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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1939.

Settle the Gas Problem Right!

Gas legislation is imperatively necessary. It is rendered so by the government's warning through the Agricultural Department scientists that the illuminant now furnished the citizens of Washington is a deadly poisonous product that constantly imperils life and health.

But imperative as the duty of Congress has become in this respect, it should not be used as a pretext to railroad through the House and Senate ill-considered general gas legislation affecting the relations of a utility corporation toward the public for all time to come.

On its face this general measure as presented to the House by Mr. Sims, and which, in the main, is understood to be the counterpart of the bill shortly to be introduced in the Senate, seems reasonably fair—an apparently equitable adjustment. Certainly the measure is righteous to the extent that it reduces the price of gas and limits to 10 per cent the amount of the deadly carbon monoxide it may contain.

The sliding scale arrangement as to rates and dividends for the future, based upon the London and Boston schemes of operation, also appears commendable.

But let it not be understood that this general measure is altogether philanthropic, or wholly in the interest of the public welfare. If the gaslight companies are required to furnish safe and cheaper gas—something they should have been compelled to do long ago—they will, on their part, if the measure becomes a law, gain Congressional consent to increase their capitalization, which is the thing they have struggled for all these years, and which our lawmakers, in spite of passive indifference as to other phases of the gas situation, have stubbornly and successfully resisted.

Perhaps the proposed increase in their capitalization is warranted by the conditions, and will tend to conserve the public interest in putting the companies on a stable and better basis. Argument is not lacking to support that view. It is quite conceivable that such an adjustment would prove wise, preconceived and long cultivated opinion adverse to watering of stock to the contrary notwithstanding.

But legislation involving so important a problem should not be precipitately enacted into law. It demands, not more expert testimony, which only serves to confuse and delay, but careful consideration in committee and the mature thought of our wisest constructive legislators.

There is more than a day's work in it all.

Congress is not called upon to enter into a compromise. It is not for the gas companies to say: Let us increase our capital, and we will lower the gas rate and quit the business of turning out a deadly product that endangers the public welfare. Rather it would be more in order for Congress to say: Furnish safe gas at a reasonable rate—then the matter of capitalization will be justly dealt with.

There should be action at this session, and that action should be such as will bear the test of time. The questions involved should be settled right. And to settle them right there must be not only an accurate knowledge of the general provisions of the measure, but of its minutest details.

Do not be too hasty in your condemnation of that proposed "ground hog feast" for Mr. Taft's benefit down in Alabama. Those folks may mean buckwheat-cakes and country sausage!

Why Not a Parade of Legislators?

The Philadelphia Ledger protests against the appropriation of a beggary \$4,000 by the Pennsylvania legislature for the purpose of bringing that famous body to Washington to take part in the inaugural parade. Notwithstanding the amount to be taken from the State treasury was placed at a ridiculously low figure so that none of it would be wasted on champagne and other high jinks, but would be used for strictly legitimate purposes, our contemporary thinks its employment to bring the legislators of the Keystone State to Washington would be a waste of public funds.

In this matter we are reluctantly compelled to disagree with our Philadelphia friend, not on grounds of economy, but on grounds of public utility. We are not sure whether it has ever before occurred to members of the inaugural committee, but the idea of having the State legislators on parade appears a mighty good one.

But we should not confine all the joy to Pennsylvania's solons. Who would not sit half a day on the soft side of a plank to see the mighty governing body of grand old Nevada swinging along the Avenue? Or the California solons who are so anxious to fight the Japs? Or the crowd that does the lofty thinking for the State of Oklahoma? It would not cost much, either, to entertain a prohibition legislature or two, in high hats and black gowns. Nor should we overlook the fellows out in Ohio that Boss Cox carries about in his pocket, or the chaps that

dream they are doing up Gov. Hughes. A picturesque and enlightening exhibition, surely, that would be worth a million dollars, to say nothing of \$4,000. How T. R. would rejoice to meet some of them face to face, the Pacific Coast brand preferred; and all of us would be edified by a close inspection. Is it too late to organize a legislative division of the inaugural parade, reserving a post of honor for a company of "bosses" recruited from the States of the Union?

A picture of Grover Cleveland is to appear on a new series of \$10 gold certificates. We do not suppose there is a sixteen-to-one man left in the country, however, who would shy at one of them because of that.

