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THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1908.

The Ohio Republican Platform.

While the Ohio Republican platform indorses much that the Roosevelt administration has done, it neglects to mention numerous things that he has proposed should be done. We fail to see anything in it relating to Federal incorporation of railroads and interstate corporations, or to an increase in the powers and jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

There is a tone of conservatism about it that reflects a cautious approach of controverted questions, and the delightful indefiniteness of its phrasing recalls the best models of platform-making.
We judge that public attention will be more particularly directed to the plank threatening retaliation on the South for its disfranchisement of the negro than to any other feature of the platform.

This plank is a commendable one, in view of the fact that it is a remedy that political blunder, and it has come in the form of a pious exhortation of belief that the representation in Congress of States with Jim Crow suffrage laws should be reduced in accordance with the fourteenth amendment. Never has such an expression found place in a Republican national platform, and its appearance in an enunciation of political beliefs having Mr. Taft's approval is surprising in view of the generally acknowledged public acceptance of entanglement conditions in the South as a temporary solution of a difficult problem.

Among the recommendations made by the recent trust conference held at Chicago under the auspices of the Civic Federation is one that the Sherman act should be so amended as to exempt from its prohibition of combinations "national and local organizations of labor and their trade agreements with employers relating to wages, hours of labor, and conditions of employment." Mr. Gompers avows himself in favor of legislation to carry out that recommendation, and we agree with him that labor organizations having as their main object the promotion of the material welfare of their members should not be under the ban of a law forbidding combinations in restraint of trade. Such legislation would not necessarily legalize the boycott, but it would settle the status of labor unions before the law.

What Wall Street Has to Fear.
The breach between the East and the West, politically and industrially, is widening more from year to year, and the coming political campaign will accentuate the differences which first became prominent when the Populist party swept through the South and the West in 1892.
New York in self-satisfied provincialism fails to realize the power of the people living west of the Alleghenies. The West is honest with itself and frank in its attitude toward the East. The man living in Nebraska or Alabama or Oregon knows more about New York City than the great majority of Gothamites know about these representative American Commonwealths. New York's attitude, while unfortunate now, will become more so as time goes on. It cannot stand aloof. It must be a part of this Western republic.

London is, in every sense, the capital of England and of Great Britain, as well as the British empire; Paris, while not representative of France, still is the heart and soul, commercially, industrially, artistically, and politically, of the French nation; Berlin holds the same relation to Germany; but even here the residents of these great national centers concede the existence and coincidental importance of the provincial element.
It does not require the gift of prophecy to see that some day New York will be denied its legitimate rights, owing to its present attitude, unbearable and antagonistic, to the great masses of the inhabitants of this country. The attacks on the railroad corporations in the South and West can be explained only on the theory that legislative enactments are due to resentment. With the farmer, it is a question of conservatism or radicalism. We observe the Herald notes the inability of somebody "to adequately establish" something.

Dr. Mary Walker insists upon talking over the question of woman suffrage with Senator Clay. This should recall to Mr. Hoke Smith considerably to the fact that things are in such shape he could not make a try for Mr. Clay's toga just now.
It appears reasonably sure that the next President's name will be William; or, for campaign purposes, Bill.
Dr. Wendel declares that men are more beautiful than women. "The Springfield Union." Is the doctor a lady or a gentleman?
These are surely Senator "Jeff" Davis' busy days.
And even if it is a "fake" about Eddie Foy and Hamlet, he is welcome to the advertising. He certainly is "an amozin' cuss."

form of tribute to deceased army officers, and it would seem to be quite as well for the Navy Department except in a few rare instances, to follow the method.

Labor Unions and the Trust Law.
The American Federationist for March contains plenty of evidence that labor leaders, from the president of the American Federation of Labor down, regard the recent decision of the Supreme Court, holding the boycott machinery perfected by national unions of labor within the inhibition of the anti-trust act against combinations or conspiracies in restraint of trade, as a serious invasion of the rights and liberties of the people. They particularly resent the intimation, which they assume to be implied in the court's decision, that labor unions are trusts, and so subject to anti-trust laws based on the theory that trusts are inimical to the public interest and necessarily unlawful. This resentment is natural, but we doubt whether the Supreme Court had any intention of branding labor unions as illegal trusts, for its opinion was directed against a combination engaged in boycotting a manufacturer, that is to say, engaged in doing something adjudged to be unlawful. We do not think the Supreme Court would hold that a combination of laborers for lawful purposes would be an illegal combination. Such a decision, of course, would be what an indefensible.

