plowing and planting amid the stumps which mark the new land of the settler.

An Expert Opinion.

From Cassell's Saturday Journal.

A cookery teacher was giving a lesson to a class of children and questioning them on the joints of mutton. The neck, shoulder, leg, and loin had been mentioned.

"Now," said the teacher, "there is another joint no one has mentioned. Come, Mary, I know your father is a groom, what does he often put on a horse?"

"A shilling each way, miss," was the unexpected answer.

THE NORTH WIND'S MUSTERING.

From the dark of the boreal seas,
From the midnight morn of the pole,
To the sands of your Southland leas,
Where sweltering cities roll;
From the still of the Caves of the Cold
To the resonant marches of men,
By the wind that runs, I summon my sons
To the arms of the North again.
To the ships of the scurrying main
Where the stern wheels southward thrum,
To the lands of the Sun and the Rain,
On the wings of the dark I come;
And never thy Love, nor the lure
Of thy Fame shall make thee free,
For a sail or a soul, at my rallying roll,
Must turn to the North with me.

Ye have fathomed the fines of the East
And the reach of the West ye know,
And the wilds of the Earth, as the beast,
Ye have tamed to the whip and the hoe;
But the breath of my pitiless plains
Ye have faced—Ye have failed of the goal;
And the drums of the North, they shall summon ye forth,
Till ye win to the prize of the Pole!

—Chester Firkins, in the Metropolitan Magazine.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Taft's Next Trip.

Secretary Taft has planned to visit Panama and the Philippine Islands before the next Congress meets, and all the Presidentmakers on Capitol Hill are wondering what effect these tours will have upon his candidacy. He will go to the isthmus the last of March to inspect the canal work and make an elaborate report to the President. As he will be accompanied to Panama by only a select party of engineers, army doctors, &c., not much political importance is being attached to this trip by the politicians, though it is expected that the Secretary's published report, containing original suggestions for the expedition of the work on the great enterprise, may be used by his boomers as campaign material.

From his visit to the Philippines great things political are expected. He will so time his departure from this country about the last of August as to be present at the opening of the legislative assembly of the Philippines. He will bear to the members of the first parliament of our far Eastern possessions a message from President Roosevelt, and will, of course, submit to them some advice and counsel of his own. It is not yet definitely decided whether a Congressional party will accompany him on this trip, as on the last that he made to the Philippines. That point is now under discussion and will be settled soon. It is believed Judge Taft will outline to the legislative assembly at Manila a policy that he would enforce, if possible, by which the archipelago would eventually be turned over to the Filipino people, and upon this as a basis his supporters for the Presidential nomination will construct a new home for the anti-imperialists, who are still clamoring for a definite enunciation of a programme for the gradual but certain alienation of the Philippines.

Told on Benjamin Harrison.

Apropos of the discussion caused in the cloakroom yesterday by the report that at the height of the snowstorm Monday night President Roosevelt, wearing his famous Rough Rider hat, slipped away from the Secret Service men at the White House, and unaccompanied by any one, took a long walk out beyond Georgetown, Col. Dan Ransdell, Sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, told of the frequency with which the late President Harrison used to ramble around the city at night by himself.

Col. Ransdell, a life-long friend of the great Indianian, was President Harrison's marshal of the District of Columbia, and kept in very close touch with the President all through his term. Col. Ransdell lived north of Dupont Circle, quite a mile and a half from the White House. He ceased to be surprised by the unexpected and unannounced visits made to him by the President at various hours of the night after Gen. Harrison's first few months in the White House. Once when Col. Ransdell remonstrated with him against venturing out at night unaccompanied, admonishing him of the danger of assassination, Gen. Harrison said:

"An assassin cannot be dodged, Dan. I am as safe from harm on that score while walking from the White House to your residence after dark and alone, as I am when receiving callers or going about the city in the daytime under the watchful eyes of detectives and policemen. The assassin always gets his prey when once he makes up his mind to do so. But I have no fear of assassination, least of all am I afraid of being assaulted in a dark street at night."

Burton for the Senate.

Nearly everybody who participated in the House debate yesterday on the river and harbor bill, Democrats and Republicans alike, paid a glowing tribute to Hon. Theodore E. Burton, who for so long a time has been chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, and who has announced his purpose to retire from that trying post in the next Congress. This announcement is generally accepted as indicating the matured determination of Mr. Burton to enter the Senatorial race in Ohio to succeed Senator Dick, who, although having four years of his term still remaining, is said to be getting into heaps of trouble at home. When relieved of the hard labor and drudgery of the Rivers and Harbors Committe's chairmanship Mr. Burton, who is not a skilled politician in the Ohio sense, will have time to devote to promoting his candidacy for the Senate. It is considered possible, of course, that conditions may so shape themselves as to encourage him to make a fight for the Senatorship next year, when the legislature to choose Mr. Foraker's successor is to be elected.

