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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1907.

The Japanese Question.

There is no reason to believe that the Japanese government has any sympathy with or responsibility for the warlike agitation that has suddenly sprung up in the Island Empire. All the information at hand goes to show that it is the work of the opposition Progressive party, which appears to be conducting an organized campaign for the overthrow of the Saionji ministry, on the ground that it is too subservient to American influence. A resolution adopted by the Progressive party declares that "the attitude of our government toward that in Washington has so far been unsatisfactory to the nation, and it is necessary that proper steps should be taken by our government in order to maintain the national dignity and permanently insure the safety of the rights and property of our compatriots in America."

In view of the actual status of the various matters about which the Japanese minister has made complaint, this resolution is little short of absurd. Japanese rights have been amply protected by Viscount Aoki, and the measures taken by the United States to maintain those rights have been prompt and effective. In the Japanese school question the Federal government went much further than a good many people thought it had any right to go, under our Constitution, and in taking the course it did it was prompted by a desire to do exact justice, as well as by a purpose to remove all cause for friction between traditionally friendly nations.

All this seems to have been forgotten or ignored by the Japanese jingoes, who attempt to imbue their partisans with the idea that Japan has surrendered to fear of the United States, just as in this country there are people who say they think we backed down in the San Francisco school matter because we were unprepared for war with Japan. To the jingoes on both sides of the Pacific may be commended Secretary Root's statement, in his address to the American Society of International Law, that the real question underlying the relations of the United States and Japan is not that of war, but of the creation in each country of a state of public feeling that would break the long-standing friendship of the two nations and lead the "two peoples to face each other across the Pacific in future years with anger and resentful feelings." Out of such feelings, carefully nurtured by reckless and irresponsible agitation in either country, it is conceivable that war might ultimately come, and the removal of all cause for the feeling on either side was the object of Mr. Root's diplomacy.

"What was to be the effect," he asked in the address from which we have just quoted, "upon that proud, sensitive, highly civilized people across the Pacific of the discourtesy, insult, imputations of inferiority, and abuse aimed at them in the columns of American newspapers and from the platforms of public meetings? What would be the effect upon our own people of the responses that natural resentment for such treatment would elicit from the Japanese?" We are likely to get very practical answers to both these questions if the current agitation keeps up on both sides of the Pacific. Already we see Japanese resentment of real or imaginary wrongs met on this side with talk of some sort of rebuke to the high and mighty Japanese, and the whole business arises out of a trifling incident that has been practically settled by the ordinary and conventional processes of diplomacy. Behold what a great fire a little spark kindleth!

No man knows what a Chancellor Day may bring forth!

The Almanac Vindicated.

From a wide-awake contemporary we clip the following item of telegraphic news:

"Cincinnati, Ohio, June 9.—Miss Durban, of this city, while searching in an old bureau to-day, found an almanac printed in 1837, which says: 'There will be no summer in the year 1907.'"

While not able heretofore to place our hands upon it, we have never for an instant doubted the existence of just such an almanac. Some time ago we advanced the idea that this country made a serious mistake when it abandoned the good, old-fashioned almanac and substituted for it the new-fangled Weather Bureau, with its unintelligible jargon about "meteorological conditions," "areas of high pressure," "storm centers," and the like.

It will be observed that the almanac of 1837—seventy years ago—foretold with exact precision the nature of summer in this year of grace. There were no high-sounding and jaw-breaking words connected with the promulgation. The almanac was as modest as it was useful, and concerned itself with statements of fact unadorned with frills and furbelows without the pale of the ordinary layman's understanding. It said just what it meant, and it meant just what it said.

Does any such happy and simple condition of affairs prevail to-day? Certainly not! To ask the bare question is to invite ridicule and sneering laughter. Is the present arrangement by which we are supposed to know what is coming in the way of atmospheric disturbance adequate? Is it, indeed, even to be ranked with such minor adjuncts to the almanac as the goose-bone, the ground hog, or one's rheumatism? We trow not! On the contrary, it is a delusion and a snare, and the truth is not in it.

We do not desire to be ranked as unduly contentious or as seeking in anywise to interfere with any one's business, but we assert, nevertheless, after mature and deliberate thought, that the time is at hand either to mend or end the existing Weather Bureau. Neither its warnings nor its gifts have been such as to commend it to a place within hailing distance of our friendly consideration. The big-wigs and wiseacres who run it show the most abandoned contempt for the liberties of the people and their comforts.

Let's put an end to this sort of thing. Let's hark back to the good old days of the almanac and its dependable methods!

