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SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 1912.

BEN JOHNSON WRONG ON DISTRICT HISTORY

Not satisfied with championing the cause of mistaken economy in cutting municipal appropriations to the bone, Hon. Ben Johnson, of Kentucky, chairman of the House District Committee, resorts to misstatement of fact and distortion of law and history to bolster his argument for making Washington a cheap city. Mr. Johnson appears to be so completely obsessed with the idea of getting nearly $2,000,000 out of the District budget that he is blinded to the plain terms of the law by which appropriations are made and the practice which has been followed since the adoption of the organic act of 1878.

Mr. Johnson said that "the argument that the United States should contribute one-half to support 6,110 acres which originally made up the City of Washington is an entirely different proposition from giving one-half to the support of the District of Columbia containing nearly 50,000 acres."

In the first place, the proposition that the United States should contribute one-half to the support of 6,110 acres which made up the original City of Washington is not different from giving one-half to support the 50,000 acres of the District of Columbia, for the very good reason that the law which created the District of Columbia, as a municipality wiped out that distinction by revoking the charters of Washington and Georgetown and uniting them and the territory under the Levy Court of Washington County into the District of Columbia.

By the terms of the act of 1878, which set forth the half-and-half principle of paying the expenses of the District, the municipality was incorporated and the statement was made in express language that the United States and the incorporated District should share equally in the expenses of the government. In point of fact, there is no City of Washington, and Mr. Johnson's contention that any distinction can be made in favor of the original 6,110 acres of the old city is flatly contradicted in law and made impossible by practice under that law for thirty-four years.

That was a fine and dramatic scene on the floor of the House when Representative Burleson sought to throw the protecting shield of his eloquence over the shoulders of his colleague and smooth for him some of the harshness of criticism by local newspapers. Mr. Johnson interrupted the speaker and solemnly declared that he was able to stand alone, and that he would ask no member to make excuses for him or his committee. The Kentucky member snorted défiance at the Washington press, but it is not many days since he read several newspaper clippings to a reporter, selected with care from a large collection of them which occupies a safe place in his private room.

So far from being impervious thereto, Mr. Johnson really has a thin and sensitive skin when hit by adverse criticism. If proof is needed, his boyish and uncalled for show of ill temper toward Representative Madden, of Illinois, on the floor of the House is sufficient. Here was a stalwart giant of the Blue Grass State passing an invitation to a member of the House less physically endowed to come outside and engage in a fist fight to settle differences on a point of order! Oh, no; Hon. Ben Johnson, of Kentucky, is not touched by the shaft of criticism!

Hon. Ben Johnson, who does not scruple, in the sacred name of economy, to cripple a great city's finances by cutting out millions of dollars from a budget framed by its constituted authorities with painstaking care, and who does not hesitate to distort fact and juggle history to gain his point, is a brave statesman to be intrusted with the well-being of the Capital City of the nation. He is about as much in place at the head of the District Committee of the House as a hungry lion would be in the guise of shepherd to spring lambs. To be ignorant of the A B C of District history is bad enough, but to pose as a disciple of economy by robbing a municipality of its needed revenues is worse.

But all the obloquy Ben Johnson can heap on the District of Columbia in his mistaken plea for economy in municipal expenses does not hit at the real motive which moves him and his colleagues. The cat was let out of the bag by a remark which fell in the course of the debate, that the speaker heard no objection to the cut in District expenses from the outside. It is to the gallery outside that this fine showing of alleged economy is made. It will sound fine in Kentucky and on the hustings during the pending Presidential campaign. That is the secret; and neither Mr. Johnson nor his eloquent colleagues care how much the District government may sweat under the reduction of appropriations to the point of absurdity.

Storm Is Widespread.

Jack Frost has practically the whole country in his icy grip. Low temperatures, driving snows, howling winds, and widespread damage to property and life are attendants of the great storm which has swept the United States for four days and has extended over a great part of the Atlantic Ocean. In some of the Southern States the storm took the form of driving sleet, fastening upon trees, killing early vegetation, advanced untimely by the mild weather which prevailed there until a few weeks ago. In the Northwest and Lake States extremely low temperatures have prevailed, in some cases the lowest in twenty years.

