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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1911.

In Behalf of the Clerks.

The mass meeting at Convention Hall last night was an emphatic presentation of the case of the government clerk both in its numerical demonstration and forceful argument. In the great auditorium were gathered at least 5,000 people who desired personally to testify to their interest in the movement. The addresses by well-known public men were eloquent and appealing, and presented facts which ought to influence Congress in giving consideration to faithful and underpaid employes.

These government clerks represent not only a large but a very substantial factor in our population. They are nearly all home-owners. The records of the building associations in this city are literally filled with instances of homes acquired through monthly savings taken out of small salaries. Not only are a large proportion of the clerks actual taxpayers, but they represent a most desirable type of citizenship, being intelligent, law abiding, God-fearing people. They are the bone and sinew of the city, the supporters of the churches and of the charitable institutions, the purchasers upon whom the retail business of Washington largely depends.

All this, however, would not be convincing were it not for the fact that these people have been for years confronted by the problem of the high cost of living. Their situation is now more perplexing than ever. Everything has increased save their salaries. Private corporations have found it necessary to raise wages, but the Federal government still demands as much and more service from its employes without additional compensation. The consequence is that the clerks have suffered hardship. They have not been able to make both ends meet, even by the exercise of a strict economy which amounts to actual sacrifice. If the government should add 25 per cent to the salaries of the clerks who come under the civil service law, as is contemplated in Representative Cary's resolution, it would only be equalizing the burden which has been placed upon the clerks due to the increased cost of the necessaries of life.

Millions for the navy, millions for the army, millions for the Panama Canal, millions for pensions, millions for the reclamation of arid lands, millions for everything, but not a dollar for the government employes! An inherent sense of justice protests against this neglect.

It means plain living and hard thinking for the railroads.

The Doctor.

Of all the servants of mankind, the physician is apt to be the most abused. We criticise him and pigeonhole his bills, but at the first twinge we are jangling his bell in alarm. Only a few days ago a special train was dashing across this continent because a rich man, dreading blood-poisoning, wanted his own doctor. This, in a superlative degree, is in the nature of the country boy riding the plow horse to town at a gallop to gasp at the doctor's door: "Pa's fell off the haystack and broke his leg." The physician is the man who must be ready always. Neither minute hand nor hour hand describes a time when he is not on duty. If he gets a whole night's rest, it is because the community happens to be free from aches and pains. He is the slave of telephone, night bell, door bell, and office bell.

After a hard day's work, another man goes to bed with the sense of having earned his rest; but the probabilities are that the physician will be asked to respond to some one's beck and call. He is altogether a special kind of person. His illusions are few. His inside information is enormous. If now and then he wears a superior smile, forgive him. He has probably just heard some remark which he knows to be hypocritical. Again, his jokes are likely to be a bit technical, and his view of life materialistic. But if he has a brand of idealism, you can put your trust in it, for he has learned it in a hard school. He has faced the worst, and can still believe the best. If he has a religion, it will be worth while, for he has wrested it out of the actual battles of good and evil in a life seen at close range.

The lawyer we take into our confidence occasionally; the clergyman we admit to parlor and dining-room; but the doctor goes into bedrooms unannounced. If what he sees there surprises him, he does not let it be known. In the healing of bodies he has opportunities for healing souls which could never come to a priest. He is the lay father confessor, regardless of creed. He always fits in. He is a safe man on committees; he can turn his hand to any public business, and, if left alone, discharge it creditably. He knows more psychology in five minutes than the philosopher in a week, yet he is the least emotional of men.

When the lawyer is in tears before a jury, and the parson is pathetic from his pulpit, the doctor is keeping his nerve. The peculiar thing about him is that while fighting his grim and silent battle with death, without the applause of a crowd, often without pay, and sometimes without gratitude, he seems superior to all these considerations. He is responding to a higher sort of noblesse oblige which is almost unintelligible to the average man. Somewhere, either in this world or the next, he will reap his deserved reward.

