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SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1907.

Mr. Hill on Railway Credit.

That the government will be ultimately forced to lend its credit to the railroads in order that they may obtain the funds needed to supply the facilities demanded by the public is the rather spectacular prediction offered by James J. Hill, whose pessimistic views of the railway situation are well known. Mr. Hill maintains that the credit of the roads has been ruined, inferentially by government action; therefore the government should step in and remedy the damage it has done.

Mr. Hill appears not to have given serious attention to another plan for the rehabilitation of railway credit, suggesting it to be in the bad way pictured in his New York interview—a plan matured by an eminent railroad authority now summering at Oyster Bay. Mr. Roosevelt, in his Indianapolis speech, told how a strict system of governmental supervision and regulation of railroads would give them a certificate of character, so that people who are now reluctant to invest in railway shares would freely buy the securities of government-regulated roads. "Give the same guarantee as to railroad securities," said Mr. Roosevelt, "which we now give as to national bank shares, and we would presently see these people investing in railroads, and thus opening a new reservoir from which to draw the capital now so much needed for the extension and betterment of the railroads."

Has Mr. Hill given due attention to the plan thus proposed for the restoration of railway credit? If so, we are sorry he thinks so ill of it. It is not a matter of worth even a passing mention. It stands in much more chance of adoption than Mr. Hill's government-aid scheme, for that has been too often tried with unhappy results. Railroad credit would be all right if it had not been abused by stock-jobbers like Harriman, whose manipulations of railway securities have driven thousands of investors out of the market for railway shares, impounding money in real estate or savings banks, instead of pouring it into active enterprises. Railroad credit will be good enough when the bad taste of Harrimanism has disappeared from the mouth of the investing public, when honesty in railway management is universal, and when railway securities are issued in good faith with substantial values behind them.

What is Mr. Hill doing to hasten this day?

The Cleveland Leader thinks "Puljanism is ended in the Philippines." This, of course, is merely a polite way of expressing belief that the Puljanans have been ended.

Colming International Jingoism.

Secretary Root's veiled caution to the American press respecting its treatment of the Japanese situation has been followed by official advice from the home office of the Tokyo government to Japanese sensational journalists that it would be wise for them to "abstain from the publication of any matter of an inflammatory or agitating nature upon the American question." While such measures as these may have a certain value, they cannot suppress the publication of actual developments bearing on the relations of the United States and Japan, though in the latter country the government has some control over the press, and so may be able to curb the organized anti-American agitation begun there with the avowed aim of inflaming the people against the Salojni ministry. In the United States the reputable press is notably free from jingoism at the moment, recognizing fully the friendly and restrained attitude of the Mikado's government, and comprehending without difficulty the motives of the domestic political onslaught upon Tokyo's foreign policy.

It is evident, however, that we are at the beginning, and not the end, of the Japanese question. We are quite willing to accept Secretary Root's assurance that there is no Japanese situation other than one of amity, but that assurance needs the important qualification that this government is engaged in treaty negotiations with Japan which present opportunities for disagreement on very delicate points growing out of racial feeling against the Japanese. That feeling, just now, is mostly confined to the Pacific Coast, but there is some sympathy with it elsewhere. Racial prejudice is admittedly hard to control; indeed, it is practically impossible to control it by any governmental agency, and it is equally impossible to avert sporadic nativistic

outbreaks, either here or in any other country. The best that any government can do is to take precautions against their occurrence when threatened, or, if they do happen, to punish the offenders and render such reparation to the injured as may in the nature of the case be possible. That is what we stand willing to do, and what we have done in the San Francisco affair. More can hardly be expected of us, nor can we guarantee, as the Japanese jingos insist, that there shall be no further manifestations of anti-Japanese feeling in the future. Such a guarantee would involve a control over human nature which we mundane authority possess. As well expect to guarantee that there shall be no more homicide, or theft, or graft.

To deal with the racial aspect of the Japanese situation will require the utmost diplomatic skill, and Mr. Root's desire that the pending negotiations shall not be thwarted by infelicitous newspaper jingoism may be readily appreciated. A satisfactory way out of what is pretty close to a diplomatic impasse is not impossible, although it may not be so easy as was at first thought.