In parts of the Southeastern States the storm assumed the proportions of a gale, and much damage to shipping is reported along the coast. It has been many years since a storm of such vigor and fury has visited this country. The tale of suffering is long, and in many of the Northern cities persons scantily clad and poorly housed have perished in the cold. Not in years have the resources of charity been subjected to so severe a strain, and in every big city the call for unloosing the purse strings to provide for the hungry, cold, and destitute is urgent.

Locally, the cold has been intense for the latitude of Washington, the fall of snow heavy, and the attendant discomfort of a piece with that of the rest of the country. Railway companies have met the situation with good effect, and for the most part cars have run on schedule time, thus removing one cause of discomfort to the population. All during the storm it has been easy to get about, and the work of the city has gone forward with little hindrance.

In all parts of the country the situation of being thrust into the depths of arctic winter from the mild weather of autumn has been met with great fortitude. America will weather the storm and meet its rigors bravely, serious as the situation is.

Weather reports do not give much hope for immediate relief from the biting cold, but the force of the storm is pretty well spent, and it is likely that in a few days the temperature will relax and comfortable winter weather will follow.

Manchus Flee from Pekin.

Recent dispatches from China indicate that the Manchu princes and the royal family are about to abandon the capital and find refuge at Jehol, a point about 150 miles northwest of Pekin. This movement is believed to be inspired by a desire of the Manchus to withdraw to a part of the country more in sympathy with the royal party, where their lives will be for a time safer than in Pekin.

The effect of this retreat of the royalists to the mountainous regions in North China will be to remove the center of the government to a remote spot and delay the operations of the revolutionists for an indefinite period. By some, the movement is interpreted as an attempt to remove the capital of China from Pekin to Nankin, and to involve China in the meshes of foreign influence in the hope of breaking the power of the revolution.

It is evident that the advance of the revolution has made the Forbidden City too warm for the royalists, and that they are fleeing to the only place of safety in their dominions. The movement appears to be a confession of defeat, and while the struggle may be continued for an indeterminate time, the departure of the throne from Pekin means nothing less than the fatal plunge before the end of the Chinese monarchy.

Naturally there will be complications, possibly an effort upon the part of the powers to preserve in some form the integrity of the present government, but if that is to be done by outside aid it would seem important that it should take place in Pekin, and not at the borders of the country, from which the conduct of the government would be vastly more difficult than in the more central position of the present capital.

In any event the fleeing of the royal house from Pekin is significant of the growing power of the revolution, and gives to that extent promise of its ultimate success.

Changing Organic Law.

For the fourth time in its history the State of Ohio is holding a constitutional convention to change its organic law. The present constitution of the State was adopted in 1851, and in many respects it is defective and obsolete. But the real motive behind the present constitutional convention is not merely to write the law of 1851 to date, but to inject into the constitution of the State some of the more radical and advanced political ideas of the day. It is such questions as the initiative, the referendum, the recall of public officials, and prohibition of the liquor traffic which will take precedence in the convention of 1912.

The constitutional convention in Ohio is overwhelmingly progressive, though the conservatives seem to make up in determination what they lack in numbers. A poll of the convention before it met resulted in the announcement that 70 per cent of the members would line up with the progressives on the issues mentioned. The personnel of the convention is mixed, containing one former member of Congress, an ex-lieutenant governor, two members of the legislature, many lawyers, several ministers, and a large number of farmers and others in the ordinary walks of life. In fact, the convention is popular rather than political, and its work may be expected to show a nonpartisan spirit. Politically, the Democrats are in the majority, with sixty-five delegates, while the Republicans have forty-eight, Independents three, and the Socialists three. Some political wire-pulling was manifest in the election of chairman, but this will undoubtedly fade from sight as the convention settles down to the serious work before it.

Ohio is the first State east of the Mississippi to undertake a trial of the socialistic notions of the initiative, referendum, and the recall. These political principles have been adopted in the constitutions of some States west of the great river, but in the East the people have been content to go along with the old and time-tried forms of organic law. It is yet too early to predict what will eventuate from the deliberations of the convention, but enough has happened since the organization of the body to satisfy all observers that there are stormy times ahead, and the proceedings will be watched with keen interest in all parts of the nation.