Senator Burton insists that the people of Adams County, Ohio, are very religious. They ought to be by this time.

The Girl from the Country.

We have had occasion to refer to the excellent work done in Kansas City in behalf of newsboys and other juvenile workers who have poor homes or none at all. It is a pleasure to record the fact that the Council of Women's Clubs of that city has taken up the case of the girl from the country who arrives in the busy, alluring center with the hope of finding suitable and respectable employment. The council will have placards at railroad stations and elsewhere requesting country girls who contemplate removal to the city to communicate with the leading woman's club at least two weeks previous to their coming. Efforts will be made to find work for such girls. Matrons will be sent to the stations to receive and direct them to boarding-houses. Aid and encouragement will be extended to those who at first fail in their search for employment.

It is not necessary to dwell on the humanity and intelligence shown in this scheme. As to other cities, a word to the wise should suffice. The pitfalls and dangers to which country girls are exposed in cities are known to all; the necessity and practicability of such care and friendly guidance as Kansas City women propose to extend are equally plain. The larger the city, the greater, also, the need.

Col. Roosevelt actually has praised a judge in public. Does this mean that the New Nationalism is going to smash?

This Is a Good World.

The unidentified young athlete who gave his blood the other day—running the very serious risk which follows transfusion—to save a poor man's life, of whom he had not even heard before, has added another proof to the many that this is a world ever ready for self-sacrifice, for mutual help, and full of desire to aid others, even the merest strangers, in distress. Nothing could have seemed more useless than for the children of a foreigner dying of anemia to advertise for some one to supply him with blood. Yet a response came instantly, and the man's life has been saved by an act of self-sacrifice.

Because men are men and women are women, and not mere brutes, the call for help always will bring a response. Let a horse run away on a crowded street, and some one will brave peril. Let any one be drowning, and some one will endanger his life in a possibly vain effort. The particular sacrifice by which a poor Russian has had his life saved took place in a hospital with the eyes of a great city on it. But sacrifices as great are being made every day, in little houses and large, in office and factory, in poverty and in wealth, in health and in sickness, and will be made while life lasts.

Civilization is based on sacrifice. All that we enjoy in security, peace, comfort, affection, or joy is founded in sacrifice, and for it in the past not one human being, but many human beings, have gladly thrown their lives in the balance. Always this sacrifice goes on. It is in progress to-day. Nothing dies but selfishness. Nothing lives but unselfish sacrifice.

Senator Borah ought to have known better than to expect that his colleague from Idaho would stop for breath so early on the reciprocity question.

Not a Free Trade Party.

Now that an extra session of Congress seems assured, and with the knowledge that the Democratic majority in the House will not only pass the reciprocity agreement, but will in some measure undertake a revision of the tariff, it becomes interesting to study the attitude of the Democratic party on the tariff question.

It may be written down, first of all, that the party will not even attempt to plunge this country into free trade. Representative Underwood, who is to be chairman of the Ways and Means Committee in the next House, must be accepted as the recognized spokesman for the organization. "There never has been a tariff bill," he said, in a speech delivered in the House a year ago, "enacted into law by the Democratic party that has not favored the doctrine of a tariff for revenue, as opposed to a tariff levied along free trade lines, such as the revenue laws of Great Britain. Although we occasionally find a free trader within the ranks of the Democratic party, the great rank and file of the party do not favor the doctrine of free trade." In the same speech he asserted that "the Democratic party, in preparing its tariff bills, has favored a duty levied for revenue, and also stood for the incidental protection that might arise from the levying of such a duty."

It would be difficult to predict the exact ratio which the Democrats will regard as incidental protection. Broadly speaking, it should fairly represent the difference in cost at home and abroad. To determine this difference will require patient investigation and an impartial consideration of all the facts in the case. If the Democratic party can, after thorough inquiry, arrive at an accurate conclusion, it will have justified the responsibility which has been placed upon its shoulders.