There is, nevertheless, a strong feeling among labor leaders and their friends, and these last include many thoughtful economists and publicists—that the Sherman anti-trust act, as it now stands, does outlaw the unions, even when their purposes are laudable and innocent. It is believed that their arrangements or combinations for the purpose of raising or maintaining wages, or even their agreements with employers respecting the terms and conditions of employment, may conceivably be obnoxious to the Sherman law, which is well known, makes no distinction between good and bad combinations, or between reasonable and unreasonable agreements in restraint of trade. Mr. Gompers, in the Federationist, shows that at the time the Sherman act was under consideration in the Senate a proposal to exempt from the provisions of the act "any arrangements, agreements, or combinations between the laborers, made with a view of lessening the number of hours of labor or the increasing of their wages," was warmly supported by many Senators, including Mr. Brewster. It is not clear, however, that Senator Hoar, but it was not adopted because of the general opinion that the act would not apply to combinations of laborers, an opinion which has been somewhat shaken by recent court decisions.

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The Standard Oil fine is still considered a "joke," says the Commoner. Well, we would consider it a joke, too, if we should be fined \$20,000.
The Nashville American is calling upon certain politicians down its way to be "consistent." Tut, tut! Surely the American must know that has played out long, long ago!

Time to begin saving up for that trip to Wonderful Washington something less than twelve months hence.
This idea that the grip germ came from Mars is all wrong. The worst Mars has ever stood for is war; and while we all know what war is, we likewise know that grip is worse than that.

Neither are there any lawyers in Korea. That's why it is called "The Land of the Heavenly Calm," doubtless.
Of course, the feminine of paragraph is pa-rag. Anybody ought to know that.
The red feather appears to be the emblem of the Hughes rosters. That puts Senator "Bob" Taylor on the other side of the fence.

"A rich Missouri woman found her affinity in a poorhouse, and married him," says the Rochester Evening Post. Everybody to this story being from Missouri, so are we.
Mr. Reuter's name should be given a course of simplified spelling," says the San Antonio Express. The President appears to think the gentleman needs some instructions in simplified telling.

Chancellor Day finds it impossible to get beyond the "O" when seeking to mention the name of the Buckeye State these days.
We thank the esteemed New York Herald for its application for membership in the Initiative Splitters' Union, and it will be referred to the committee on qualification. We observe the Herald notes the inability of somebody "to adequately establish" something.

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A Little Nonsense.

He loved her, and he had of douch a large and goodly pile.
He kept his love a secret, though, and talked in gloomy style.
She loved him, but she gave it out she thought he was a dub;
Then wore through life a peevish pout, and couldn't eat her grub.

They kept this up for many years, and when they'd meet, slunk,
She'd hand him out a bunch of sneers, and he would turn his back.
Why all these years of useless pain when both did love, gadzook?
You'll understand when I explain. This happened in a book.

Drying an Auto.
"as she a hill climber?"
"You bet. This machine will get 'em unless they take to trees."

Question for Question.
"What's the prospect for business?"
"asked the advance agent. "Have we got much of a show in this town?"
"That depends," answered the village landlord. "Hev ye got much of a show?"

Speaking Slangily.
"Now, pa, don't talk wildcat stocks tonight."
"Aw, shucks."
"Try to keep your chin above water."

An Experiment.
At being meek he tried his hand
For one unhappy day.
But people tried to do him, and
He found it didn't pay.

The Food of Love.
"That Russian count looks sweet enough to eat."
"no cavare for me, Bernice. This season the proper caper is goush."

Such Is Life.
"Feller never knows when he's going to make a mistake," declared the proprietor of the general store.
"what's wrong?"
"Ve bragged so much about our thrifty feller that he feller has trowed his emporium over from Plunkville, by heck!"

At the Reception.
"The girls wanted me to come to help fill up."
"what?"
"Here I am. Where's the grub?"

DRIFTWOOD.
From the Montgomery Advertiser.
CARVING NAMES.
Don't you remember a time long ago,
When you walked by a maid with her cheeks aglow,
One picnic day 'neath an old beech tree
While you felt as sheepish as she felt free,
While the song birds caroled far overhead
And under your feet was a green rug spread.

And you told her you loved her so tenderly
And carved her name on the old beech tree?
Sure you remember when air was sweet
With the fragrance of June Time, Oh,
How come you,
Was that rare, rare day in the summer-time
When life was all roses and life was rhyme,
When the shy little maid said: "I love you, I guess,"
And you hugged her and squeezed her and made her say "yes."

While your soul bubbled over in ecstasy,
As you carved her name on the old beech tree.
You carved her name on the old beech tree
Then under it cut your own. To see
How long they would look together—Oh
Wasn't that long and long ago?
Wasn't that foolish? Oh, I don't know,
For you sign for those days to once more be.