It does not add to our comfort for the astronomers to tell us we are 3,000,000 miles nearer the sun than we were last June.

When Missouri enters her thoroughbreds for the race, will they "Champ" their bits?

Good morning, Mr. Candidate! Have you been jolted yet?

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THIS FUZZY FAD.

Now a fuzzy hat we meet,
Or a fuzzy gown,
If we venture on the street,
Anywhere in town.

Men are wearing fuzzy vests,
Fuzzy robes appear.
Such are Fashion's stern behests
For the current year.

Fuzzy garments! We've a hunch
That they won't grow less.
Seems the world is but a bunch
Of plain fuzziness.

Uncle Pennywise Says:

We all sigh for something unattainable. My wife has never been able to find any good use for the burnt matches.

Familiar Talk.

"I see you have an actor chopping wood."

"Yes. He was in hard luck and I gave him a job."

"He'll get tired soon."

"He claims not; says he is devoted to his art."

Between Girls.

"Mabel, let's go to the matinee," said a local bud yesterday to her chum.

"No," was the response. "I can't bear to see my mother doing the housework."

"But you won't see her if you go to the matinee."

Seems So.

To cost our fancy ever clings,
Upon my word,
We only seem to value things
We can't afford.

A Look Ahead.

"I wish we could pierce the veil of the future."

"Well, we can, in a way. The January newspapers are now copying things out of the May magazines."

Sounded Like a Game.

A returned explorer was giving a parlor lecture.

"What is the gentleman talking about?" demanded a languid lady.

"Progressive Peru."

"And how do you play it?"

Changing Doctors.

"What you need, madam, is oxygen. Come every afternoon for your inhalations. They will cost you $4 each."

"I knew that other doctor didn't understand my case," declared the fashionable patient. "He told me all I needed was plain fresh air."

THE VICE PRESIDENT.

Mr. Sherman Does Well in that Important Office.

From the Nashville Democrat.

Vice President Sherman has indicated his desire to retire from public life at the end of his term of office. As he could hardly expect the unusual distinction of being placed again on the Republican national ticket in the event of President Taft's renomination, the retirement of the genial Vice President would seem to be the natural order. There has been some little talk of putting him forward as a candidate for governor in New York, but it has not been strong enough to cause him to forego his announced determination to avail himself of the more unhampered enjoyments of private life. Mr. Sherman has made a very good Vice President. He has presided over the Senate with suitable dignity, and he has figured prominently on some social and political occasions. He is regarded as a skillful politician, but not of conspicuous national force.

"Soul Goes Marching On."

From the New Orleans States.

The spirit of Carrie Nation is marching on. A Myrtle, Mo., reformer bought a distillery over the line in Arkansas the other day for $100; to get rid of it, took it home and invited the wives and daughters of the town to chop it to pieces. They responded promptly with their little hatchets, and an enjoyable time was had.

Strange Women in Charleston!

From the Chattanooga Times.

"We are not swelled up about it at all, but we have already received three proposals, and leap year is mighty young at that. It pays to have a mustache," says the Charleston News and Courier. And to live in a town where the women are utterly without discrimination.

A. P. Should Behave.

From the Columbus (Ohio) State Journal.

Col. Roosevelt's editorial outgivings are regarded as so important that the chances are the Associated Press would carry a three-column description of the domestic habits of the wart hog, if he should happen to choose that theme.

WITH THE POLITICAL PROCESSION

There are three brothers Grosscup on the American map, far apart, but all active in politics and public affairs in their respective regions. Judge Peter Grosscup, of Chicago, was big enough to resign a life place on the Federal Circuit Court that he might amass a few more million dollars and not be talked about for doing it. Fred Paul Grosscup lives at Charleston, W. Va., and has long been both agile and unfortunate in Republican affairs of the Kanawha region. He all but had a Federal appointment a few years back with both Senators for him, but President Roosevelt recalled some sarcastic comment by the judge and declined to appoint the brother. Ben S. Grosscup long ago hiked from the original Grosscup home in Ohio to Washington State and quickly rose to local eminence after the Grosscup fashion. He is now in Washington with Supreme Court business on hand and with a frequent interrogation point when politics is discussed.