One thing is certain. Even with the Democrats laboring with the tariff, the United States is not threatened with free trade. There will be a revision of the schedules downward, but if the changes are made with due regard to the interests of the consumer and the manufacturer, the country will have no reason to complain.

Germany, too, is quite ready to talk peace, but just the same she is adding another 10,000 men to her standing army.

Speaking of offering a railroad president a paltry $10,000 a year reminds us that something like this may have influenced the Interstate Commerce Commission in deciding against the railroads in the rate controversy.

No need for worry. The Cornell students who are suffering with the mumps will be all right by the time the baseball season comes 'round.

Corporations have souls. A Poetry Society was incorporated in New York the other day.

Taking a needle out of a baby recently in Alabama does not solve the question as to what becomes of all the pins.

A Boston man the other day complained in court that during his ten years of married life his wife had not kissed him once. Perhaps it was onions, or he ought to have got an occasional shave.

Mr. Taft's treaty with Japan goes to prove the truth of the maxim that it is much easier to avoid trouble than to fight yourself out of it.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

VERNAL ITEMS.

Buds, duds,
Freshets and floods,
Gay butterflies on the wing;
Hats, gnats,
Earmuffs and spats,
Such are the factors of spring.

Bees, trees,
Blossoms that freeze,
Birds that delightfully sing;
Bills, pills,
Fevers and chills,
Such are the factors of spring.

No Doubt.

"What are you rehearsing?"

"I expect to propose to-night, and am worried about what I shall say."

"Why worry? The girl probably has that all arranged."

On Duty.

"Young man," demanded the park policeman, "why do you hang around this park every day?"

"I have been assigned to get an interview with the first robin," explained the cub reporter.

An Unusual Theme.

"She is a queer woman."

"In what way?"

"She is always talking about the happy marriages she knows of."

All at Sea.

Are the times uplifting?
Here we go.
Whither are we drifting?
I dunno.

In Plunkville.

"So the town has declined a library?"

"We felt we couldn't afford the upkeep. But the grocery lyceum has written the philanthropist, offering to maintain a barrel if he'll furnish the codfish."

Spring Is at Hand.

And now the astute druggist man replenishes the sulphur can; unto the jobber writes his needs concerning bulbs and garden seeds; removes the fountain from drydock, and puts fly paper into stock.

Home Discipline.

"I have seven daughters."

"Must take 'em a long time to dress when the family goes out."

"Oh, no. They form in a circle and each buttons another's gown."

Resembles Vice President.

From the New York World.

"If Vice President Sherman doesn't grow whiskers or a mustache, I am going to stay out of the State of New York for the next couple of years," said Representative John H. Rothermel (Dem.), of Pennsylvania.

"I'm unfortunate enough to bear a striking resemblance to Mr. Sherman," he continued. "As a matter of fact, I think he's handsome. But I think it's pretty tough on a poor Democrat when he has to pay out hard earned cash to save a Republican Vice President from being considered a piker.

"Every now and then my affairs take me in New York State, and as soon as I cross the border line those 'up-Staters' begin to take me for the Vice President. Every porter, waiter, and hack driver attends me assiduously. I have to throw dollars around as if I were made of them. The last trip up-State cost me $5 in tips."

Serves Them Right!

From the Philadelphia North American.

Two men have been sent to jail for stealing a trolley car. Serves 'em right! Why didn't they steal the whole road and become trustees of Providence, with a cottage at Newport?

As Good as Ever.

From the Pittsburg Post.

"Fourteen killed and forty injured during the football season."

"Then the new rules didn't hurt the game, after all."

All Agreed.

From the New York Telegram.

"Gibbs can paint a picture in three days and think nothing of it."

"Same as others."

NEW IDEAS IN POLITICS.

IV—DIRECT PRIMARY NOMINATIONS.