It is all very well for the President to advise newspaper men to be "calm and dispassionate," but he must remember that newspapers have their Bellarmis and Harrimans, just the same as Presidents.

June Brides and Summer Girls.

Despite the juggling and the underhand methods of the Weather Bureau, the output columns of the newspapers indicate no distinction in the June bride output for the crop of sweet summer girls. These we have with us always. There are to be marrying and giving in marriage, picnics, moonlight strolls, soft confidences, and all the rest of it, just as if there were no such things as sun-spots and untoward atmospheric conditions. All of these things laugh at meteorological conditions and high-sounding weather departmental lore.

The sweet six, we could not do without the sweet summer girls, no matter how much we might be willing to forego the ideal environment generally pertaining to them. Shirt waists and sailor hats are necessarily a component part of any perfect year, and they, never yet having failed us, hardly seem likely to fail us now. The slight delay will only make the final bursting bloom more delightfully charming and beautiful to behold.

The summer girl is an institution typically American and unique. Her loveliness needs not the foreign aid of ornament. She is at her very sweetest and her very prettiest when clad most simply. The freshness of her spirit, and the abandonment of her disposition render her at once irresistible and an undisputed queen.

Therefore, cheer up! There are some things to which we may still look forward with unalloyed joy. The summer girl is one of them; and, falling all else, she is a plenty.

A New York newspaper pictures "Abe" Hummel as a quiet contented scamp among his prison mates at Blackwell's Island. That only goes to show the cheering influence of congenial company upon a man's disposition.

Setting a Good Example.

Verily, how beautiful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in peace and unity! Particularly is this true in the political world, and Leslie Mortier Shaw and Charles Warren Fairbanks have performed a real service by setting an example which might be followed with profit by all those in whose heads are the busy Presidential bees. Leslie Mortier at Delaware, Ohio, as he steps aboard the train which is to bear him back to his altruistic labors in Wall street:

"I'll be satisfied if Fairbanks is nominated for President, and he will be satisfied if I am nominated."

Compared with this assertion, even Mr. Shaw's declaration that a "readjustment" of the tariff—not a revision, mark you—is bound to come, probably after the next inauguration, pales into insignificance. How boldly and confidently could the Republican party go into the campaign if each candidate for the nomination were now saying of every other candidate what Mr. Shaw says of Mr. Fairbanks! Think how it would inspire the men in the ranks if Mr. Taft could and would observe: "I will be satisfied if Fairbanks is nominated, and he will be satisfied if I am nominated!"

The Menace of the March.

Apparently the President's enthusiasm has placed the army in the embarrassing position of driving away the very necessary factor of military efficiency, the continuous-service soldier. It is found that many enlisted men are expressing their discontent with the army, and many of those who should re-enlist are in the attitude of waiting patiently until they can be relieved of the obligation of military service. The condition of affairs seems to be due to the fact that the practice marches which the President imposed on the army has "hardened" the men only in one particular. It has failed to accomplish the athletic results expected of it, and has contributed to a determination to get away from it all as soon as possible. There are now weekly marches for every military unit, no matter whether it is stationed in the tropics or in the country where, in winter, its members must plod through deep snows. For the infantry there must be twelve miles of marching every week, and for the cavalry and field artillery fifteen miles. Then, every month there must be a three-day march, during which the troops must camp out twice, while once a year there must be service in the field for twenty-one days continuously. This amounts to a hardship, in the minds of the enlisted men, and they are applying their own remedy—the most effective of all—a refusal to re-enlist.

An example of the discontent which is created by this situation is furnished at neighboring Fort Myer, the troops from which have to perform much escort duty in connection with funerals. It has been recommended that marches of this sort, at all times tedious and never pleasant, should go to the credit of weekly marches, but this probably will not be permitted, as the rule of the practice marches is exceedingly strict. The marches which Mr. Roosevelt has ordered upon the benefit of those in the military and naval branches. A weekly march must be made because of bad weather must be made upon the following week with a double dose. In one or two instances an exception has been made, as at Washington Barracks this week. The military authorities excused the one company on duty there because its enlisted strength had reached such lean proportions that the march was not worth while, although it would seem

A LITTLE NONSENSE. HONEST, ANYHOW.

At puppy love the people chaff,
The very true.
I'll own it often makes me laugh,
And doubtless you.
Yet puppy love is always pure,
And it is not the worst, I'm sure.