The vast shipping interests of the Great Lakes, which Mr. Burton has treated with due consideration as chairman of the Rivers and Harbors Committee, are understood to favor his candidacy for the Senate, and the united support of these interests would undoubtedly make him a formidable candidate even against so strong a man and sagacious a politician as Senator Foraker.

Regretted His Choice.

Representative Beidler, of Ohio, told Representative Hughes, of West Virginia, a conversation he overhead recently at a hotel in the capital of the Mountain State. A New Hampshire man, who had lived a few weeks in the Kanawha Valley, was complaining bitterly against everything and everybody in West Virginia.

"If you don't like us," indignantly inquired a West Virginian, "why the deuce don't you go back to your poor little State of New Hampshire?"

"Because I dare not," frankly replied the New Hampshire man, adding: "You see, it's this way: I was arrested in New Hampshire and charged with stealing a hog. I didn't steal the hog, but the jury convicted me, anyway. In passing sentence the judge gave me the alternative of two years in the New Hampshire penitentiary or six months in the Kanawha Valley. I didn't know anything about this blasted country then, and so I chose the latter alternative. Now I want to go back home and take my medicine, but my wife swears she'll get a divorce if I serve out the sentence in the penitentiary. That's the reason I'm staying here."

Dryden's Health Broken.

Senator Dryden's defeat for re-election is said to have almost completely shattered his health. The New Jersey statesman has never been in robust physical condition since he came to the Senate, but until it became evident to him that the legislature at Trenton was dead set against his re-election he was always able to attend regularly the sessions of the Senate and otherwise discharge his public duties. It is said that until he was convinced that the bolters from the Republican caucus could not be induced to vote for him he was confident of triumphing, as he felt that as soon as he was given an opportunity to face them and explain away some misapprehensions under which they were laboring, he could bring them around. When, however, he learned that their decision was irrevocable he realized he stood no show, and immediately took to his bed, where he has since been under the care of two physicians.

Might Prove Contagious.

From the Boston Herald.

Secretary Shaw's free zone won't go. There is apprehension in high tariff circles that it might prove contagious.

PRESIDENT AND RAILROADS.

Divergent Views as to His Responsibility for Present Situation.

From the New York Evening Post.

W. C. Brown, senior vice president of the New York Central lines, is unhappy because people do not love our railways. In order to allay this irritation, Mr. Brown would have President Roosevelt—who is our ever-present help in time of trouble—make "an appeal for fair and reasonable treatment" for the railways. "Such an appeal," Mr. Brown assures us, "would clear the atmosphere and restore confidence as nothing else can do."

Without undervaluing in the least the potency of our President's words, we suggest another remedy which we cannot but regard as more effective; that our railway managers so conduct their enterprises as to win public sympathy and support. Such a change may seem to Mr. Brown too revolutionary, but we are none the less confident of the blessed results. Appeals from Presidents, Senators, clergymen, journalists, and even Chancellor James R. Day himself, can accomplish nothing permanent unless the railways themselves go to the root of the trouble by removing what Burke calls the very "ground of the difference." There is no hope of peace for our railways until their managers grasp the notion that a public service corporation is not a mere private undertaking, but is a great public institution.

From the New York Journal of Commerce.

It is not true that the present difficulty in raising capital for railroad improvements or other enterprises is due to "attacks upon corporations" or "hostility against railroads." The reasons for it have been plainly shown and are generally understood. But so far as the great corporate interests have been discredited and so far as their efforts may be hampered by distrust it is due to the exposure of past derelictions and to persistency on the part of some of their managers in methods which can never be accepted as in accordance with just principles and sound policy. The effort to establish and enforce a higher standard of corporate action is not likely to be remitted and the way to prevent it from being misdirected or carried beyond the necessary limit is for all honorable and conservative men to join in its support upon the right lines and within the proper limits.

From the New York Sun.