However far apart the brothers may be on the map, they are very much together when it comes to opposing the suggestion of Roosevelt for another term.

Since becoming a private citizen, Judge Grosscup has spoken plainly on political propositions, and he was not overwhelmingly silent while on the bench. The West Virginia brother has kept rather silent since he was sacrificed for his brother's sins, but promises to take a hand later on this year when the usual agitation begins in his State.

Ben Grosscup, when asked about Washington State politics, replied: "Out in Washington we know our business when it comes to politics, and we are for the Republican side of things, preferring, too, the old-fashioned Republican sentiment without any progressive frills. Indeed, the people of Washington are very tired of the continued annoyance by demogogical politicians. The only real difference in Republican sentiment out our way is between the old standpat idea and that of revision.

"I can add that the preponderance of sentiment is very much in favor of the standpat proposition. We have not yet got to the point where we cease to point with pride to the achievements of the Republican party. We came from a rugged Republican stock, which migrated mostly from the Mississippi Valley, and this generation is not going to be misled by noise and confusion of tongues. As for the Democrats of the Pacific Coast region, I can say that they lean largely toward Gov. Harmon, of Ohio. They feel he represents the old Cleveland idea, and it might be added that our Republicans incline to some one who seems to represent some of the old-fashioned McKinley sentiments.

"Anyhow, ours is a Republican State, and we will keep it so, never fear."

Republican members of Congress from New York who went home during the week were eager during their stay to learn just what Col. Roosevelt said at the Aldine Club banquet the other night. As the colonel insisted there should be no reporters present, there was the greater zeal displayed in finding out what the colonel said, even if he announced beforehand that he would not make a speech. There were some 600 guests at the dinner, and no one wonders that a few things said by the orators, who, swearing they would never consent, consented to make a few remarks, should be repeated. Col. Roosevelt took up only three-quarters of an hour with what he had to say, and, as told by a guest to a New York Representative, the substance of the Roosevelt remarks was that he was not a candidate for President, had never intended to be, did not want to be, and all that sort of thing; but—and then he admitted conditions might arise to compel at least some attention on his part to the demands of his party and his friends in all the States. This statement, especially the part following the "but," seemed to please the Aldine diners mightily, but there was no demonstration calculated to inspire the colonel with the idea that the whole nation was clamoring for his return to the White House.

It might be pertinent to remark in connection with the interest of New York Republican Congressmen in the real story of the Aldine speech that they indicated a renewed interest in bolstering up the President Taft campaign for renomination once they learned what was said by the colonel. There was also the tip that several up-State Republican members would meet, quite by accident, of course, in New York over Saturday and Sunday to plan a real and active campaign for President Taft, so that he can be given the New York delegation, whatever is done from now on by the Roosevelt people. The Taft managers promise to work in the open and defy any methods employed by the opposition. Congressman George W. Fairchild, of Oneonta, is one of the up-State members who has been active for President Taft since going home earlier in the week, and it is the Fairchild prediction that within the next few weeks the sentiment for the President will rapidly increase in New York State. Fairchild has been busy in Washington ascertaining the Taft sentiment in Western States from fellow-members of the House, and he went home fully impressed with the belief that the West is lining up for the administration, and asks the East to join in the procession. The significance of the Fairchild activity lies in the fact that he has long been in close touch with the Republican old guard of New York and the regular State Republican organization, Chairman Jim Barnes and all, who will have much to say about the election of delegates to the national convention.

Alexandrer Stewart, once a Republican member of Congress from Wisconsin, and a millionaire lumber king of the Northwest, has come to his Washington home for the winter. Although eighty-two years old, he continues vigorous and eager to know all that is doing in politics. Col. Stewart, like so many other retired statesmen, also business men, long ago decided that Washington was the ideal winter home for one who delighted in public affairs, and once he retired from both politics and business he built a fine residence here and is serene. His example has been followed by many others who have been in Senate or House, or in other lines of government work, so that Washington each winter has the greatest assemblage of eminent and rich men to be found in any city on earth.