A friend of the President asserts that "By George" is his nearest approach to Cannonesque emphasis, and considerable discussion has thereby been aroused as to just which George he means. Perhaps it is George Harvey!

The New Irish Movement.

Since the rejection of the Irish council bill in Dublin, on May 21, it would seem that history has been making in Ireland. Or if, at least, it had been in the making prior to that time, it has come prominently to the surface since. There has been growing up in Ireland a new party called the Sinn Fein, which has for its object a programme of Ireland for the Irish. This, to be sure, is not a new slogan, but under the new banner are enrolled new men, new ideas, new interests.

The Sinn Fein is a movement only about five years old. It has, as yet, no complete organization, but it numbers among its following the better class of young men, and some women, in the towns and cities. Among its leaders are Mr. Shan F. Bullock, William Butler Yeats, Lady Gregory, Mr. J. M. Synge, and people of that sort. It will be seen, perhaps, from the character of some of its leaders that the Sinn Fein is not solely a political organization. It is allied with the literary and artistic revival, which includes much that is best in Irish life. It is striving hard to bring about industrial and commercial autonomy, and, having adopted some of the doctrines of Frederick List, the German economist, it is endeavoring to promote a tariff-bound national manufacturing and commercial system.

The movement has no religious significance, though in the matter of the Irish council bill the Sinn Fein joined hands heartily with the clerical party and thus proved too strong for Mr. Redmond and his followers. It has, however, in an indirect but efficacious way, a strong moral side. The movement declares that every source of revenue now paying toll to England must be boycotted, and as the most prolific source of revenue is the excise, the young men in the towns are encouraged to become total abstainers, with the result that the moral standard of the members of Sinn Fein is above that of the general population.

The movement has adopted the dictum of Lord Chancellor Plunkett, that the act of union is a nullity which no Irishman is bound to obey, and the prime movers have been active in pointing out to the people that in the period since 1885, during which their representatives have maintained an unofficial alliance with the Liberal party, there has been no single important measure of Irish domestic reform. The leaders hope, by transferring the children from the national schools to those of the Christian brothers, and by founding voluntary schools and a national democratic university, to educate the young in the tenets of the new faith. They expect to have an agricultural and manufacturing union which will stimulate Irish manufactures, and to take control of their harbor commissioners. Mr. Shan F. Bullock declares that Ireland wants its own merchant marine, its own consular representatives abroad, and to devote a part of the local taxation of the country to internal improvements. He says:

"We ask the people to boycott the courts of law and submit their cases to our own national arbitration courts. We require our national stock exchange, devoted to the interests of Irish capitalists in Ireland, and the welfare of Irish industrial enterprises. We want our national banks. We advocate the refusal to recruit England's civil and armed forces. We propose to strike against the payment of British taxes, to effect a diminution of British revenue and the consequent increase of our own by reducing the amount of our expenditure on drink."

This is a radical and a daring programme. The possibility of its growth is due solely to the complacency of Mr. Redmond and his followers and to the weakness of the British Liberals. The Sinn Fein is gaining rapidly at the expense of the moderate party, and the only weakness that is visible in the armor of the new cause is its irreconcilable hostility to the priests, without whose aid and support it can never hope to capture the peasantry of Ireland.

Some pestiferous fellow claims to have caught Senator Foraker using a split infinitive. It is a split Republican party that is causing the Senator especial worry, however.

Lo, the Pugnacious Oyster!

And now it is the oyster that looms large upon the horizon. Wolves that kill caribou by a slap on the wrist, bullfrogs that chew tobacco, black bass that fatten on rabbits, and skye terriers so ferocious as to strike terror even to the heart of White House "Pete"—all these have had their little day. The fierce white light beats steadily down on the succulent bivalve, as they call it in New York and other provincial towns, and it is his turn to shine.

The attorney general of the State of New York is responsible for the oyster's perhaps unwilling appearance before the public. Ordinarily it is rather a modest beast, given to domesticity and quietude, rather than to brawls and bickerings or any untoward behavior calculated to bring it notoriety. While other animals have squabbled and been squabbled about, the oyster has concentrated its energies in an effort to enjoy itself and escape the tongs and the pepper sauce. But now its peaceful days are past and gone. The attorney general aforesaid has submitted a ruling which can only be construed to mean that the oyster may sometimes be wild and ferocious, and so pervading is the influence of the nature faker that many people, without making the slightest investigation, will accept what the legal gentleman has said as a fact. And, indeed, it may be a fact. Most of us, probably, never have seen an oyster attack a man or engage in deadly combat with any other animal; but neither have we seen a turkey hen which would not lay on Sundays, but made up for this manifestation of piety by laying two eggs on Monday; and we have authority of the very highest sort for believing in the existence of such a fowl.