The term "direct primary nominations" means, carried to its logical limit, the nomination at a primary election of every candidate who is to be voted upon at the regular election, for every office to which the people elect the officeholder. In the thirty-odd States which now have primary laws on their statute books, anything, from the slightest regulation of the old-fashioned party caucus to the actual nomination by the people of all their candidates for office, without the intervention of conventions, may be referred to as "direct" primaries. To describe all the various phases which primary laws have taken would take pages of newspaper space, so in this article I shall deal only with some of the general principles involved and touch upon a few of the most recent development, the extention of which progressive political thinkers are now advocating.

How widespread the interest in direct nominations has become in the decade or so since the movement began to become general is discovered by reference to the party platforms on which the various State campaigns were waged in 1910. Both the Republicans and the Democrats of Vermont, Maine, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire, Montana, and Idaho went on record as favoring direct primary laws, as did the Democrats of Georgia, Minnesota, Connecticut, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Massachusetts, California, Rhode Island, Wyoming, and Oregon, and the Republicans of Nevada, Colorado, Illinois, and Iowa. Many of these States already have primary laws of varying degrees of efficiency on their statute books, but the demand for an extension of the principle was voiced in the platforms, while in both party platforms in South Dakota, North Dakota, Michigan, and Nevada; in the Democratic platforms of Oklahoma and Pennsylvvania, and the Republican platforms of Minnesota, California, Kansas, Wisconsin, and Texas, are found planks demanding certain specific reforms in the direct primary laws already in effect. The National Progressive Republican League makes the demand for the direct nomination of all elected officials the second article in its programme of proposed reforms, and its third article, the demand for the direct nomination of delegates to national conventions, is merely an extension of the direct primary idea to its logical conclusion.

The whole movement for direct primary nominations may be regarded as the gradual regulation by law of what was regarded originally as a purely voluntary association, namely, the political party. That the tendency of the most advanced primary legislation is to destroy political parties entirely, so far as municipal and local affairs are concerned, to weaken their influence in State politics, and to break down party lines at many points in national affairs, is undeniable. The process is still very far from complete, but beginnings toward this abolition of the party organization have been made in several States, and the whole drift of the direct primary movement is in that direction at the present time.

Party lines were not sharply drawn in the United States until the nation had existed for several decades. The process of acquiring control of public affairs by party organizations was as gradual as is the movement in the other direction now. But when control was once acquired, it was exercised through the party caucus. "King Caucus," as political writers of a generation or more ago described the ruling power, and the party leaders themselves decided who was and who was not entitled to representation in the caucuses that nominated candidates for every office, from school trustee to governor or President. Since the party organization was an institution not known to the law, it could do as it pleased. The natural result was that party leaders dictated the nominations to suit their own interests, and even where there was a semblance of popular participation, as in the case of nomination of State candidates by conventions, it was a poor boss who could not control the caucuses that nominated the delegates to these conventions and so dictate the nominations made by the conventions. The direct primary nomination movement had its origin and gains its power to-day from the growing revolt against boss rule. The process of transforming the caucus into a primary election is far from being complete, especially in the South, but it is going on rapidly.

Since no two States have identical primary laws, and each has some points that in practical operations have proved to meet local conditions better than those of other States probably would, it is impossible to point to a single primary law and characterize it either as the ideal or as the best, in all particulars, that has yet been developed. The general principle of nearly all, however, is that the party organization is now a recognized, legally created body, with the qualifications for membership defined by law, and with legal provisions for the enforcement of the right of every member of the party to take an equal part in all of the actions of the party. These qualifications for party membership vary widely in different States. In Michigan, for instance, the water need only declare his sympathy with the principles of the party in the primary of which he desires to participate. In New Jersey he must declare that he supported a majority of the party candidates at the last election and intends to support the party nominees. In Missouri he need only declare himself a Republican or a Democrat without offering evidence on the question. In New York he must declare his intention merely of supporting the party ticket. In Florida the party authorities recognized by law are allowed to prescribe what constitutes party membership, and similar provisions prevail in other Southern States.