When you carved her name on the old beech tree.
If the smaller fish were investigated as often as the big ones, what a dirty rot would this world be!
(Advice is like medicine—nobody will take it without certain misgivings and a wry face.)

TRIALS OF A NEWSPAPER POET.
He writ a lovely sonnet 'bout the roses
There a blower!
And when the paper went to press—gee whiz, it was a snowin'!

See! which he writ some lines 'bout snow!
By the time his readers seen it, why the sun warmed up the town.

He then dashed off another one that said
Next morn' breakfast people laffed—
"were rainin' all its might."
Take my advice, Newspaper Bards, for I kin tell you true,
You won't tell what the weather or a woman's goin' to do!

A penny saved is a penny earned;
It just takes a street piano man to put on airs.

REVISION BY HIS FRIENDS.
Comment on the Latest Scheme for Tailoring the Tariff.
From the New York Evening Post.
Translated into terms of hard fact, what would be the actual procedure of a tariff-revising committee headed by Senator Aldrich? Why, the protected manufacturers would be down upon it instantly, like a wolf on the fold. They would demand to be informed whether their particular schedules were being "examined." If so, the committee would be told bluntly that it could never hope to pass that examination, and had better drop the subject at once. And only think of these secret inquiries being held while a Presidential election is pending! More fat would be fried than schedules altered. It would be an unequalled opportunity for the tariff blackmailers. Granting that some sincere Republicans might be on the committee, are they prepared to meet manufacturers whose protection they propose to take away? Better encounter a lion robbed of her whelps!

From the New York Journal of Commerce.
There might be some readjusting of the Dingley schedules, and no doubt would be, but the operation would be gently performed, so as not to hurt any of the beneficiaries of the tariff who are depended upon for support in political campaigns.

Capitol Gossip.

Tall, robust, clear-cut features, and snowy white hair, Senator Stephen Benton Elkins, of West Virginia, is a familiar figure in the Senate chamber.

He is a native of Ohio, received his education in Missouri, graduating from the university of that State, and practiced law in New Mexico. While there he acquired a knowledge of Spanish, which was of material assistance to him in the practice of his profession.

He held the office of territorial district attorney, attorney general, and United States district attorney; was elected to the forty-third and forty-fourth Congresses.

For three Presidential electoral campaigns he was a member of the Republican National Committee.

After leaving Congress, Mr. Elkins moved to West Virginia, devoting himself to business affairs.

He was appointed Secretary of War under President Harrison, and in 1894 was elected United States Senator. Senator Elkins is chairman of the Committee on Interstate Commerce, and has labored earnestly and continuously over matters of great importance to that committee and the United States. He is also a member of Committees on Appropriations, Commerce, Printing, Rules, Geological Survey, and Civil Service and Retirement.

One of the most popular Representatives in the House is William Charles Adamson, of Georgia. His district adjoins that represented by Gordon Lee.

Recently press of business called Mr. Adamson to Georgia. At the same time he had several matters pending in Washington, which he was obliged to leave unattended. Gordon Lee, of Georgia, however, he asked him if (Mr. Lee) would kindly look after things for him while away.

Representative Lee said he would, provided he (Adamson) would bring back with him a mess of turnip greens and corn bread. Representative Adamson agreed.

Time passed and the Judge returned. Calling Lee to the cloakroom, he thanked him for attending to the business, and telling him that he had brought the turnip greens and corn bread as requested. Mr. Lee had forgotten the request, but was sure enough, there they were—two sacks of greens and a box of corn bread.

The greens were carried to the House restaurant, cooked in the highest style of the art, and the two Georgia Representatives enjoyed a square meal.

Representative Fitzgerald, of New York, doesn't like to be kept in. Mr. Fitzgerald is a hard worker and a consistent knocker of the Republicans' cry of worry.

Representative William S. Bennett, of New York, doesn't mind being kept the object of Congressional repartee, &c., for a time, but when the Republican side of the House tries to rub it in, Mr. Bennett rises up in his telling smile and smites back.

Mr. Bennett was telling the House yesterday that there is no feeling of financial stress in New York City. He had previously been asked several questions, during a little lecture on the exploitation of the prosperity end of New York, he said that there would be nothing doing in the interruption business.

After he had progressed several rods into the linguistic jungles which surround New York's employed unemployed, and after several Representatives had butted in with one Congressional ball of ceremony, Representative John J. Fitzgerald is ready to go home.