The announcement of Attorney General Jackson's ruling has brought to light various interesting traits of the oyster in addition to its pugnacity. For instance, a New York man whose modesty is such that he signs only the initial "K." to his communication, writes the Sun to say that he possesses a fine specimen of that somewhat rare mollusk, the whistling oyster. Oddly enough, this gifted bivalve confines its whistling to the airs "Shells of Ocean" and "What Are the Wild Waves Saying?" a circumstance which "K.," with much reason, we think, believes to be susceptible of scientific explanation.

However that may be, it is obvious that the capabilities and the spirit of the oyster have been woefully misunderstood. As the fatal letter "r" will not make its appearance until two and a half months hence, we suggest that the present is an excellent time for the prosecution of exhaustive studies regarding the belligerent habits of this new claimant for the distinction of strenuosity. The subject is of such interest, indeed, that we think Uncle Jim Wilson might have one of his experts write a monograph about it. Such a document would be as illuminating as some of the others which have been issued by the Department of Agriculture, and would set at rest all dilettante and nonexpert speculation about the oyster—a consummation which, we may say in passing, is devoutly to be wished.

"New York has a millionaire policeman," says the Cleveland Leader. So they have reduced the number to one, have they?

An International Court.

Some time ago President Roosevelt made a suggestion that The Hague conference on peace measures might greatly be strengthened by the creation of a permanent international court composed of such eminent jurists as would lift it above the suspicion of personal or national prejudice. Now comes France with ardent advocacy of some such plan. It is announced that her representatives at The Hague will be instructed unequivocally. They will urge firmly the extension of arbitration, compulsory wherever possible, with the championing of everything such an attitude involves. It is said that the pacificists of France believe that, outside of a closer definition of the rules of the war game which shall straighten out such complications as arose during the Russo-Japanese struggle, the creation of a permanent international court and the extension of arbitration are the greatest good the peace conference can accomplish.

There seems to be much common sense behind this view. We are so far from any such consummation that it seems almost a Utopian dream to think of an international court to which all nations should carry their grievances for arbitrament, but to doubt that such a tribunal could be established and perform its proper functions is to doubt the progress the world has made in the past. It may not be at the coming peace conference at The Hague that this important question shall be seriously considered, but that the world is almost ripe for it is certain.

Jack London objects to the President criticising him for something he didn't write. How else is the President to criticise one of that author's books?

George Bernard Shaw finds, after laborious research, that "the poor are suffering from poverty." And here we have been vainly imagining all along that it was lobster a la Newberg and extra dry!

"King Edward is now looked upon as a great peacemaker," says an admiring contemporary. Before he ascended the throne he was looked upon as a great pacemaker.

The present peculiar state of things may be hard on the young man's fancy inclined lightly to turn to thoughts of love, but it is a godsend to the bashful young fellow whose entire conversational stock in trade is the weather.

There is no use in physicians warning us against microbes in connection with kissing babies. We emphatically refuse to boil the babies, and that's all there is to it.

If Mr. Bryan persists in being contrary, perhaps Mr. Graves might get Senator Knox to nominate Mr. Roosevelt.

A Pittsburg girl is slowly turning a beautiful lavender color. At the present time, however, she is a little blue concerning the matter.

A scientist asserts that "treading on the toes is a sure guarantee of longevity." Undoubtedly he means treading on your own toes.

"The path of poetry leads but to the jail," says the Bentztown Bard in the Baltimore Sun. The general impression is that it leads there via the poorhouse, however.

"I am not only opposed to a third term, but to a second," says Mr. Bryan. Surely he is not gradually training down to a small-favors-thankfully-received attitude?

The misunderstanding between Mr. Croker and the King of England recalls the fact that this is not the first time an Edward and a Richard have seriously disagreed as to the conduct of English affairs. The other time, the Edward got decidedly the worst of it.

A Pennsylvania carpenter confesses that he has long practiced burglary on the side. Doubtless he would have found his native politics equally as profitable and far less dangerous.

"St. Louis has a smoke inspector, but he hasn't done much in the way of stopping the smoke," says the Chicago Record-Herald. Why should he stop the smoke? If there were no smoke to inspect, he might lose his job.

An Indianapolis gentleman named Gus Rhake has turned reformer. It is to be hoped that he does not intend becoming a muck Rhake.

Mr. Souvenir Taylor is accredited one of the most popular members of the Connecticut legislature. He doubtless has taking ways.

What shall it profit us to regulate the railroads, bust the trusts, and exterminate the grafters, if the weather man be permitted to run amuck?