The extent to which the party member may take part in the choosing of candidates also varies greatly. In several States the primary laws are optional in their application—that is, a party organization may determine for itself whether it will be bound by them or not. If it accepts them, it must thereafter conduct its primaries under legal restrictions. In other States, primary expenses are paid by the party organizations. The prevailing custom, however, seems to be to make the primary laws mandatory, binding upon all parties casting over a certain percentage of the total vote of the State, and to pay the expenses of primary elections out of the public funds. But even then, there is a wide divergence in practice in the different States. In some, as in New York, the only function the individual voter can exercise is to cast his ballot for delegates to numerous conventions, district, county, or State, which in turn nominate the candidates. Often two conventions intervene between the voter and the nominee, as in Ohio, where a party may elect to have the delegates to the State convention nominated at county conventions, the delegates to which are chosen at the primaries. The idea of letting the voters themselves name their candidates for State offices directly prevails in only a few States. In a larger number, county and district candidates may be named directly, while in a still larger number city and township candidates are nominated at the primary election without the intervention of conventions. In nearly every State that has anything that could fairly be called a direct primary nominations law it applies to the nomination of Congressional candidates.

Among the infinite variations in existing primary laws, an interesting one is found in Texas, where, upon petition of 10 per cent of the voters of a party, any question of party policy must be submitted for a vote at the primary election and receive a majority vote before it can be incorporated in the party platform.

The usual method of getting one's name before the voters as a candidate at the primary election is by petition, the proportion of the party voters whose signatures are required to such petitions being fixed by law, and the name being required to be placed on the primary ballet when proper petitions have been filed with the election authorities. In some States, as in New York, the selection of primary nominees is left to the party committees, while in others, as in Pennsylvania, the mere publication in the newspapers of the intention to become a candidate at the primary constitutes a sufficient nomination, in the case of many local offices.

Only one State has so far gone to the logical limit of requiring that every candidate for an elective office, including delegates to national conventions, shall be chosen directly by the voters at the primary election. Here, again, we find Oregon, leader in so many progressive political reforms, once more in the front rank. Under the Oregon primary law every candidate for office, including Presidential electors, United States Senators, and all State, county, district, precinct, city, ward, and other officers and delegates to constitution and other conventions, must receive his nomination at the hands of the voters direct.

The provision for the election of national convention delegates was adopted by a referendum vote on initiative petition in 1910. It provides that when candidates for President and Vice President are to be nominated, every qualified elector of a political party shall have opportunity to vote his preference, on his party nominating ballot, for his choice for one person for President and one for Vice President, either by writing the names of such persons in blanks left on the ballot or by marking a cross in front of names printed on the ballot. Names are to be printed on the ballots only on the petition of their political supporters in the State. The delegates to the national conventions and the nominees for Presidential electors are to be chosen at the same primaries, and each delegate to a national convention is to receive a certificate of election from the governor, stating how many votes were cast for each candidate for President and for Vice President. The Oregon law goes still further, however. In providing that the expenses of the national delegates so elected, in attending the national conventions, shall be paid by the State, not to exceed $200 each, and requiring each delegate to make oath that he will support the candidates for President and Vice President, who received the highest vote at the primary.

It is the extension of this Oregon plan, with some possible modifications, that is being urged by the National Progressive Republican League as one of the important steps it deems necessary to complete popular government. Commenting upon this proposal, former President Roosevelt said recently:

"It seems to me an admirable plan that there should be a direct election of delegates to national conventions, with opportunity for the voter to express his choice for President and Vice President; although, of course, such latitude of action must be left to the delegate as to permit his exercising his own judgment if his first or second choice proves impossible. This is merely slightly to alter the present-day practice when delegates are instructed by State and district conventions to vote for a given candidate."