Percy Lee McLean, of Canton, and George Clark, postmaster of the same city, noted as the home of William McKinley, have been at the Willard, gently convoyed to and fro by their Democratic member of Congress, John J. Whitacre. As McLean and Clark are ardent Republicans, they rather enjoy the zealous efforts of Whitacre to make their stay pleasant. In spite of the Whitacre activity in behalf of constituents, he is not so eager for a renomination as others suppose, and has not declared his intentions. The old McKinley district is normally Republican and promises plenty of trouble for Whitacre or any other Democrat this year. What is more, Whitacre has failed to line up with the Harmon procession, and has been a bit bitter in proclaiming that Harmon ought not to have even the delegation from his own State. The Harmon retort to Whitacre is that his agony of soul is due to the refusal of the governor to call the legislature in session to give Whitacre a new and Democratic district. Whitacre cares little for such retorts, but he does object to sudden effusions from the Wilson bureau putting him at the head of a movement designed to organize for the New Jersey governor in every district of the Harmon State. Such a story was sent out from Washington, and Whitacre called it a lie with a qualifying adjective and let it go at that. Even so, Whitacre is not for Harmon, and may give trouble are the game proceeds much further.

Joseph L. Rhinock, who was three times elected a Democratic member of Congress from the Covington (Ky.) district, visited Washington yesterday and enjoyed telling of his six years' "service" in the House. There was some chaffing of Joseph by present members who served with him—when he was here—and then Rhinock retorted that he at least had a record unmatched by any other Democrat or Republican ever elected from any district. "I can claim at least that I actually attended the sessions of the House three times in three terms," said Joseph, "for I had to be sworn in at the beginning of each term, and that took part of a day every other first Monday in December, so I could get on the salary roll. Can any other statesman show such a remarkable record?" However jocular Joseph may be about his absence, it is recalled by other Kentucky statesmen that he really remained here nearly a week during his first term, as the novelty was attractive and he was really interested. Then he turned the whole game over to a competent secretary and hiked for his theatrical offices in New York. "Anyhow, I did good for my district," said Rhinock last night, "as my secretary, Harvey Helm, learned the business and came to Congress in good season, better qualified as a Congressman than any new member ever sent from the State. I did hanker to take part in the last campaign, that I might help my old friend, Ollie James, to the Senate, but, bless you, he didn't need any help and ambled in with ease, much to my joy."

The one regret of Rhinock is that his business associate, George Cox, was badly thumped on the Cincinnati side of the river, just across from the old Rhinock district, but Joe feels sure that the Cox town will soon tire of Democratic reform and return to the good old methods of the machine.

Private John Allen, of Tupelo, a famous member of the Mississippi delegation in Congress for many years, came in without flourish from New York and rather sadly remarked that few were left to greet him who knew him twenty years ago. Private John is growing old himself, and with regret, but during his Congressional career he was famous for stories, and each time he visits Washington he is besieged by old admirers who beg him for a new series of quaint tales from the South.

"I took a look at things up House way," remarked John rather sadly, "and the same old anxious sorting out of mail goes on, especially by new members. They seem just as eager as ever to pick out those little square violet-scented envelopes addressed in feminine hand, and the same old scowl comes to the classic brow when the opened envelope discloses an advertisement of soap or breakfast food. You know when I was a member of Congress I introduced a bill prohibiting the use of such envelopes thus addressed with alluring deceiving penmanship, but some folks like to be deceived most of the time, and the game goes merrily on. No; I am not in politics, and the Lord knows we have had distress enough among Democrats in Mississippi to make one sad until the day of judgment, only we have not given up hope of final joy."

COURT BEGINS WELL.

Municipal Experiment in Cleveland Meets Expectations.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The first week's experience with the Cleveland Municipal Court encourages those who have pinned their faith to this new tribunal. One hundred and sixteen cases were handled during the five days' actual work, and the week closed with a clear docket.

If the court can maintain this record or one approximating it, one of the particular claims made in its favor will have been justified. The incident indicates that the court has been organized efficiently and that the people in establishing this court have provided themselves with an instrument for the encouragement of justice.

A "people's court" this municipal bench has been called. Clearly, if the court is to retain this complimentary title, it must insist on speed and simplicity of procedure. The first week argues the possibility that this hope of the court's advocates may be fulfilled.

THAT COLD WAVE.

From the Charleston News and Courier.

Some weather, not summer weather.

From the Pittsburg Sun.