His face lightens up in a wide smile, he locks up his desk with a breathless air of haste and expectancy, and, when the Speaker puts the question on a motion to adjourn, the loud, full-throated cry of Representative John J. Fitzgerald rises up from the floor and shakes the very mace. He does not like to be kept in.

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Fighting Betting Evil.

Measures Taken by New York Merchants to Protect Themselves.
From interview with a "Business Man" in the New York Evening Post.

In the spring of 1904, so demoralizing had the betting spirit become among the carriers and clerks of the Brooklyn post-office that an order was posted, commanding all government employees to discontinue from the service. That same summer an insurance company in New York City made an organized effort to stop its employees from taking any more chances in race-track betting.

Every clerk, bookkeeper, agent, and messenger was notified by letter that he must not attend the races, or in the future be seen with persons who frequent race tracks or poolrooms. As each employee received this notification he or she was directed to indorse it upon the back and return it to the office of the penalty of dismissal from the service. That same summer an insurance company in New York City made an organized effort to stop its employees from taking any more chances in race-track betting.

It was also in this same season that the general manager of a large store noticed an unusual amount of horse talk among his salesmen and cash boys. Investigation showed that a hand-book man appeared every day at noon and took part in race-track betting. Big and little, for that day's races at the track. At first the manager was inclined to laugh at the risk of his store detective, but after witnessing the transaction himself, and ascertaining the amount of money that his employees were betting, he had warnings posted in every department, notifying employees that any one found talking with any hand-book man would be discharged immediately. In the wholesale dry goods district, notices were posted that betting during business hours would be a cause for dismissal, and employees were informed that their employers did not approve of their frequenting betting rings at the race tracks.

Charles T. Bishop, of New York, interested in the manufacture and sale of electrical appliances and installations, said, last night, at the Raleigh, he believed Roosevelt would be nominated and elected to succeed himself.

"I am not at all a Roosevelt admirer, although I have known him for many years. He is the only member of the Roosevelt clan who is a Republican. All the rest are old line Democrats."

"Roosevelt has lost much of his popularity in the last six months on account of his attitude toward financial and commercial interests. I would not vote for him."

"I would cast my vote for Taft, even though he is the Roosevelt era selection. Taft has a different personality."

"Bryan will receive the vote of the New York delegation, notwithstanding that he is not at all popular in the East. I believe New York is Democratic at the next Presidential election."

"Judge Parker is dead, politically speaking. I think it was a shame to put him up as a candidate on the Democratic ticket. The purpose of knocking him down again."

"He is a good man, and was perfectly content where he was before he was dragged into the political limelight by the Democrats."

"I furnished the late Senator Hanna with many statistics concerning the proposed Panama Canal which he used in his famous speech in the Senate on the canal," said Dr. A. A. Dutari, of Panama, at La Noroncha, last night.

Dr. Dutari has returned from a trip to various parts of the world and intends to pass about a week in this city to "rest up."

"I feel proud," added the physician, "that part of my suggestions were embodied in Hanna's speech and were printed in the Congressional Record."

"Senator Hanna was another advocate of the Panama route. That this was finally decided upon was solely due to his great and untiring efforts in that direction."

"The Panama Canal is the greatest monument that could be erected in memory of that great man from Ohio. I have a letter from him thanking me for my work. I prize it highly."

"There will soon be a Presidential election in Panama. The people down there are under the impression that they select their man for the office. The truth of the matter is that the man is picked out right here in Washington. And it is much better thus."

"Panama is practically American territory. It is no more than right, therefore, that the United States should know exactly what is going on down there."

"President Roosevelt is a greater man abroad than he is in his own country. In Germany, for instance, he ranks in popularity on a par with the German Emperor. Roosevelt is universally admired for personal and moral courage, and honesty and patriotism. For these qualities the Germans compare him with their Emperor."

At the Hotels.

That Japan is preparing for war is the opinion of Horace E. Edwards, of Pekin, China, who has been a resident of that city for the last twenty years. Mr. Edwards is at the Raleigh.

Speaking on the question of war, he said: "It is true that Japan is preparing for war, but not for a war with the United States."

"Japan has to have an outlet for her surplus population. China offers the best field for Japanese colonization."

"Japan is merely awaiting her opportunity to strike when the opportunity has arrived. And you may bank on it that the stroke will be dealt before China is strong enough to retaliate."

"China knows her own weakness. It would therefore be folly for her to throw any obstacles in the way of Japanese aggression at the cost of China."

"Japan will never evacuate Manchuria. Every power knows it."