The stock arguments of the opponents of direct primary nominations are mainly that the expense of circulating petitions for places on the primary ballots is prohibitive for the independent candidate who has no wealthy party organization behind him, and that the tendency of the recognition by law of political parties and their control is to emphasize party differences and fasten party control on the people, instead of abolishing it. As these arguments usually come from individuals identified with the existing system of boss control, which is undeniably threatened by the direct nominations plan, they should not, perhaps, be taken too seriously. They have been met, however, in several instances, the first by laws restricting the amount of money that may be spent in obtaining signatures to petitions, which are operative in several States, and the second by the adoption of a nonpartisan primary system. There are some students of political questions who believe that the partisan primary, with its regulation of previously unregulated political parties, is merely a necessary step toward the ultimate abolition of all parties.

In many of the cities where the commission plan of government prevails primaries for the nomination of candidates for city offices are nonpartisan, as are the elections, no party designations being used on the ballots. California, Oregon, Minnesota, and Wisconsin have all at different times abolished the test of party membership as a prerequisite for taking part in the primary election, but in the two first-named States this has been declared unconstitutional, and it has been abandoned in Minnesota. Wisconsin still retains this system, under which the individual may vote at the Democratic primary this year, the Republican next, and the Prohibition next, the underlying principle being the complete liberty of the individual to disregard party affiliation and use his own judgment in all political matters. It is through the training of the individual, by some such method, to use his own judgment at all times that the opponents of partisan control of public affairs hope ultimately to achieve their end.

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Nearer His Size.

From the Chicago News.

Small Elmer—Papa, give me a nickel.

Papa—Why, Elmer, you are most too old to be begging for a nickel.

Small Elmer—I guess you're right, pap. Make it a dime.

BRYAN'S LATEST APPEAL.

He Wants President Taft to Approve Arizona's Constitution.

From the Commoner.

To President Taft: Arizona stands at the door and knocks—will you admit her to the sisterhood of States? She deserves well at the nation's hands. Her people are the bravest of the brave, and they are as intelligent as they are brave, and as industrious as they are intelligent. They have forced the mountains to give up their wealth of mineral treasure; they have converted vast stretches of desert into gardens and fields; and they are patient, too. They have desired Statehood for years, and they have deserved it, too; but hope has been deferred. At last, an enabling act was passed, and a constitutional convention was elected. That convention prepared a constitution and that constitution has been ratified by an overwhelming majority.

Will you extend the hand of welcome or will you use your position to deny them the recognition that they crave? A corporation-controlled press and some ambitious officeholders seemed to speak for you and threaten the people of Arizona if they dared to adopt such a constitution as they desired, but they did you honor to believe that you would have spoken to them directly, rather than through such agents, if you had desired to warn them. It ought to be gratifying to you to know that they have shown an independence which proves their capacity for self-government. If their constitution contains anything repugnant to the constitution of the United States, the Supreme Court can be trusted to nullify it. Can you ask more?

If, however, there is any provision which, while not a violation of the Federal Constitution, is so objectionable to you that you wish it submitted separately, ask Congress to authorize a vote upon it when State officers are elected. If there is any provision so objectionable as in your judgment to justify you in rejecting the constitution unless amended, do not put the people to the delay and trouble of writing a new constitution; ask Congress to make the elimination of such provision a condition precedent to admission. They can eliminate it when they hold their State election. Make any conditions you please, but do not reject their constitution. Let them come in, and the career of the State will be such that you will find increasing pleasure in the fact that you proclaimed Arizona a State.

W. J. BRYAN.

OUR DANCE MORE GRACEFUL.

Americans Have No Folk-step, but a Bolder Rhythm.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Society to-day dances with more grace, better rhythm and ease than heretofore. This is owing to the classes in fancy dancing which all competent instructors now consider a necessary part of a course in dancing. When a pupil has mastered the Delsartean theories learned the correct and natural uses of the feet and the poise of the body, he will find walking and dancing easier and far more pleasant. Dances like the "Hop Boston," the "Boston Dip," "Hesitating Boston," "Boston Trot," and the barn dance do not come under the head of fancy dances. They are athletic rather than graceful and require too much exertion to become popular.