And this, after we had to stand for a "green Christmas."

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Can it be possible that the cold wave has struck Tripoli, also?

From the Atlanta Constitution.

If a cold wave could only know when a hard-hit country has enough!

From the Baltimore Star.

If you happen to fall on the ice get up and say what you said about ice last summer.

From the Chicago Evening Post.

A new cold wave burst the thermometers around Duluth. The frigid zone itself seems to be in danger of breaking.

From the Des Moines Tribune.

After touching 35 below zero, the atmosphere almost has a balmy feel to it when it gets back to the cipher mark.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

Concerning the most strenuous days of the recent cold snap, they convey a limit of what the sadly overworked word "blizzard" really means.

From the Nashville Tennessean.

It is so cold in Chicago the clocks have stopped. So husbands can now stay out as long as they wish without being chalked up as belated.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

Getting cold feet may be slang, but there is more truth than fiction in it these days.

Knew How to Apply Starch.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

A Texas washerwoman has been bequeathed $100,000 by one of her clients. It is safe to bet that she never put too much starch in his shirts.

No Hope for Clark!

From the Houston Post.

Champ Clark may closely imitate some of Uncle Cannon's "damns," but he can never acquire the fetching tilt of the Uncle Joe Cannon cigar.

Jeweled Box from Queen Is Sent to Lady Paget

Among the many Christmas presents received by Lady Paget, who is recuperating from her severe accident which caused a shortening of one leg, was a handsome box inlaid in ivory and gold, sent all the way from India by Queen Mary of England, as well as an antique gold pencil case from Queen Alexandra. This pencil case is highly appreciated for the reason that it belonged to the late King Edward, who used it to mark his betting card at the races.

Lady Paget entertained at Christmas dinner the Duchess of Marlborough, Lady Innes-Ker, the Marchioness of Blandford, and Sir Hill Child, the latter in good spirits despite the fact that his engagement to Lady Helen Grosvenor was broken so suddenly and without any apparent cause.

The Duke of Montpensier has leased his recently acquired steam yacht Mauna to Alfred G. Vanderbilt, who intends to take a somewhat belated honeymoon cruise to the Mediterranean with his bride, the former Mrs. McKim, whose unexpected marriage to the New York multimillionaire the other day created such a stir on both sides of the Atlantic. It has been stated on good authority that the newly wedded couple will make New York their future home, but will spend the greater part of the year in England.

The Prince and Princess of Battenberg and their daughter recently paid a visit to Lady Naylor-Leland, the former Miss Chamberlin, the famous American beauty, at her country seat, Nanteloyd, in North Wales, at a large New Year's house party. Among the guests was Lady Leicester, and report has it that her pretty daughter, Lady Bridget Coke, and the elder son of Lady Naylor-Leland, Sir Albert, whose coming of age was celebrated at that party, have fallen in love with each other. The young baronet is very wealthy, and both mothers will be pleased if there is to be a match. There was a ball and a midnight carnival on the grounds, following some theatricals. There also were illuminations with old-fashioned torches held by men in old-fashioned costumes.

The baronet has received very handsome gifts, including a pearl pin from the King and a gold cigarette case with the royal crown and initial in red and blue enamel from Queen Alexandra. The Queen has sent a set of old prints, which are a fad with the baronet. King Edward was very fond of Sir Albert's beautiful mother.

The rulers of the petty German principalities which managed to survive the Napoleonic sweep and were not mediatized are no longer the vassals of either King or Emperor. Suzerainty ended with the fall of the "Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation," and all German rulers are the equal of the Emperor—his peers, in so far as he is not allowed to declare war without their consent.

So is Monaco an independent state, and the same can be said of the two smallest of all countries—the "republic" of San Marino, in Italy, and that of Andorra, in the Pyrenees Mountains, between Spain and France.

Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro all were vassals of Turkey until they were freed from the suzerainty of the Sultan in the Russo-Turkish war of 1877. Bulgaria remained subject to Turkish suzerainty until two years ago, while with regard to Eastern Rumelia, Ferdinand ranked merely as a governor general. On the occasion of a state visit paid by Ferdinand to Constantinople he kissed the Sultan's hand in token of his fealty as a vassal—a Christian prince of one of the sovereign houses of the Old World, related to three-fourths of the reigning families. But in 1909 Ferdinand took advantage of the insurrectionary agitation at Constantinople to renounce his allegiance and to proclaim himself King of Bulgaria.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands has a number of sultans and rajahs of the Dutch East Indies who acknowledge her suzerainty. Emperor William, too, finds in some of the native kings of the German spheres of Africa a readiness to accept his lordship. Portugal, although it has abolished monarchy, still continues to contribute money toward the maintenance of kings in her East African possessions; while republican France maintains an Emperor in Annam, a King in Cambodia, a Bey in Tunis, and now a Sultan in Morocco, besides scores of other African kings and sultans in Africa and in Oceania. They all receive subsidies from the French treasury. So, for that matter, has the United States several sultans on its pay roll in the Philippine archipelago.

Those behind the scenes at the court of the Escurial are well aware of the true cause of the ill feeling between King Alfonso and his aunt, the Infanta Eulalia. The marriage of her nephew to Princess Ena (now as Spanish Queen called Victoria Eugenie) of Battenberg, was to Eulalia a source of great grievance. She always opined that her nephew, as sovereign of a great nation, might have found a wife more fitting to his high rank and station. Patricia of Connaught, the charming daughter of the uncle of King George, who at the time of Alfonso's visit to England was so much to the fore, would have suited Infanta Eulalia better, but Patricia did not take to Alfonso XIII, who, she feared, had inherited the deadly disease that cut off his father, Alfonso XII, in his prime, and he preferred to follow his own inclination and make what all the world says has been a love match.

Eulalia, who recently achieved prominence through her book, "The Thread of Life," never has appealed to Victoria Eugenie. The royal ladies' dislike is mutual, and as Eulalia declines to be snubbed she very seldom puts in an appearance at the Spanish court and avoids coming to Madrid. Since her nephew's marriage her visits have practically ceased. On the other hand, the Infanta is deeply attached to the Queen Mother, Maria Christina, a scion of the Catholic house of Wittelsbach, as she herself has of late publicly manifested during this storm over the publication of her book.

The rather offhand treatment meted out to the Infanta's son, Don Alfonso of Orleans (an officer in the Spanish army at the time of his marriage with Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg), by King Alfonso, who deprived him of all his honors, has caused estrangement, and although this prince has been reinstated to all his honors, the Infanta considers that her son's self-denial and patriotism in volunteering for the Melilla campaign have not met with their due reward and that he has been purposely passed over owing to the Queen's desire to mortify Eulalia.

Recently, on the arrival at Madrid of the Infanta Paz, sister of Donna Eulalia, on a visit to the Spanish court, Don Fernando, Eulalia's younger son, by chance met her on the same train. Donna Paz and her daughters were received at the railway station by members of the royal family and conveyed to the Escurial palace, where they were housed during their entire stay. It appeared natural that Don Fernando should have been accorded the same hospitality, but King Alfonso had a hint conveyed to him that his presence in the palace would not be desirable. This Don Fernando promptly took, installing himself in the Ritz Hotel and telegraphing the incident to his mother in Paris.

Thus will be seen how trifling things may give rise to and cause great family disturbances, especially in a country where etiquette is everything. Another bone of contention is the constant presence at the court of Madrid of Don Carlos de Caserta, husband of the late Infanta Mercedes, the King's elder sister and now married again to Princess Louisa of Savoy, sister of former Queen Amelia of Portugal. According to the Nueva Espana, a radical and anti-clerical paper of Madrid, Donna Eulalia is jealous of Don Carlos' influence over Alfonso.

In a tradition-bound court as that of Spain, Eulalia's defense of divorce and disregard of most of the conventions of society are disapproved by the strait-laced Hidalgos. Taking all things into consideration and the slights inflicted on her, the Infanta has decided to favor her country with her presence as little as possible, though she maintains that in spite of its old-fashioned ways and decadence, she is and ever will be, a Spanish woman at heart. FLANEUR.

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NATIONAL LINCOLN MEMORIAL.

Design of Architect Bacon Receives High Commendation.

From the New York Sun.