Senator Lodge's Favorite Bugabo

Senator Lodge's eulogy of the late William B. Allison was marked by some characteristic observations on present tendencies toward the popular election of United States Senators. Mr. Lodge, as is well known, is a strong adherent of the legislative system of election, and to that system he attributed Iowa's good fortune in being represented in the Senate for thirty-six years by a statesman of Allison's caliber. In sending Mr. Allison to the Senate for six terms, the legislature, said Mr. Lodge, truly represented the will of the people. It would be a sorry day when the country suffered the loss of such continuity of service, such directing and guiding force, as was gained by Mr. Allison's long public career. "It is such careers as his which have made the Senate what it has been in our history," Mr. Lodge continued, "and if, under the pretense of making it more popular, we are subjected to schemes which open the door wide to those who would commit fraud, and to those who would spend money without stint, we shall not only see the popular will distorted, travestied, and defeated, but the country will be deprived of the long-continued services of such men as Mr. Allison, which have been and are of inestimable value to the United States."

If the present members of the Senate had all been elected by popular vote, and the proposal were to substitute for that mode of election the legislative system now prevailing, every word of Mr. Lodge's invective would be as applicable to the legislative method as to the popular method. For what evils Mr. Lodge foresees in the popular election have already been glaringly manifest in the legislative election, wherein the popular will has often been travestied, distorted, and defeated, money spent without stint, and fraud committed. The return of Allison to the Senate, term after term, was an example of the legislative system at its best; Senator Lodge looks about him in the Senate chamber every day and sees beneficiaries of that system at its worst. What ground has Senator Lodge for assuming that the people of Iowa, if they had had opportunity for voting on the Senatorship, would have refused to honor Allison with six elections? Or that the popular choice of Senators, now adopted in Iowa, will turn out statesmen of distinctly lower quality?

Turning to the House of Representatives, we find many examples of long and uninterrupted public service founded on popular confidence in men who have to go before the people every two years. And in the Senate we may find numerous illustrations of legislative fickleness, for not every Senator of ability can command legislative election until the end of his days. So we confess Mr. Lodge's objections to the popular election of Senators—that it will encourage the use of money, and deprive the Senate of the continuous service of its best men—do not strike us as at all conclusive, since they apply with equal force to the legislative mode of election. Iowa's legislature kept Allison in the Senate because the people of Iowa wanted him kept there, and when they had a chance to vote for him at the polls the result was the same. Mr. Allison's career gives poor support to Senator Lodge's thesis.

Pity we cannot preserve the peace between this country and Japan by saturating California and Nevada in benzene of soda, or something equally as bad.

Another Good Riddance.

We care not what it is that should be credited with forcing the passing of comic valentines; we are unqualifiedly glad to know that their discontinuance is to be numbered among the many reforms of latter days in respect of which it is said we are to be permitted to rejoice this year.

When came this ungracious and unworthy comic valentine habit we know not, and whether it goeth is a matter of small consequence. Let it be admitted that the souvenir postal card fad is responsible for the fall of the other things. Doubtless it was a potent factor in this consumption but lately so devoutly to be wished, and now an accomplished fact. If the dealers in things of the valentine persuasion may be believed.

The chief trouble with the so-called comic valentines is precisely, in a measure, that which ails the comic supplements incident to so many Sunday newspapers. If either ever was comic, both long ago ceased to be. If the sending of a jocosse message to a friend or acquaintance on St. Valentine's Day, even anonymously, were held within the bounds of a harmless joke or pleasantry, the comic valentine idea might not be justly an object of adverse criticism. But such is not the case. The comic valentine is employed exclusively, or approximately so, we think, for the infliction of cruelties and insults, or the promulgation of suggestive innuendo. It is used by people to say things under cover they would not dare say openly to their victim's face. The output displayed in the past has been composed of the coarsest and vilest of stuff. It has been designed entirely to sting—not to make merry or amuse.

The original significance of St. Valentine's Day is lost in the mists of antiquity. We have no tangible evidence, indeed, that any such person ever existed in this world. But this we do know—St. Valentine's Day was a day sacred to sentiment, sweetness, graciousness, and kindness long before it was used as a cloak for ignoble things; and the latter has become accustomed to the pleasure of seeing them on the parade ground and on the street, and have met them in pleasant social intercourse.