Solomon said in his haste, "There is nothing new under the sun." He didn't know, of course, that the Charleston News and Courier would ever print an editorial with big black type in it. This esteemed contemporary may yet issue a St. Patrick's Day edition printed in green ink.

Because Mr. Roosevelt admits that he is not an authority on millinery, a Chicago paper has made a fruitless effort to obtain opinions from its male subscribers. This illustrates the disinclination of Americans to dispute even something that the President didn't say.

Secretary Cortelyou will call in all of the $10,000 bills, so it is said. Surely, the Secretary isn't developing a mean disposition!

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

EVER IN TROUBLE.

Who'd be a woman—
When she has a dress that fastens down the back?
When the beauty doctor has her on the rack?
When hub comes home alcoholic?
When the baby has the colic?
When the servants leave the household in a pack?

Who'd be a woman—
When her rival sports a fine imported gown?
When the goods she bought last week are now marked down?
When she cannot curl her tresses?
When they will not eat her messes?
When she has to spend the summer in the town?

"Style."

They were introduced.
"Kiss me," she said, simply.
"In this crowded ballroom?"
"Of course. Is not ours love at first sight?"
Their lips clung.
—Robert W. Chambers.

"Obversion, then, you claim, is inchoate, fugacious, as it were?"
He gave her a bilateral smile.
"Pregmatic, so to speak."
"Ah, how elusive you are!"
—Henry James.

Sable gowned, elbow sleeved, black velvet hatted, she awaits him at the foot of the stairs.
"Girl, girl! I do not like you in black."
Instantly she went white.
Muriel, as you see, aimed to please.
—Rudyard Kipling.

A Near-Limerick.

You've heard of Oshkosh, Wis.
Few names can discount this.
And yet, dear me,
There's Kankakee!
And also Punxsutawney, Pa.

Aroused.

A committee of five doctors waited on the patient.
"You have appendicitis by one vote," announced they.
The politician was equal to the emergency.
"I demand a recount," quoth he.

Not a Caribou This Time.

"Another nature fake!"
"How now?"
"A moth attacks a peekaboo by biting it in the chest."

NOTES AND NOTIONS.

From the Baltimore American.

Ultima Thule.

There's a bad man named Teddy, and what he will do
Is something most awful for me and for you.
He's a demagogue, oligarch, fierce autocrat,
A tyrant, an anarchist—yes, he's all that,
With a socialist flavor; of State's rights the foe,
Who tramples on courts, juggles judges just so,
And makes of democracy poor, helpless prey.
Look out! he's a bad man, says Chancellor Day.

He's got us so mixed, we don't know what is what,
And he keeps a big stick for to merciless swat
All men and all nations that dare say "I won't!"
And nobody dare do, when Teddy says "Don't!"
The public's so hot for him that it is ill,
And its high fever needs an antefebrile
Which will come with a crash, and we can't get away
From appalling disaster, says Chancellor Day.

He's whooped up the whirlwind in great shape, this Ted,
And has got folks believing 'most all that he's said,
Until, to their shame, they've in tones not at all faint,
Denounced hard the money that's smelling of taint;
And, led by this Ted, who does nothing by half,
They've said some harsh things of the sacred Gold Calf.
Oh, we're blindly and recklessly drifting away
To the dogs, under Teddy, says Chancellor Day.

A Sure Proof.

"Do you think Mrs. Youngbride really loves her husband?"
"Devotedly. Why, she even lets him smoke in the parlor after she's hung her best lace curtains."

Seaside Gossip.

Clam—I see by the paper this morning a man in the restaurant on the beach found a $500 pearl in his half dozen raw.
Oyster (wearily)—Oh, shucks! Are they still playing that old shell game?

About the Same.

"I suppose the joys of proposing exhilarate one like champagne."
"Not exhilarate, but something like."
"How did you make out?"
"First, I popped; then I effervesced, till I found out it was all a fizzle."

Roosevelt and Bryan.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mr. Roosevelt is an old-time Federalist of the school of Hamilton. Mr. Bryan is a modern humanitarian of the school of Rousseau. Both are the advocates of paternal government; the one as a sentimentalist, the other as a centralizationist. Mr. Roosevelt has in his possession the key to the familiar door of executive usurpation, and does not lack the disposition to use it. Mr. Bryan is on the roof with a long pole awaiting his opportunity. Between the two, we prefer Mr. Bryan—if we could believe in the efficacy of Mr. Bryan's long pole—to Mr. Roosevelt, because in Mr. Roosevelt, we fear the key.