Too little attention has been paid to the project, at last making some real headway, for a national memorial to Abraham Lincoln at Washington. For many years, in a vague way, the idea has been discussed. The semi-centennial celebrations of 1911 gave it new life. Congress appropriated $2,000,000, a greater sum than has heretofore been appropriated by that body for any similar purpose, and the Lincoln memorial commission, with President Taft at its head, moved far enough to employ an accomplished New York architect to create a design for the Lincoln memorial on the Potomac Park site advocated by the Fine Arts Commission. This site had been previously commended by John Hay as that best suited to the purpose at heart.

In what more significant place could a national monument to Lincoln arise than in the park provided by Congress on the bank of the Potomac River, in the vista commanded from the Capitol past the Washington Monument to the heights of Arlington? It lends itself, too, to further symbolism, should the proposed bridge connecting this avenue with Arlington be built, as another mark of the union of North and South, leaguing the seat of government with Virginia. It happens also that from the tomb of Maj. L'Enfant, who planned Washington, the spectator looking toward the Capitol would find within the line of his vision the low, massive memorial to Lincoln and the tall pile of the monument to Washington. Here the Lincoln memorial would be away from business, free of the distractions of any crowded part of the city. Lincoln was not a spectacular hero, and the solemnity of his place in the history of the government comports little with a fashionable hilltop or a highway for sightseeing automobiles, though it run to Gettysburg.

Mr. Bacon has been impelled and governed essentially in his design presented to the commission by the feeling that solemnity and isolated grandeur should be embodied in such a memorial. This is apparent in the models and drawings now exhibited in Washington, some aspects of which were reproduced in the Sun last Sunday. The architect has gone to classical sources and has worked out some beautiful refinements of detail, but he has not found it necessary to offer a copy of some earlier edifice, and he has made it in its elements symbolical of the federation of the States at the critical periods of history and significant of Lincoln and his qualities in the serene interior, where the President's statue will face the doors which open toward the Capitol.

The art societies have not ignored this Lincoln memorial, but the subject and the object are worthy of further study and attention and work.

FEED THE WILD BIRDS.

Audubon Society Suggests How to Show Humane Instincts.

Editor The Washington Herald:

The Audubon Society of the District of Columbia would remind your many readers that whenever sleighing is good, the birds are apt to be starving. The same snow that offers a smooth surface to sleigh runners covers up the feeding grounds from which the birds draw their daily rations, and brings a time of famine in the avian world.

The services rendered to agriculture and horticulture by these little insect and weed destroyers are of incalculable value, and it behooves us, in our own interest, to prevent diminution of their ranks as far as possible. But apart from consideration of material interest, it is a pleasure to the kindly disposed to save life and avert suffering whenever opportunity offers. And the method of accomplishing this is within the easy reach of all.

Nothing could be simpler than to clear away a small space and place on it the needed food, such as grain of any kind, raw oatmeal, bread crumbs, cracked nuts, table scraps of all sorts, cracked corn, celery tops, bits of lettuce, or other similar material. Fat meat securely fastened to limbs of trees or shrubs will be a great boon to many different kinds of birds.

If possible, it is well to supply fine gravel or coarse sand—necessary to birds in digesting food. Do this and you will be amply repaid in the interesting assemblage you will gather, particularly if your home be in the suburbs. HENRY OLDYS.

AID FOR MRS. DISNEY.

Herald Reader to Send Clothes and Money to Mother.

Editor The Washington Herald:

Inclosed is a stamped envelope, and in it will you please put the address of the unfortunate woman who had to give up her older children—the one in Benning. I have a few warm clothes for a child of the age of the one she has with her, and have done them up in a parcel with a little money. If I send them to her in the open mail do you think they will be delivered to her? Thanking you for the address, I am, respectfully, E. K.

Mrs. Sarah Disney, of 109 Anacostia street, Benning, D. C., will appreciate any relief sent. The above letter is printed for the information of other kind-hearted persons.

More Gum for the Girls.

From the Dayton News.

The United States government having forbidden the use of chewing gum in the army and navy, there will be that much more of it for the matinee girls.

Not What It Used to Be.

From the Omaha Bee.

Saint Jackson's day used to be celebrated by Nebraska Democrats as an excuse for a feast, but "Old Hickory" is evidently below par this year.