At any rate the most important consideration of the present time is that no good end or practical benefit can accrue from killing the credit of the railroads. That is what Mr. Roosevelt has for the moment achieved. There is not a railroad in the country, however high its credit or unassailable its character and condition, that can add to-day to its funded debt for any purpose. Only those betterments that are imperatively necessary and that it is impossible to defer are being undertaken and the money for them is being raised by the sale of short-term paper at rates of interest which are not reassuring. Indeed, all this recent borrowing partakes of the nature of forced loans, and cannot but inspire uneasiness among all conservative business men.

ELECTION UNCONDITIONAL.

Bailey Made No Promises in Order to Retain His Seat.

From the Houston Post.

Many of the important newspapers of the North have printed the statement that Senator Bailey was re-elected on condition that he would resign if the investigation proved his guilt of the charges which his enemies have made against him. There is not one word of truth in the statement. Senator Bailey's election was absolutely unconditional. It is true that he had stated to his friends that he would resign in the event of an adverse verdict, but that such a statement was made in order to secure votes is untrue. It may be possible that a few members voted for him as a result of the statement, but that the legislature exacted any promise of him is outrageously false. He would have been elected had he remained silent, so sure were the majority that he was innocent of wrongdoing, and so confident were they of his ultimate vindication.

Senator Bailey's election was just as complete, and just as final as that of any of the many Senators re-elected on the same day, and so far as the legislature is concerned, there are no strings attached to the election.

Naturally, if the verdict of the investigation should be against Senator Bailey, resignation could be the only course open to him—resignation and an appeal to the people. To accept an election to the Senate with a verdict impeaching his integrity would be simply out of the question. It would imply that Senator Bailey cared only for the office and nothing for his reputation.

Of course, Senator Bailey's friends—that is to say, those who believe in his integrity—are a majority of both branches of the legislature. Most of those who desired the election postponed until after the investigation do not believe that he has been guilty of wrongdoing. They were simply differing from the majority on a question of procedure. Of course, he has his enemies who would be willing to see him defeated, regardless of the verdict of the investigation.

It is safe to say that when the investigation shall have been concluded, the Senator's vindication will be so complete that only his bitter personal enemies in the legislature will be willing to occupy the attitude of still clamoring for his humiliation. So far as the country at large is concerned, it may understand now as later that Senator Bailey's re-election itself was a decisive expression of the will and confidence of the people of Texas, and that the investigation will simply set forth in specific terms that the charges against him have been duly and exhaustively investigated and found to be untrue.

A Fellow Feeling.

From the Automobile Magazine.

A party of Scotsmen in Springfield had been celebrating a Burns anniversary, and unsteady were the steps homegoing in the morning. One fell by the wayside and called for help from another wayfarer. The would-be samaritan tried to steady himself as he looked upon the fallen one, and then settled matters by saying, "A canna help you up, but A will lie down aside you."

But What's the Plural?

From the New York Telegraph.

Esteemed Baltimore American and Washington Herald are "argufying" over the plural form of grapefruit. It is a singular fact that when you have eaten one you double up and feel like something altogether different.

He is One, Too.

From the Savannah News.

A Washington newspaper of recent date had a half-column editorial under the heading, "A Model Son-in-Law." Strange as it may seem, the article had no reference to Nicholas Longworth.

TO A FRIEND.

How many times we've sat and talked
Of earth and heaven and hell
And life and death—the little things
Youth understands so well!

And now these things are grown as dark
As Sybil's wasted page;
We grope, we ponder, doubt and weigh;
Ah, what a proof of age!

—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

AT THE HOTELS.

"The people of Ohio would certainly feel that they had been handed a lemon if the President were to appoint a colored man to the office of surveyor of customs at Cincinnati," said Mr. James W. Faulkner, of that city, at the New Willard. Mr. Faulkner has for years been recognized as one of the leading newspaper writers of the Buckeye State. As a reporter of legislative proceedings and politics generally he is without a peer in Ohio.

"The truth is," he continued, "that in Ohio we do not welcome the colored brother as an officeholder any more than they do south of the Potomac. I do not know of a negro who is to-day holding an elective office in our State. We used to send one or two to the legislature from Cleveland and Cincinnati, but last year the Democrats carried both, and hence the legislature is solidly white. But we still enjoy the blessings of mixed schools, and the white children and the black absorb learning from the same teachers. This does not appeal so strongly to some of our Anglo-Saxon citizens, and in order to show their dislike to the educational amalgamation they send their offspring to private schools, thereby causing those institutions to flourish mightily in most of our big towns.

"My conclusion as a Northern man is that the best place for the negro is in the South. In the South he is living in a more congenial atmosphere. Up our way they do not admit him into the trades unions, and about the best he can hope for is to be a porter in a hotel or some equally servile place."