That Oklahoma Constitution.

From the Springfield Republican.

The truth should be known precisely about the Oklahoma constitution. It does not contain 100,000 words. Far from it. It contains somewhat more than 50,000 words, however, making it the longest of State constitutions. Still, it should be explained that much of this amplitude is due to the necessity of quoting the prohibition clauses of the enabling act and to the unavoidable details of a technical description of the seventy-five counties into which the new State is to be divided. If the constitution works well, all criticism as to its length will be forgotten.

Kind Words Can Never Die.

From the Chicago Record-Herald.

Everybody knows that New York is the paradise of gamblers, get-rich-quick swindlers, pickpockets, and sharps. Everybody knows that the concentration of wealth and the loose anti-usury legislation of the State—enacted to meet Wall street's wishes—are not conducive to industry, thrift, and simple living. And everybody knows that blackmail and graft have been reduced to a science in the New York police department.

Remorseless Nature.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Just now the people of the United States need sun heat more than they do remedial legislation of any kind. The parsimony of nature is more costly for them than the exactions of monopolies.

MEN AND THINGS.

A Tribute to Brave Soldiers.

While a few radicals on both sides continue to fight the civil war all over again at more or less regular intervals, indications of the perfect understanding between most Northerners and Southerners are constantly being brought to light. Recently there was erected a monument commemorative of the services of the Twenty-third New Jersey Volunteer Infantry in the battle of Salem Church, Va., May 23, 1863, and on one of its plates appeared the following: "To the brave Alabama boys, our opponents on this field of battle, whose memory we honor, this tablet is dedicated." Hilary Abner Herbert, formerly Secretary of the Navy under Cleveland, and now a resident of this city, was the last colonel of the Eighth Alabama, which bore the brunt of the fighting against the New Jersey troops. When he read the newspaper reports of the tribute which the surviving New Jerseyites had paid the Alabama soldiers, Col. Herbert wrote Gen. E. Burd Grubb, who now lives at Edgewater, N. J., expressing the warmest gratitude and appreciation of the act. The letter overflowed with feeling and sentiment and with tributes to the bravery of the New Jersey troops, and Gen. Grubb's answer was in a similar vein. "While we knew," said the New Jersey veteran, among other things, "that Gen. Cadmus Wilson had noted in his report how gallantly Lieut. Col. Hilary A. Herbert rallied and fought the Eighth Alabama after a disabling wound to Col. Royston, we did not know that our country was indebted for distinguished services as Secretary of the Navy to the officer whose final line of battle we could not break through." The New Jersey organization is the first to inscribe on a monument erected to its own dead a special tribute to those who were its antagonists on the particular field marked by the monument.

Coler and the Newspapers.

Bird S. Coler, president of the borough of Brooklyn, and for many years a figure of some prominence in New York city politics, is engaged in a merry war with the newspapers of the greater city, and particularly with those of Brooklyn. His complaint is that the press has not treated him fairly, and has gone to the extreme of misrepresenting his position with reference to various questions of interest to the community, particularly those affecting taxes, street improvements, &c. In order to get the "square deal" which he alleges is denied him by the papers, Mr. Coler has established a bulletin board service. One of his first bulletins was promulgated for the purpose of convincing annoyed citizens that he was not responsible for street conditions. After citing some figures showing that the board of estimate's allowance for street repairs was only about $1,000 per square mile in Brooklyn, as against nearly $5,000 in Manhattan and more than $10,000 in the Bronx, the bulletin concluded: "We have no influence with the board of estimates. Have you?" On a certain market, the day the new arrangement went into effect, appeared this notice from the president: "The board of estimates refused, on June 2, to repair this market at my request." Mr. Coler's friends assert that only by this means can he make his attitude known to the people, as the papers either suppress his statements or garble them. As for the papers, they are resentful, and inclined to facetiousness. The Brooklyn Eagle, for example, publishes a cartoon representing one of the Coler bulletins composed almost exclusively of the first personal pronoun.

Lieut. Col. Ayres' Career.