Their Business to Retrench.

From the San Francisco Chronicle. When the propriety of retrenching is suggested to Congressmen, they shrug their shoulders and ask where the cutting shall begin. It is not their business to retort by asking their critics hard questions. They are paid good, fat salaries for solving problems like those of pleasure both end and means, and when they fail to do so they advertise their incapacity.

Mining Camp Threats.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel. A State government that speaks behind Uncle Sam's coat when there is a row in one of its mining camps might well consider itself stopped from harrisking about foreign war. We shall have Hinky Dink's ward passing war resolutions presently.

Democratic Reformers.

From the Indianapolis News. The Democrats as reformers of their perennial errors are like the repeaters of the old-time mourners' bench. They live in sin that they may have the credit of seeking grace.

A Poor Excuse.

From the New York World. "Had no wireless" will now take its place with that old fatality cause, the unplaced gun.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

AN OPPORTUNITY.

This little pointer should bring joy 'Unto the crowd' that is so glad to see A fortune on a timely toy Is often made.

Add this to your jobbers, to your stocks. Secure your bids. And run a line of Sanskrit blocks For Boston kids.

No Excuse. "Why don't fashionable people go to the circus?" "How can they? They have no children to take."

Quite So. "This here spirit of poetry all depends on the person, I judge," remarked Uncle Goshall Hemlock to a friend. "How now?" "A nightingale is only a varmint to some."

Very Adaptable. "The automobile is a great institution." "For instance?" "You can sit up in it as you pass a friend, and crawl under it when a creditor heaves into sight."

The Various Champs. As to this very latest yelp. I make the claim That chatterboxes little help The boxing game.

Not Like the Congressional. "Be careful how you make speeches about people, boy?" "All right, dad." "Remember that you can't have 'em expunged from life's record."

Not Impressed. "Rush to the window, Geoffrey. There's a sheath gown passing." "Is it a real sheath, or just one of these imitation sheaths?" Inquired Geoffrey, without stirring.

Among Girls. "I don't like the way they run the theaters." "They ought to have floorwalkers instead of ushers, and let you examine the seats before purchasing."

Yes, and maybe see one act of the play."

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

Creation of a New Commonwealth.

From the New York Tribune. The nation builders of South Africa are making progress with the new commonwealth. They have just settled the hotly disputed question of the location of the capital by means of a compromise which will probably serve for the present, but which is not regarded as an awkward makeshift, doomed to abandonment many years have passed. Some states have for a time had two capitals, as formerly Connecticut with Hartford and New Haven, and Rhode Island with Providence and Newport. Seats of government were used alternately as seats of government. But for a large country to have simultaneously two capitals, one for the legislature, and one for the executive, and to have the executive seat in two different places, would be an anomaly which we cannot believe will be permanently satisfactory or even workable. One of these days, and the sooner the better, there will be agreement on some one capital.

However, the creation of a new commonwealth in South Africa is assured and practically effected, and the essential fact is that it is a British commonwealth. It is a British commonwealth, and upon some of the cocksure pronouncements a few years ago. We well remember how confidently it was asserted, in America as well as in Ireland and elsewhere, during the Boer war, that the British Empire was absolutely certain, beyond all possible doubt, namely, that all South Africa was irrevocably lost to the British crown. Yet to-day the Boers themselves have organized a National convention to elect a king, and the British empire, under the Union Jack, and are manifesting an inclination to make it true of that commonwealth, as it has often been said of the Canadian Dominion, that it is more British than Great Britain.

PEANUT PROTECTION.

Hateful Influence of Local Industry on a Democratic Edition.

From the Petersburg (Va.) Index-Appal. It seems to be a Sisyphean task to make some of our Virginia contemporaries understand, or rather to admit, that there is any such thing as protection in the creed of the Democratic party, or that there is any distinction between the Democratic protection doctrine, that the tariff should be revised "with due allowance for the difference between the wages of American and foreign labor," and the Republican doctrine that the tariff should be revised upward for the protection of trusts and the control of commerce and the invasion of foreign markets to sell American goods cheaper than they are sold in the American market or by foreign manufacturers in the foreign markets. Is not this distinction plain enough for any one to see that is not willfully blind?