"There seems to be an understanding between Japan and Russia to divide Manchuria between them. There are only two powers that would probably raise objections to this scheme, the United States and Germany. They would, however, not consider it worth while to go to war against Russia and Japan if these powers should pay no heed to their protests."

"I wouldn't be a bit surprised to read one fine morning that the Japanese fleet had appeared at some Chinese port and bombarded the town and sent the Chinese ships to the bottom."

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Give All a Square Deal.

Some Good Advice to the Senate Naval Affairs Committee.
From the New York Herald.

When this inquiry was asked for it was expected to be as free as the wind on the beach and open as a day in June. Conducted by intelligent and capable Senators and supplemented with the exceptional experience and expertise of their chairman, it was confidently hoped their matured conclusions would be so convincing that they must appear as final to a people and Congress pledged to the "square deal."

An element of doubt now enters. It appears that the inquiry, as conducted, allowed Rear Admiral Converse and Chief Constructor Capps has been more restricted for the affirmative side, notable in the case of Commander Sims. It appears also that the testimony of the senior officers has not been submitted to the cross-examination permitted Mr. Capps, whose sudden change of role from witness to that of prosecuting attorney, under favor of the committee, is astonishing. Nor less astonishing, perhaps, is that several of the protestants have apparently been accorded the treatment, not of witnesses but of guilty parties called on to prove their innocence.

These seagoing officers are not callow youths deserving of chastisement but seamen of long and creditable service. Their protest against certain obiter dicta of the jury and judges are natural enough for while some of their beliefs may be doubted no man may question their honesty of opinion. They have a right to be heard with the same respect and consideration as the first witnesses, and they must be heard in the interest of fair dealing, or the inquiry will be fruitless.

Whatever may be the result, one vital truth has been reasserted in the course of the inquiry, and Congress should heed it. It has been pointed out that errors in design and construction are certain to be perpetuated so long as they must be referred to a civilian Secretary, who has no technical expert to aid him, and whose only source of advice upon the truth of any criticisms must, under the administrative system decreed mainly by the Senate committee, be the chief of the bureau responsible for the alleged defects. This is an absolutely defective process and should, with bell, book and candle and without any benefit of clergy, be smashed into impossibility.

THE REPUBLICAN SENATE.
Minority Party Will Soon Have Less Than Third of Membership.
From the Philadelphia Press.

The election of a Republican to the United States Senate from Kentucky, William O'Connell Bradley, will make that body a year hence, if the Colorado legislature is Republican, as it will be, sixty-three Republicans to twenty-nine Democrats. This assumes, of which there is every probability, that the Western States which chose Republicans last year will again elect Republicans.

The Republican party is stronger in the West than it was in 1902. California, Kansas, Nevada, North and South Dakota, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, are all more certain to elect Republicans than when their present Republican Senators were chosen. In Colorado the legislature has now forty-seven Republican members on joint ballot, and a Republican will probably be elected to the office held by Senator Teller. No Eastern State choosing Senators next winter is doubtful in a Presidential year.

It gives a two-thirds Republican majority in the Senate. The Republican majority has been known in the Senate since Grant's first term. With such a majority the minority party cannot prevent the ratification of a treaty and can do little even to obstruct much of the legislative program. Twice only since 1872 the Democrats have controlled the organization of the Senate, 1879 to 1883 and 1883 to 1885.

Justice Holmes' Country Seat.
From the Springfield Republican.
Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, of the United States Supreme Court, has bought the handsome Marshall estate, in Beverly Farms, which his father, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, used to occupy. It was there that the poet coined the term "Beverly-by-the-railroad-station," in parody of the pretentious "Manchester-by-the-sea."

"Uncle Joe's Spell."
From the Chicago News.
"Uncle Joe" may have to make a few hypnotic passages in this general direction if he is to keep the Illinois Republicans under his spell until the convention delegates are chosen.

A NEAR-POEM OF NEAR-SPRING.
Comes now the promise of spring and of days that are brighter,
Bringing the joy of the skies that are clearer and bluer,
Cheering us on as the stores in the bin's growing lighter,
On toward the time when smoke law violations are fewer.

Soon will the pulse of nature get wise to a throbbing
From the vernal awakening; soon will a busy retreat
By the grip germ be made; ay, soon will appear
With his musical flute and his wisest to lastly.

Then a beneficent sun shining o'er nature so brightly
Hands up a tip, if we're wise guys, that we neglect not,
Not at a moment those friends nor pass them by lightly,
Who in good spring days may take us out in their coats.

—Indiana Post in News.

"The German colonies in Africa are being given to Italy, and before many years it will be impossible to have a steady rainy, although they cost us a good many lives and a great deal of money."