Lieut. Col. Charles G. Ayres, Fourteenth Cavalry, U. S. A., whose name has figured prominently in the public prints recently as a result of the trouble between his wife and Commandant Howze, of West Point, growing out of the much-talked-of overcoat incident of some weeks ago, is one of the stormy petrels of the army. He has figured frequently in courts-martial and army quarrels, and he is also distinguished for conspicuous bravery in battle. He was reprimanded as a result of a court-martial held at Fort Assiniboine, Mont., in 1892, when he was a first lieutenant in the Tenth Cavalry, the charge against him having been conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline. Four years later Capt. Ayres was tried at Fort Keough, Mont., on the charge of writing malicious letters accusing Capt. William Davis, then of the Tenth Cavalry, now on the retired list, with drunkenness. He was found guilty and sentenced to dismissal from the army, but President Cleveland disapproved the proceedings, and the officer was released from arrest. Ayres, who is fifty-three years old, a son of the late Col. Romeyn B. Ayres, Second Artillery, and a native of New York city, entered the army as a second lieutenant of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, in 1875. He saw hard service in the Indian country. At Fort Davis, Tex., on one occasion, he disarmed and arrested a desperado at the risk of his own life, thereby saving the life of a brother officer. Ayres was unarmed, and the bad man's bullet, intended for the other officer, gashed his chest. He served under Gen. Wheeler in Cuba, during the Spanish war, and was recommended for a medal of honor for conspicuous gallantry on June 24, when the First and Tenth Cavalry and the Rough Riders engaged the Spaniards. A shot broke Maj. (now brigadier general, retired) James M. Bell's leg. Ayres went to his assistance through a terrific storm of bullets, and carried the wounded man to safety. Men who charged elbow to elbow with Ayres were killed or injured, but he was untouched. Recently Col. Ayres has been on Philippines service, and it is said that he was in hot water continually there. Between the middle of January and the middle of April, this year, he preferred no less than eleven sets of charges against officers of the Eighth Cavalry, to which he was then attached. Mrs. Ayres is a sister of Henry Fairfax, a former Virginia State senator, and claims descent from Lord Fairfax.

Burton to Speak.

Representative Theodore E. Burton, of Ohio, one of the most active of the Taft supporters, is widening his field of activity as a speaker. He is to deliver the annual address to the alumni of Dartmouth College on June 25, and will be the guest of Acting President Lord, of that New Hampshire institution, during his stay at Hanover. Mr. Burton is a graduate of Oberlin College, class of 1872. While not a particularly magnetic speaker, his unusually wide and accurate information and his earnestness and sincerity always lend attractiveness and interest to his addresses.

To Honor Engineer Roebling.

The citizens of Trenton, N. J., have contributed to a fund of $25,000 for the erection of a statue, in heroic proportions, of the late John A. Roebling, builder of the great span across the Niagara, first engineer of the Brooklyn Bridge, and founder of the great steel works in Trenton which bear his name. The statue is to be erected in the principal square of the New Jersey city. Washington Augustus Roebling, a son of John A., completed the work on the Brooklyn Bridge which the death of his father, in 1869, left unfinished.

THE JAMESTOWN SPEECHES.

Commendation and Criticism of the President's Latest Utterances.

From the New York Evening Post.

It is to future contests that Mr. Roosevelt is plainly looking forward. For them he delivers the speeches which have no relation to present-day law making. Believing that radical doctrines will grow in favor, he is content to startle his conservative party to-day, provided that the voters will be of his way of thinking a few years hence.

From the Baltimore American.

These views show the President active in keeping the public alert to the forms of domestic legislation he advocates. Above all else, he makes it clear that he is not a socialist, certainly in no sense as that word is employed by those who commonly denominate themselves as such; and the railroads are given to understand that he looks with disfavor upon their contesting the employers' liability act passed by the last Congress.

From the Newark News.

A profoundly erroneous view, we believe, is asserted when the President submits reasons to show, as he did in his Jamestown speech, the unwisdom of railroads in testing the constitutionality of the national employers' liability act. Such a course on the part of the railways ought not to invite reproach. The law in question is either constitutional or unconstitutional, and if unconstitutional it should have no place upon the nation's statute book. And the President ought to be the last person in the country to create a sentiment to the effect that because a law may seem a proper one from the standpoint of the public, therefore its validity ought not to be challenged by any party interest.

From the Philadelphia Press.

When President Roosevelt proposes a new practice in regard to liability for accidents to railroad employes, his words need to be carefully weighed, lest they be misunderstood. Alteration in the present law on this subject is needed. The rule under which a workman on a railroad or anywhere else can obtain no damages for an accident caused by a fellow-employe is unjust. If President Roosevelt means this change when he says, "There is no sound economic reason for distinction between accidents caused by negligence and those which are unavoidable," he is on sound ground. It can be scarcely possible that he means that a workman could collect damages for an accident caused by his own negligence. Such a principle and practice are nowhere accepted.

From the New York Sun.

We venture the belief that there is not a lawyer in the United States, or a citizen not a lawyer, but possessed of the ordinary understanding of the principles of government by law, who will not read with amazement this declaration by the President of the United States at Jamestown:

Let me point out the extreme unwisdom of the railway companies in fighting the constitutionality of the national employers' liability law. No law is more emphatically needed, and it must be kept on the statute books in drastic and thoroughgoing form.