Ordinarily we are not a betting man, but we will step aside in this case and gamble largely that the Democratic National convention of 1912 will make a more explicit declaration on the tariff question than was made in the Democratic platform of 1908, and that declaration will reaffirm the traditional protective principle of the party in favor of the industrial and wage-earning interests, and as antagonistic to the monopoly breeding policy of the Republican party in the interests of greed and extortion.

Another Canal Problem.

From the Ohio State Journal. Probably the tolling masses on Mars also hope that the canal system will be finished by 1915.

LINCOLN.

From "The Commemoration Ode." How beautiful to see Once more a shepherd of mankind, indeed, Who loosed his charge, but never led to lead: One whose great flock the people jured to be, Not led by any chat of birth, But by his clear-grained human worth, And brave old wisdom of sincerity! They knew that outward grace is dust! They could not choose, but trust In that which made his mind's unerring skill. And simple tempered will That bent 'the perfect steel to spring again and thrust."

His was no lonely mountain peak of mind, Throbbing to this air o'er our cloudy bars, A sea mark now, now lost in vapors hid; Bread crumb for the great, and the great's bread, Fruitful and friendly for all human kind, Yet also high to Heaven and loved of loftiest stars.

Nothing of Europe here, Or, then, of Europe's frothing onward still. 'Tis our own nature, our own soul, our own. 'Tis our own nature, our own soul, our own. 'Tis our own nature, our own soul, our own.

He knew his own time. He knew his own time. He knew his own time. He knew his own time.

Still patient in his simple faith, still patient in his simple faith, still patient in his simple faith, still patient in his simple faith.

Disturb not judgment for the hour, Disturb not judgment for the hour, Disturb not judgment for the hour, Disturb not judgment for the hour.

But, at last, silence come; But, at last, silence come; But, at last, silence come; But, at last, silence come.

One all in one, and standing like a tower, One all in one, and standing like a tower, One all in one, and standing like a tower, One all in one, and standing like a tower.

The kindly, earnest, brave, foregoing man, The kindly, earnest, brave, foregoing man, The kindly, earnest, brave, foregoing man, The kindly, earnest, brave, foregoing man.

Sagacious, patient, dwelling praise, not blown, Sagacious, patient, dwelling praise, not blown, Sagacious, patient, dwelling praise, not blown, Sagacious, patient, dwelling praise, not blown.

James Russell Lowell.

WASHINGTON CHAT.

By THE SPECTATOR.

The recent marriage of Mrs. Alice Barkley Henry, who was born Belknap, to Dr. Abraham H. Henry, calls to mind the story of her social career here and the tragedy that separated her father from President Grant's Cabinet, saddened his latter days, and made her and her mother wanderers for a number of years. William Worth Belknap was President Grant's Secretary of War, a position given him by that military Executive in recognition of his gallant services in the volunteer army throughout the civil war, in which he gained the rank of major general. Gen. Belknap was a great hearted, big souled man of real ability. His first wife was a beautiful, graceful, and cultivated woman, and the home in Madison place was one of the most popular official centers in Washington. Mrs. Belknap died in Gen. Grant's first administration after a long and cruel illness. Not long after her wife's death, Mr. Belknap married her sister, and to this marriage Alice Belknap, who has recently become Mrs. van Kaathoven, was the only offspring. The second Mrs. Belknap was even more noted for her lavish hospitality than her sister. She entertained from the beginning of the season until the end of the season, a very brilliant circle as ever congregated. Her beauty was lauded, her bon mots were quoted, but at the very zenith of her popularity a scandal arose that astonished and shocked the people at the Capital, which the days following the war were inured to scandal. It was charged that Gen. Belknap had used his office for his personal ends and sold the Indian post trade rights for his own advantage. The whole country was alarmed and outraged at such malfeasance, and before an investigation could be started Gen. Belknap resigned. Like many of his associates in those days, he was a careless administrator, his work was left more or less to subordinates, and he was careless about his nose of which he had no cognizance, as was abundantly established by his friends later, who proved that Mrs. Belknap had been the guilty one, that it was she who had sold the post trade rights and she only who had benefited by the sales, the returns from which had furnished the means for the lavish entertaining for which she had become noted. But with knightly chivalry Gen. Belknap had not only sold the rights to himself and bore his burden uncomplacingly and gallantly until his death.