The same is true of the folk dances, such as "Skvaller Ulla" (gossipping Ella), the harvest dance, the various Swedish dances, "Hopp Morr Amika," the Rovenacka, and the Finnish reel. Every nation, except America, has its national dances—England, the hornpipe; Scotland, the flings; Ireland, the reels; France, the minuet; Spain, its fandangos, tarantelles, and boleros; Russia, czardras and mazourkas; Switzerland, the Schuhplatter and Tyrolean dances; Holland-Dutch (wooden shoe) dances. Some claim the "cakewalk" as our representative dance.

Many good dancers are spoiled by being started wrong. In Europe the teaching of dancing is a profession, not a chance occupation, as it frequently is in America, and the European dancing master is trained for his work with as much care as the teacher of history or the languages or music. The waltz is the most beautiful of all dances, although it is not the oldest, as is popularly believed. The steps in classic dances which are supposed to be waltz steps are not so at all. They are what we call balancing in the positions. The waltz will live forever. It may at times be given a slight on account of some new dance, but it will never lose its place as the dance of the ballroom.

Possibilities of Aeroplanes.

From the Brooklyn Standard Union.

The possibilities of the aeroplane as one of the future carriers of the world's commerce will receive renewed attention now that a Frenchman has flown with six passengers. In speculating on the ultimate untility of the heavier-than-air machine most writers have held to the view that it would prove serviceable only in carrying a few passengers, in delivering mail, in scouting in war time or conveying very light articles of merchandise. It is true that the aeroplane may never exceed these boundaries, but the performance of Roger Sommer in flying with the number of passengers stated warrants the belief that possibly experts have erred in setting such narrow limits to the commercial value of the machine. At any rate the feat mentioned records the tremendous mechanical advance which has been made in these flyers in the past several years.

A Marine Industry Threatened.

From the Kennebec Journal.

Maine's great toothpick industry is threatened. Phillips reports that the bottom has dropped out of the market and that manufacturing in the new concrete mill of the International Manufacturing Company will be curtailed. Within a few weeks the little mouth crowbars have been worth $38 a case at wholesale and to-day they are quoted at $8, which is less than the cost of manufacture. The poplar stock now on hand will be made into matches. To sum up, there is evidently a glut in the market, but nobody seems to know how it occurred. With one mill at Strong and two at Dixfield, all within a radius of thirty miles, three-fourths of the wooden toothpick industry of the world is represented.

The Reason.

From the Sketch.

The Examiner—But if, as you say, all the rivers run into the sea, why doesn't it overflow?

Johnnie (taken aback)—Why—er—'cos it's so full of sponges.

A Kentucky Situation.

From the Winchester News.

More money to the area can be made by raising turkeys than tobacco. There is too much tobacco, but not enough turkeys.

VIEWS AND INTERVIEWS

Keep Capital at Home.

R. L. Waverly, of Chicago, who was seen at the New Willard last night, made observations on impecunious foreign noblemen marrying American heiresses, and said: "Nowadays, if one has a title—duke, prince, or any of the other numerous signs of rank—a few tumble-down ancestral castles, notes that are past due, and otherwise 'in the hole,' it is an easy matter to land a few million dollars. It seems to be a regular business now, and this country is the fishing ground for the titled foreigner.

"Think of the millions of dollars that leave America through these international marriages! Of course, this practice is profitable for these down-and-out counts, but imagine what could be done with the dot that is handed over in nearly every marriage. In most cases the amount is sufficient to build a complete battle ship, and sometimes it is more. When a Japanese woman marries a foreigner, all of her money or property is turned over to relatives. Only recently an Englishman married a Japanese widow. She had quite a fortune of her own, but was forced by law to deed all her property over to relatives. Such a law would do a great deal of good here, and it would cause our foreign friends to seek elsewhere for easy graft."

Prosperous Canada.

James O. Hawkins, of Winnipeg, Canada, who is at the Raleigh, said yesterday that with the approach of spring the good start made by business in Western Canada at the opening of the year adds force and speed to its pace.