Suppose the Supreme Court of the United States, viewing this law in a different aspect from that in which Mr. Roosevelt regards it, finally pronounces it unconstitutional. Does the President mean that because in his opinion the law is emphatically needed it must be kept on the statute books even if it is unconstitutional in form and essence?

From the New York Times.

It is odd that a man who so appreciates this quality of unity should embody within himself so many distinct personages. The average American who has any opinions at all has them decidedly, and knows what he thinks. But Mr. Roosevelt is so far from being an average American that he can be quoted upon both sides of many questions about which it is possible to have opposing opinions. For example, no American socialist has more roundly denounced "predatory wealth" than Mr. Roosevelt. Indeed, in another speech yesterday he renewed his advocacy of an income tax and an inheritance tax, calculated so as to bear more heavily upon "swollen fortunes" than those of smaller dimensions. Yet in his Georgia speech on the same day he dissents from the "well-meaning people who have a genuine dread and horror of all rich men, and think of them as being set apart by peculiar vice and iniquity," and exalts our "superbly self-reliant individualism," which he hopes "will never be exchanged for a deadening socialism."

WHEN ROOSEVELT SWORE.

Admits Using Strong Language at Battle of Santiago.

From the Boston Transcript.

If "By George" is the fiercest form of oath in which President Roosevelt now indulges, his manner of speech has changes somewhat since the battle of Santiago. In his book, entitled "The Rough Riders," he says, in speaking of his endeavors to get his men forward in that battle: "I had been joking with some and swearing at others, as the exigencies of the case seemed to demand." We have heard of a man who, when told that he should not swear at all, replied that he did not swear at all, but only at some, and perhaps the President, while able to restrain himself in time of peace from indulging in the vulgar habit of swearing, is not always able to do so in time of war. If he thus abstains from swearing in time of peace, he should not be too severely condemned if he is not able to keep his forms of expression under equally good control when he is under the strain and excitement of actual engagement in battle, for there is a tradition that the conduct of Gen. Charles Lee, at the battle of Monmouth, was so exasperating to Gen. Washington that even that great and good man in giving vent to his feelings indulged in profane words of "righteous indignation" which, as one historian records it, "caused the very leaves of the forest to tingle with joy."

Democratic Admiration of Roosevelt.

Louisville Correspondence New York Sun.

It is no uncommon experience in Kentucky at this moment to hear serious men gravely discussing the expedient of bestowing the Democratic nomination upon Theodore Roosevelt and making the thing unanimous. The qualities in Bryan that appeal to a certain class of Southerners are practically identical with those which they recognize and admire in the President, and it is a curious coincidence that the same Kentucky Democrats who applaud the one applaud the other, in precisely similar terms and on precisely similar grounds.

If Bad Times Should Come.

From the New York Evening Post.

All this is not to say that the Democrats, with Bryan, cannot hope for success next year. Strange things happen in politics. Divided and leaderless parties sometimes win victories. The desire to punish the party in power may be so strong that the voters will not look too closely at the party out of power. If bad times come, the reaction against the Republicans will be formidable. Their own political teachings would recoil upon their heads with terrific power.

A Pity.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

It really would be a pity for Japan to whip a whole nation just because a few San Francisco hoodlums need thirty days in jail.

AT THE HOTELS.

"One of the familiar figures among the frequenters of the Waldorf-Astoria is ex-Senator Jones, of Nevada," said Mr. H. M. Brush, of New York, at the Arlington.

"The Senator is getting on in years, but he looks in fine health, and his intellect is as strong as in the days when he was considered the greatest authority on finance in the United States Senate. He told me the other day that he rarely visited Washington, not because of any dislike for the Capital, but because he did not wish to be included in the list of superannuated statesmen who lingered superfluous on the scene of their former renown."

One of the popular young men of Georgia, State Senator E. T. Steed, of Carroll County, was seen at the Metropolitan yesterday.

"Our legislature meets on the 26th of this month," said Mr. Steed, and three days later Hoke Smith will be inaugurated governor. He was elected to that office after one of the bitterest contests ever waged in our State, his victory being largely due to his advocacy of stringent railroad regulation and his equally strong position on the negro question. It is certain that Gov. Smith will have a sympathetic legislature, and the chances are that most if not all the things he will recommend to the lawmakers will be enacted. Passes within the State will be abolished, and the passenger rate will be reduced from 3 to 2 cents a mile.