The end of the story is pathetic in the extreme. Mrs. Belknap with her little daughter left at once for Europe, where she remained for some fifteen or sixteen years, while her husband made his home in Washington, a saddened, broken-hearted man, but still possessed of many friends whose belief in his innocence had remained unshaken, and who were true to his cause when the charges of which he was guiltless were brought. In assuming them all himself, and allowing no public sign of reproach to be placed upon his wife.

Mrs. Belknap returned to America some fifteen years ago, when she introduced her daughter to society, which had forgotten her past, and accepted Alice for her father's sake, and things went on as usual, and her great beauty, for Alice Belknap was a beautiful girl, with an exquisite complexion, blue eyes, fringed with black lashes, and a mass of blond hair. At the time she was introduced to society she was seventeen years younger than her father, a brilliant and clever man. They will make their home in California.

It is said by those closest to him that Attorney General Bonaparte will lay down his portfolio without regret with the incoming administration, which seems strange, since he was one of the most strenuous members of the Cabinet when he was first appointed to the head of the Navy Department, and even when he was transferred to his present post. But nearly four years of Cabinet life should be enough to satisfy the ambition of any statesman, for the duties of the position are not commensurate with the labors and sacrifices, criticism constant, and glory rare. Mr. Bonaparte holds a unique position in America. He is the grandson of a king, and his father stood in direct line of descent to the throne of France. When Louis Napoleon, by that historic coup, made himself emperor in 1851, he offered to his nephew, Jerome Bonaparte, the son of his brother, the King of Westphalia, and beautiful Betty Patterson, of Baltimore, the privilege of being his successor, with the rank of imperial prince. This arrangement would have been a sop to the Catholic party in France, for the marriage of Jerome Bonaparte and Betty Patterson, of which the Attorney General's father was the only offspring, had always been upheld by the Pope, and Napoleon's recognition of it could not have failed but strengthening the Catholic element. Jerome Bonaparte went to Paris as the guest of Napoleon III to discuss the matter, was lodged at the Elysee Palace, and treated as an honored relative, but nothing came of it. Like Caesar, he refused the crown, and returned to this country to live the life of an American citizen. Nor was his son, the late Charles Bonaparte, tempted by the offers made by his family and their supporters to become emperor of Mexico for the throne of France. An American he was born, and an American he remained to the end of his days. His son Jerome and his brother Jerome are equally loyal to the country, that is to say, their grandfather's grandnephew, and while they must always have a peculiar interest in French politics, it is an entirely impersonal interest, and there is no one of the American Bonapartes in this generation who will claim the crown of France, and will there be in the next, since Attorney General Bonaparte has no children, and his nephew, Jerome, is unmarried.

Forestry in England. From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. America is not alone in having modern forestry problems to decide. A royal commission has just reported a plan for the afforestation of the British islands which is provoking animated debate. The commission was too much impressed by the importance of the project to be daunted by the outcry and recommended a scheme involving an expenditure of £2,500,000, spread over a period of eighty years. Their plan has already called forth vehement denunciations as dangerous and socialistic, and while there is no immediate prospect of carrying the lines indicated by the commission, the very magnitude is a sign of an increasing recognition of the importance of the question.

Cool 'Em Off.

From the Philadelphia Press. It may become necessary to put a couple of those Pacific States in the refrigerator and give them a chance to cool off.

Job for the Kaiser.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal. What is the matter with getting the Kaiser to arbitrate between Nevada and Japan? He is not busy.

IMPROVIDENT FINANCE.

Governmental Expenditures Out-running the Normal Revenues.

When a prudent man of business finds that his income is decreasing his first thought is to reduce his expenditures—to cut his coat according to his cloth, as the common saying is. No such policy as this seems to commend itself to the Congress of the United States. There has been a season of business depression succeeding a long term of prosperity. The income of the Federal government has shrunk enormously, but instead of reducing expenditures and appropriations, so that we can live within our means, the Congress has become more extravagant than ever. The revenues of the United States Treasury come almost exclusively from taxation upon what people buy—upon certain articles produced or made in this country and upon imports from abroad. In time of business depression, when the incomes of the people are diminished, they buy less, and, consequently, the government gets less taxes. So far this fiscal year—that is, since June 30, 1938—the government has spent \$2,000,000,000 more than it received, while the revenues have decreased, the expenditures in the last seven months have increased \$300,000,000 over those of the corresponding month in the previous year.