"There have been three big conventions besides the bonspiel in Winnipeg recently," said he. "The National Builders' Association, the Master Painters' Association, and the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association. These gatherings were supplemented by an automobile show so large that it had to be divided to secure exhibition space, and the Western Canada Kennel Club put on a bench show of 500 dogs. These events crowded the city so that rooms at the hotels were hard to get, the best houses having large waiting lists and being obliged to send guests to places of lower degree, and this in spite of the fact that there are sixty-five hotels in Winnipeg, from the 400-room Royal Alexandra down to humbler houses.

"It is probable that double-tracking the Canadian Pacific will be continued to Medicine Hat and Calgary shortly," continued Mr. Hawkins. "This subject is under consideration and may be begun this spring. With a double track from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes, the Canadian Pacific Railroad will be able to reduce considerably the running time of transcontinental and local trains along the main line."

Jay Gould and a Minister.

A story about Jay Gould and a minister is still heard in Wall street, according to Franklin M. Simonds, of New York, a banker who is at the Arlington. "Gould had a block of stock of a minor railroad. He wanted to sell it, but the market was very thin. One day the preacher called to see Gould, and the Wall street operator incidentally suggested to him that there was an opportunity to make a good investment by buying some of the stock of the little railroad.

"Gould told the preacher that he would guarantee him against loss, but that he should regard the tip as confidential. The minister went straightway to another friend in Wall street and asked him to buy for him some of the stock, telling the broker in confidence where the tip came from. The stock began to rise and the minister confidentially told some very intimate friends about it. They went off quietly and bought as much as they could afford to. Very quietly the tip from Gould went all through the congregation.

"But one day there was a slump in the street and the Gould stock had such a bad break that the minister, instead of having a profit, faced a considerable loss. He waited, expecting that the loss would be recovered, but the stock went sliding down further. Then he went to Gould. The financier said he was very sorry; that there had been a bad turn in the market, otherwise the railroad stock would have gone much higher. He asked the minister how much he had lost, and on learning the amount, promptly gave him a check, as he had promised.

"The minister, having received the tip in confidence, did not dare tell Gould that many of his parishioners were out much more money than he; nor did Gould think it necessary to tell the minister that the congregation had made a market for all the stock that he had been trying to sell for a long time without success."

Customs Laws are Unjust.

Baroness de Bazus, formerly Mrs. Frank Leslie, of New York, was seen at the Arlington last night. The baroness is the owner of most magnificent diamonds and pearls. She wore a pair of diamond earrings the size of small walnuts, besides numerous diamond rings. A brooch in the shape of a coronet blazed with diamonds and pearls, and a long string of exquisite pearls encircled her neck. Baroness de Bazus is here accompanied by the Countess de Villaverde, and they paid a visit to the Spanish Minister Tuesday afternoon.

"The present customs laws are inconsistent, to say the least," said the baroness. "I do not think it is fair to make a person swear as to the articles they bring in from abroad, and then afterward to examine their luggage and trip them up, if their sworn statement does not correspond with the contents of their trunks. Either swear them, or examine their luggage; but do not do both.

"I am a suffragette, but I do not believe in the methods adopted by our English sisters, who do more harm to the cause than benefit. The course adopted by them gives man the strongest weapon or argument against granting the right of suffrage to women. The American method is the best and most effective. Do you not think yourself," asked the baroness, "that a woman who owns property and has to pay taxes on it should have the right to express her opinion as to what shall be done with the money she has to pay into the public Treasury?

"The woman of to-day is different from the woman of twenty years ago. She is rapidly forging ahead and growing to be a more powerful factor in everyday life than she ever was. I believe that if suffrage is granted to woman she should not ask any special privileges on account of her sex, but should place herself alongside of man—neither ahead of him nor behind him. She should do military service if called upon, should perform police duty, should sweep streets, and do everything that man is doing. She should not expect a man to give up his seat in a street car to her and take off his hat when he meets her unless he wants to.

"Outdoor sports have brought about a healthier girl physically as well as intellectually, and suffrage will aid in making the woman more valuable to man."