"There is no talk of making a Presidential candidate of Mr. Smith, and though he might be very willing to take second place on the ticket, I doubt whether he is aspiring for first place. In fact, my notion is that the Democrats of Georgia very generally expect the nomination of Col. Bryan, regarding him as the strongest and most available man in the party. He is the one man, as Georgians view it, who can beat any Republican in the country, with the possible exception of the man now in the White House."

"Plenty of old-time residents of our city remember Dr. Horace Wells, the discoverer of chloroform, who was a Hartford man," said Mr. G. J. Burson, of the Connecticut capital, at the Raleigh.

"Dr. Wells made the discovery some time prior to 1850 while he was practicing dentistry, and gave chloroform to his patients to deaden the pain of operation. A monument in his honor was erected in Hartford, and the inscription states that he was the first to discover anesthesia."

"I am not saying anything about Texas strawberries, for the Houston Post can do all the bragging about them that is necessary, but I am here to state that our Gulf fish are so much better than anything that swims in the Potomac that there is no comparison," remarked Judge Arthur Mosely, of Denison, Tex., at the Shoreham.

"It is fair to concede that your Potomac shad is a fairly good sort, but it is a vastly overrated specimen, and its weak points only need to be mentioned to be admitted. Certainly it is too full of bones, but that is a minor defect; the worst offense of the shad is that its flesh is entirely too soft. Any meat that is worth praise must be of a certain hardy texture, so to speak, not yielding and mushy like the shad. I could name you a dozen better fish afforded by our Gulf waters, but will mention only two, the delicious pompano and the almost equally detectable Spanish mackerel. These have your much-vaunted pet of the Potomac beaten a block, as I can prove by the testimony of thousands of Texans who have quite as good a reputation for veracity as the editor of the Houston Post."

"Louisville is a candidate for the honor of having the next National Democratic Convention," said Mr. Charles A. Lutz, a prominent citizen of the Kentucky metropolis, at the Arlington.

"We want the convention, and want it badly, and our people are going out to capture it with a degree of enthusiasm that ought to win. The Commercial Club, one of the leading civic bodies, has gone to work systematically to land the prize. We have every needed facility—a good convention hall, ample hotel accommodations, and central location. There is no town in the country of equal population that could take such good care of the delegates and visitors as Louisville."

LOGICAL AND INEVITABLE.

Why Mr. Bryan Is the One Candidate to Unite the Democracy.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

The duty of the men who have at heart the success of the Democratic party, and who view the triumph of Democratic principles as of more importance than sheer partisan advantage is being outlined in a greater boldness with every development in the arena of national politics. That duty, plainly put, is to lay aside what remains of dissension or friction in Democratic ranks and to concentrate honest energy and enthusiasm on the candidacy of William J. Bryan, the one man of sufficient strength to offer effectual opposition to the Republican party.

Mr. Bryan is the logical candidate for the elemental reason that his policies and his propaganda are the life and soul of virtually all the political and civic reform issues now agitating the people of the country. These issues, it is true, have been focused, and many of them given vitality by the skill, the popularity, and the bravery of a Republican—Mr. Roosevelt. That fact does not alter the credit for or location of their paternity.

Corruption funds, in combination with a somewhat sluggish public conscience, defeated Mr. Bryan in two campaigns, and gave the task of initiating some of his policies into Republican hands. The public conscience, having been thoroughly educated and revived in the meanwhile, is no longer sluggish, and knows exactly where to place the original credit. It knows that but for Mr. Bryan's activity, against odds and a seeming public indifference, not only would Mr. Roosevelt not have found his work half done for him, but it is extremely doubtful if he could have inaugurated it with any degree of success.

What more logical, then, than that the one Democrat who typifies the reforms now uppermost in the American mind to the exclusion of all else should be called upon by his party to lead its rank and file at a time when those reforms are approaching a critical adjudication?

Mr. Bryan is more than the "logical candidate." He is the inevitable candidate. The Democracy, whether its Northern, Eastern, Southern, or Western wing, cognizant of the national situation, has no other alternative, in common sense or self-preservation, than the one offered by his nomination.

Alternatives for Housekeepers.

From the Watchman.

If something cannot be done to relieve the situation in regard to household service, social life will be driven to three conditions. Those families which are able to pay large wages and keep a number of servants sufficient to do their household work without excessively long hours of labor will continue on that plan of life. Families which cannot pay the wages demanded and cannot afford more than one servant will be obliged to attend to their own housework or go to boarding houses; or they will be driven to the third alternative, which we believe offers the best solution of the problem of living for families of moderate means—the establishment of co-operative kitchens.