This puppy love is foolish quite,
As people say.
I do not doubt that they are right
In every way.
Yet puppy love thinks not of self,
Nor of such sordid things as self.

The girl that wears a noble grand,
Who doesn't care,
Some time may think of her own land
With pensive air.
And some time over, in her hand burst,
That puppy love is not the worst.

In Harrisburg.
"McGrab got rich on a capitol contract."
"Was it a capitol contract?"
"Was it a capitol contract?"
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The Modern Query.
"Will they be divorced?"
"Who?"
"Who gets rid of the children?"

The Allotment.
Berries are within, I see,
Common people's reach.
For we bards get for tea
Seven berries each.

Regret Was Real.
"Was it with deep regret that I saw my wife's brother going into yonder saloon just now?"
"Was it with deep regret that I saw my wife's brother going into yonder saloon just now?"

His Interest Aroused.
"Von Sternburg" exclaimed the German Emperor.
"Your majesty?"
"Was it this Oyster Bay?"
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Running Amuck.
"Was it all this?"
"Was it all this?"
"Was it all this?"
"Was it all this?"

WHAT JAPAN HAS DONE.

Secretary Stans on National Qualities.
Japan, among nations, has given the world an example of how a people can throw off the shackles of an oppressive autocracy and endow itself with all the safeguards of liberty and justice under a constitutional form of government without going through the terrible struggles and devastation of bloody revolutions, by following along the paths of peaceful evolution. Japan is the land of liberty, civil and religious. Her religious liberty is even far in advance of nations who pride themselves upon this most precious of national virtues. Her people have no prejudices based upon religious or ecclesiastical grounds, and all men of every church and creed are free and equal to worship their God in accordance with the dictates of their own conscience in the fullest and widest acceptance of the meaning of religious liberty. Japan, which has learned much from the West, has even more to teach the West. Perseverance, self-control, and preparedness are among her national qualities; her officers exemplify the highest skill united with the highest patriotism; her soldiers, while reckless in their bravery in sacrificing their own lives, are uniformly humane even to their enemies, and no nation is served by a more competent diplomatic body—most of reliability, judgment, and moderation.

Nearly the Whole Thing.

From the Philadelphia Press.
Somebody has submitted to the President a plan to take the trust question out of politics. If that should be adopted there wouldn't be enough left in present-day politics to make a stump speech about.

A Massachusetts farmer complains that all of the chickens and birds on his place deserted him. That sound generally sends everything, without wings scurrying in the other direction.

The government has decided that the umbrella trust must stop holding up the people. The umbrella trust must get its knife in the trust's ribs, good and proper.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Barkhead was the primary choice of Alabama, Gov. Comer is said to be his own primary choice to succeed Mr. Morgan in the Senate. And there appears, furthermore, to be no secondary choice.

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VOL. I. NO. 2 WASHINGTON, JUNE 15, ONE CENT.

EVERY SATURDAY.

Our Motto: If you see it in The Big Stick, it isn't so.

IDIOTICALS.

TIME TO CALL A HALT.
Why do they call a halt?
Why do they call a halt?
Why do they call a halt?

LOCAL.

The Baltimore report that Elliot Woods is going on the stage in the "Great Eastern" is a case of a man who is sticking to his job as Superintendent of the Capitol.

Capt. Morrow was in conference yesterday with the Hon. Charles Carlin, of Congress, candidate for Alexandria, and was advised to buy four shares of Alexandria stock.

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MR. ROOSEVELT'S SPEECHES.

Varied Comments Suggested by His Recent Public Utterances.

From the London Times.
Mr. Roosevelt does not adopt the tone of the denunciatory prophet or of the outraged moralist. In that respect he sets an example which some tumultuous reformers among ourselves might with advantage imitate. He knows that, if men have done wrong in the past, the nation that failed to check the wrongdoing must accept a share of the responsibility. Accomplished facts must be recognized. Bygone misdeeds, not outside the law as it stood when they were done, are to be treated as bygones. Wealth which must be pronounced ill-gotten must remain with the getters, unless they are amenable to the law under which they acquired it. There is no thought of retrospective legislation, but only a determination so to amend legislation that such wrongdoing shall not be possible in the future.