With this growing deficit starting them in the face, the Congress has taken as particular time for increasing the cost of government, for doubling the President's salary, for giving princely salaries to the Speaker of the House and "his superfluous excellency," the Vice President, for scattering the people's money to the four winds.

From the Norfolk Virginia-Pilot. In any event the Republican Congress must face a situation for which the party so long in undisputed power is solely responsible. President Taft will retire from President Roosevelt the same legacy of bankruptcy which President Harrison bequeathed to President Cleveland. The Democratic administration then was forced to resort to heroic measures in order to repair the improvidence of its Republican predecessor, and an unbridled and imprudent Congress has transferred the blame which should have been attached to the provoking cause. The case now is different. The trouble impending for Mr. Taft has been brought about by members of his own political party, and there is no Democratic responsibility, on which to unload either the production of the shortage or the methods which may be found necessary to make it up. It was a Republican regime that inaugurated and practiced the debt policy, waste; it is a Republican regime that must endure the headache of retrenchment and settle the wine bills.

ECONOMY IN THE WEST.

Pacific Coast Now Has Use for the Humble Cent.

From the New York Sun. The striking of more than 1,000,000 cent pieces at the San Francisco mint in 1938 made a new record in the history of the United States mint and its branches, for never before since the coinage of pieces of this denomination was begun, in 1793, had such coins been struck anywhere but at the parent establishment at Philadelphia. As a matter of fact, no need for the making of coins of this denomination in the West presented itself until within recent years, as the demand for cent pieces was confined almost exclusively to the Atlantic and Middle Western States.

In the West and Southwest this minor coin has had no purchasing value, was not recognized, and was seldom seen in circulation. Indeed, even at the present time there are many Western localities in which cent pieces are not accepted.

In Colorado, for example, if a person tenders a 5-cent piece to a postmaster for two 2-cent stamps, he received in exchange, together with his stamps, not a 1-cent piece, but a 1-cent postage stamp. There are no cent pieces in the money drawer of the postmaster, and he doesn't desire any. In a Denver store a certain commodity is quoted at, say, 10 cents a pound. The purchaser must take either 10 or 20 cents worth of the commodity, or 5 cents worth in gold. Apples may be 4 or 5 cents, but one apple is also 5 cents, just the same. Now the people of the Centennial State are going to have a chance of becoming acquainted with the little brown cent, for the government is going to strike cent pieces at the new Denver mint in 1939.

California has had as little use for the cent as other parts of the West. For many years no coin of less denomination than 1 cent has been struck there, and there, and in the gold days nothing less than 25 cents would buy anything, miners frequently throwing a handful of small silver pieces out into the street as useless weight to carry, and a bit or quarter, being the minimum current coin.

Times have changed, and the people along the Pacific Coast have been quicker to adopt the cent than those in the Rocky Mountain district. Now the coin is used in such quantities that it is almost inadvisable to manufacture cents on the ground, and thus save the expense of shipment across the continent from Philadelphia. For the calendar year of 1938 the United States mint report shows that \$11,970 worth of cent pieces were struck at the San Francisco mint and \$22,523.57 worth at Philadelphia.

A Business-Like Secretary.

From the Springfield Republican. The differences between Secretary Newberry and the President in the growth of the reorganization of the Navy Department may account for the Secretary's recent popularity with the naval committees of the two branches of Congress, whose members are reported to endorse his ideas concerning the consolidation of the department bureaus and to desire an adequate practical test of the growth of the feeling that Mr. Newberry has shown more real insight, as a practical administrator, into the problems that beset the Navy Department than any two of his recent predecessors in the Secretaryship is, however, a great compliment to the man who Senator Lodge always takes such good care of—George von L. Meyer.

Playing with Loaded Revolvers.

From the Indianapolis News. Another death in Chicago of an estimable woman because a man in a neighboring flat was explaining to the maid servant how to handle a revolver in case burglars came. It is admitted that it was a deplorable accident. But it was homely also. And yet the man was not even arrested. The woman is dead, oh, yes! But so little do we think of human life that "accident" suffices to wipe out its event. We must still allow men to go free with loaded revolvers, and give objective lessons with them, if we do occasionally slay a wife and mother. Great country!

Pathos of Success.