One of the most popular young men of Detroit is Mr. George Tiffany Gaston, who was elected on the Republican ticket city clerk of the Michigan metropolis by a tremendous majority, although the Republican candidate for mayor, George P. Codd, was badly beaten by his Democratic opponent, William B. Thompson.

Mr. Gaston, who is stopping at the New Willard, with his wife, in the course of a pleasant chat with a Herald reporter, said:

"I should think that the National Capital might set an example to all the cities of the Union as a model of municipal perfection. The trend everywhere seems to be in the direction of ownership of public utilities, and I am surprised to hear that Washington is so backward in this respect. In Detroit the city owns its waterworks and its electric plant for lighting the streets and public buildings. We do this at a much less cost than any private company would concede.

"The present mayor was elected on a promise given by him that inside of two years he would see that the street railroads sold eight tickets for 25 cents, and would give universal transfers. The people took him at his word, and some of them were so confident that immediately following his election they tendered 3 cents to the street car conductors for fares. The conductors, however, held out for the old tariff, and they got it. If, at the end of the two years the promises of the mayor are still unredeemed, a good majority of the Detroiters will be sorry that Mr. Codd was not kept in office."

"This Cuban situation, so far as I could size it up in a fortnight's recent stay down there, is a pretty good duplicate of what happened in Egypt," said Mr. G. T. Watkins, of Chicago, at the Arlington.

"England has been in occupation of the land of the Pharaohs for lo! these many years, and it does not seem as though the occupation would ever terminate. It has been beneficial to England, and it has proved the best possible thing for Egypt, which, under British rule, has blossomed like the rose. We will, I think, occupy Cuba just about in the same fashion. All intelligent people I met down there were of this mind. They argue that it would be idle to give the Cubans even one more chance at self-government, because it isn't in them to carry on a stable government. The salvation of the island is bound up in permanent occupation or final absorption, whereby Cuba will be made either a Territory or a State of the American Union."

Capt. W. E. Nye, marine superintendent of the transport service, with headquarters at Newport News, is a guest of the Raleigh.

Hon. William A. Ashbrook, of Johnstown, Ohio, who will succeed Mr. Smyser in the next Congress as Representative from the Seventeenth Congressional district, is a guest of the Raleigh. Mr. Ashbrook is a Democrat, and by profession an editor, and is a nephew of the lamented Col. Ike Hill, who for a quarter of a century was one of the valued employes of the House of Representatives.

Among prominent Republicans of New York State few rank higher than Judge T. A. Atkins, of Yonkers, who is spending a few days at the Arlington.

"All my life," said he, "I have been an earnest supporter of the cardinal doctrines of the Republican party; but I loathe machine politics and detest 'bosses.' In the old days I fought side by side with George William Curtis for decency in the conduct of our national and State governments. It is a matter of rejoicing that at last we have a man in the executive chair at Albany who stands for all that is honorable and worthy in modern politics, and who, I think, will be able to hold his own against the selfish and corrupt crowd that of yore had things their own way. The mass of citizens of New York are honest and patriotic, and they are back of the governor in all he does.

"Gov. Hughes is, in my opinion, a man devoid of personal ambition, so far as it relates to office, and though his name has been mentioned for President, I am satisfied that he cherishes no White House dreams."

Col. Cecil A. Lyon, member of the Republican National Committee for Texas, is at the Raleigh. He is a young man of boundless energy, a successful business man, and in the whole country no man surpasses him as a Roosevelt partisan.

"I am here to tell you," said Col. Lyon, "that a great number of the American people are in favor of Col. Roosevelt for another term in spite of his repeated negative declarations, which we know to be sincere. The country needs him, and the Republican party needs him. If those of us who are resolutely in favor of having him run can carry our point, you will see the most remarkable campaign in the history of this country. I am willing to make a big bet—though I am opposed to gambling—that if he were on the ticket in 1908, he would not only carry the reliable Republican States, but would win the electoral votes in at least three States of the South—Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina."

His Greeting.

From Puck.

Miss Jackson—Mose Mokely makes a turrible break at de watchnight suhvice at ouah chu'ch New Yeah's Eve.

Miss Johnsing—Sakes alive! What did dat niggah do?

Miss Jackson—At de first stroke ob de midnight houah he jumped to his feet an' yelled "Come seben!"

Glorious Thought.

From the Charleston News and Courier.

While we do not hanker for war with Japan, it will be a grand thing for the South to have a chance to get on the pension list.