From the Winston-Salem Journal.
The advocacy of these measures by Mr. Roosevelt leads us to observe that if it were not for his rank ideas of centralization, his friendly attitude to the tariff, and one or two other things, the President would be a pretty good Democrat. If to his platform of inheritance and income taxes and a strict regulation of interstate railroads he would add a plank declaring for a radical revision of the tariff, a stricter regulation of the trusts that would not naturally be regulated by a revision of the tariff, and an economical administration, he would have a platform which would delight the heart of a Jeffersonian Democrat.

From the Rochester Herald.
That the government, by its inept tariff system, has created most of the opportunities out of which great fortunes have been made, is a fact. It does not occur to Mr. Roosevelt that if the rapid accumulation of vast wealth be an evil, the government should cease to foster such accumulation before it sets out to punish it. There is no inconsistency or folly in encouraging a man to rob his neighbors, and then taking to the robber some of the stolen goods to restore them to the victims of the crime.

From the San Antonio Express.
When Mr. Roosevelt makes speeches there is always something worth listening to or reading. His theories are more right than wrong; and if he leans toward socialism in any way he is so conservative in his realization as to lend assurance of his ultimate safety. No other man in America is so safe as he is in the open in all lines of thought, and none has a happier facility for convincing in his arguments.

From the Arkansas Gazette.
The serious plea of his Jamestown speech was for the preservation of the natural resources of the country for the people. It was generally overlooked, in reports and comment, for the old gas about limiting large fortunes and increasing small families. Of all the reforms the President has started or advocated, none is so important as that of permanent value to the people of the country.

From the Ohio State Journal.
In taking this attitude upon the question of taxation, the President expresses public opinion—the idea that is latent in the minds of the people, to break out some day into law. These things are sure to come. They are the most obvious problems of popular government. They are what make Roosevelt so close to the people.

From the Baltimore Sun.
What can be done to restore the prestige of the Senate, to revive its ancient glories? The influences which have forced New York to accept Platt and Dewey as Senators have been felt in many other States whose representation in the Senate falls even below mediocrity. The influences which have tended to lower the standard in the South are not so radical. Radicalism in politics—the rise of Populism, the consolidation of Populism and Democracy—has affected the quality of the South's representation in the Senate to a marked degree. The decadence of the Senate may be attributed, therefore, to influences which are diametrically opposed to each other. Thoughtful men of both parties may well desire to re-establish and maintain in the Senate the standard of statesmanship for which that body was long noted.

From the Richmond News-Leader.
Dr. Thomas Nelson Page's poem, "The Vision of Raleigh," which was read by him at Virginia Day at the Jamestown Exposition, was worthy of the occasion, and will live as one of the greatest, if not as the greatest, of Virginia poetical classics. It rises to the height of the argument in diction, imagery, illustration, and dignity. It is an epical conception of striking originality, and the lofty key upon which it is pitched is sustained in thought and in style throughout. It is a masterpiece, while it makes the additional appeal of carrying a distinct, though subdued, lyric cadence, and suggestion.

Rise of the Tariff Issue.

From the St. Louis Republic.
That the tariff issue will be an important factor in the politics of next year, if not indeed the dominant factor, is indicated by the increasing frequency of tariff discussion in the press generally. Tariff is "in the air" as it has not been in years. And discussion develops no two opinions about it—talk is all one way. The tariff ought to be revised. The only organ which keeps the subject upon the subject are a few trust-owned organs; the others are voicing a popular demand which promises political action.

Set Up to Bowl Over.

From the New York Times.
Mr. Taft's friends view the Knox demonstration with calm indifference. They will know what happens to the favorite son of Pennsylvania on the second or third ball.

Not Final.

From the New York Times.
Justice Anderson's definition of a mollycoddle as one who "shirks his part in the world's work" is subject, of course, to executive review.

THE COMMUTER'S MORN AND NIGHT

Oh, it's pleasant in the evening
When you're from the city bound
To your wife and pleasant waiting
In the suburban town.

How you get a blissful waiting
Far from "down-town" evening haste
When you spend the evening resting
In your own green yard.

Oh, the difference in the morning
When you get your "teeth" from
As the dew all stops completing
Your remarks are rough and bad
As you spend the morning waiting
In the railroad yard.

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AT THE HOTELS.