From the St. Louis Republic. The case of Gov. Cosgrove, of Washington, who sought the office for twenty years and now finds that his health requires him to resign for an indefinite time in a warlike climate is almost pathetic as that of James Buchanan, who sought the Presidency of the United States for twenty years, and won it only after he had ceased to care for it, when all his friends had had hoped to reward to a dead and all the enemies he had marked for punishment had become his friends.

AT THE HOTELS.

Porfirio Diaz, the present president of Mexico, will be re-elected to the office when his term expires in August 23.

Mr. Hoffelich, of Mexico City, who is at the Ebbitt, Mr. Hoffelich is an extensive mine owner, and has been in New York in connection with his enterprises. By birth, Mr. Hoffelich is an Austrian; by citizenship, an American; and he has resided in Mexico for a number of years. He was an old newspaper man, having been on the local staff of St. Louis papers, and being the founder of the Daily Record, the only English afternoon paper in Mexico City.

"It is absolutely erroneous to imagine," said Mr. Hoffelich, "that there are no other men in Mexico who can fill the presidential chair should President Diaz decide to resign or vacate his office. It is all nonsense to suppose that a revolution would break loose and sweep the country if President Diaz should die. Nothing is further from the truth. Mexicans are very conservative and law-abiding citizens."

"President Diaz, more than any other man in the modern history of Mexico, has helped to place the country in the front rank of the nations of the western hemisphere."

"Mexico is deeply interested," continued Mr. Hoffelich, "in vast irrigation problems. Twenty-five million dollars have been appropriated by the national legislature for this purpose, and agriculture and forestry and mines and every other industry is bound to gain from the improvements. Railroads are being built everywhere in Mexico, and the new country is being opened up for development right along."

Speaking of the Mexican army, Mr. Hoffelich said that it was composed of conscripts entirely, and that the methods employed in securing enlistments were not altogether in keeping with modern ideas. The officers are graduates of the military school at Chapultepec, one of the best military training schools known in Mexico has an excellent artillery branch of the military service, and is justly proud of it. Guatemala, Mexico's neighbor, according to Mr. Hoffelich, has a very effective army, better than that of any of the neighboring states.

Mr. Hoffelich paid a high tribute to former Ambassador Creel, now governor of Chihuahua, who he said had received a grant of 10,000 acres from the Mexican government, and had placed so many of these poor and needy Indians and giving them educational opportunities.

Isidor Weil, of Vienna, who is at the New Willard, and who is deeply interested in the Zionist movement, said last night it was growing stronger every year.

"It is strongest in Germany," continued Mr. Weil, "where the official organ of the organization is published. In France it is not very strong, although gradually gaining many active adherents. In Italy societies are springing up in important Jewish centers. In England the movement has lost a great deal of ground through the creation of the territorial movement, formed by Israel Zangwill, the purpose of which was placed so many obstacles in their path that the Zionists are greatly handicapped in their efforts to propagate the movement."

"In Canada Zionism is on a sound basis, especially in Montreal and Toronto. In the latter place the Zionists have raised funds and purchased a large, handsome building as their headquarters."

"The Canadian government has at all times shown a kindly disposition toward the movement, and prominent officials have attempted to place the Zionists of the Canadian Federation and expressed their interest in and good wishes for the welfare of the movement."

"The next international Zionist congress will be held in Hanning this summer, and the Zionists throughout the world are eagerly looking forward to that event, to learn from the leaders what new opportunities present themselves in view of the recent political changes in the Ottoman Empire."

W. L. Mott, attorney for the Creek Nation, who is here to urge enactment of certain legislation, said last night that the land fraud investigations in Oklahoma were instituted as the result of evidence which he gathered in connection with civil suits for the recovery of lands alleged to have been fraudulently obtained from the Indians.

"The interest of the government in the present prosecutions is simply that of a trustee," said Mr. Mott, who is accompanied by Chief Moty Tiger, of the Creeks. "The Creeks lost many acres by fraudulent transactions. Because the government was trustee for the Indians it was charged with the duty of recovering these lands. But it was prevented from properly discharging its duties as trustee by the frauds."

"There is no truth in the report circulated by Gov. Haskell or his friends that Hearst inspired the suits. I was the man who inspired the prosecutions, and from the first I have been the most active in forwarding them."