

THE EVENING STAR, With Sunday Morning Edition.

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Mr. Bryan and Bolting. Let us all keep certain things clear in our minds. It is as a democrat that Mr. Bryan challenges the President on the issue of preparedness.

At that time the difference between a note and the President related to a hint to the German government on the subject of the latter's submarine warfare.

Since then the President has become a convert to preparedness, while Mr. Bryan holds his ground, and is so much opposed to the proposition, he raps over the knuckles the man he made President and is the commissioned leader of the democratic party.

Mr. Bryan, therefore, is making his fight within the democratic party; and democrats, in Congress and out, are confronted with the necessity of choosing between two democrats, the one in office with every claim to leadership, and the other out of office aspiring to lead the leader in this particular business.

But what will Mr. Bryan do if the fight goes against him? Leave the party? How could he do that in the light of his record? Democrats who in 1896, after making the fight against free silver in the democratic national convention, bolted, were denounced by him as traitors; and he forbade them to return except in sackcloth and ashes.

And both in 1900 and 1908 Mr. Bryan was opposed for the presidency by men who until he became the democratic leader had never cast any other than a democratic ballot.

Now, according to Mr. Bryan's own prescription, if he loses his fight against the President on preparedness or any other issue he must bow to the decree. If he refuses the President support he becomes a bolt; he puts himself in an attitude he denounced nineteen years ago when assumed by others at his expense.

Burglars in Buffalo broke into a saloon and, finding no money, stole the cash register. Evidently the boss burglar had become suspicious of the gang and decided to establish more systematic business methods.

A number of Americans who live abroad are possibly wondering in the present crisis whether it would not have been better to pay all their taxes at the old home.

California looks forward to its olive culture as an important resource. There will be a lot of olive branches needed next year.

Democrats and Bull Moozers. Chairman McCombs expresses the opinion that bull moosery, as an independent proposition, will cut but a small if any figure in next year's campaign. He expects "a straight on-and-out fight between democratic and republican candidates," with Mr. Wilson as the democratic candidate. This is the way he puts it:

"The majority of the progressives will be found voting with the democratic party in 1916. Some, of course, who voted for Col. Roosevelt because they were strongly attached to him will be back in the republican fold. In some states third party men will continue to vote the progressive ticket in 1916. This will make it difficult for the republicans to capture electoral votes, though, of course, not to the same extent as in 1912.

"But, nevertheless, I realize that we will know next November that we have been through a major fight."

What is to take a majority of the bull moosers into the democratic camp? Not even in the republican party has there appeared as severe a critic of the administration's foreign policies as Mr. Roosevelt. As respects both Mexico and Europe he thinks Mr. Wilson's course has been mistaken to the point of a crime; that it has cost America heavily in prestige, and should be rebuked at the polls. What bull moosers still under the Roosevelt influence will vote the democratic ticket next year?

George W. Perkins stands for the business end of bull moosery. What

bull moosers under his influence will vote the democratic ticket next year? He holds that the domestic policies of the administration have failed and injured the country. He instances the tariff, and attributes business depression in many lines to the Underwood revision to the new trust legislation, and declares that big business cannot be safe and prosperous, or helpful to the public, until it is operated under government charter; to the new currency law, and hopes for amendments to that. Mr. Perkins, who was a republican until 1912, has never in his life been more strongly anti-democratic than now. It is impossible to imagine him a supporter of Mr. Wilson, directly or re-election.

Indirectly, of course, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Perkins are responsible for Mr. Wilson's presence in the White House. They divided the republican party, and Mr. Wilson marched to victory through the divided ranks. In all probability, it is the realization of their responsibility that makes both men so very emphatic now in their condemnation of the existing order. How sharper than a serpent's tooth, they think, is a thankless administration! Mr. Wilson owes his office to them, and yet has not only not consulted them, but actually has gone contrary to their well-known views.

Mr. McCombs is on safe ground, however, in predicting that next year's race will be a hummer, and that the winning party will realize that it has had a run for its money.

Passing of Famous Ships. Two famous ships of the American navy—that part of the establishment which is affectionately called the old navy—have recently been sold as junk and committed to the flames for the recovery of copper and other metals used in their hulls, and which can be more cheaply secured by burning the hull than in any other way. There is something shocking to patriotic sentiment in this process, but efficiency and sentiment are often incompatible, and where they are so efficiency has the right of way and sentiment goes by the board.

A few weeks ago the sloop of war Portsmouth, which, under command of Capt. Montgomery, carried the Stars and Stripes into the bay at San Francisco, was sold for a trifling sum, and her buyers then had her hauled to mud flats near Boston and set on fire. The Portsmouth went into the harbor of San Francisco, or as the village was then called, Yerba Buena, some months ahead of Commodore John Drake Sloat with his flagship, the Savannah, and two other ships, the Cyane and the Levant. Patriotic efforts were made to save the famous old craft from a sordid fate, but they were not sufficiently patriotic.

A few days ago a dispatch from San Francisco said "a series of charred, oaken ribs projecting out of a mud flat in San Francisco bay was all that remained of the frigate Independence, the oldest ship in the United States Navy, which was burned for the copper in her hull." In the news it was said that the career of the Independence began in 1812; that the frigate was America's first flagship and carried seventy-four guns on her three decks. After her retirement from active service the Independence was stationed at Mare Island as a receiving ship, and three years ago went out of commission even to that capacity.

The Statue of Liberty. The War Department's denial of the report that the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor is to be gilded was hardly necessary, for it was virtually incredible that the government should put a perishable coat of precious metal upon a bronze figure that is in its natural color more beautiful than any extrinsic decoration can make it. A gilt Statue of Liberty would be little short of an atrocity, and it is not remarkable that persons of artistic tastes should have been excited over the report. It may be that the statue has been somewhat neglected in point of repairs and attention to the inner structure, but nothing should be done to change the gray-green coat that time has given the bronze and that has acquired a distinctive character. At present the great figure part of the landscape. It is not garish, nor does it obtrude itself flamboyantly. Yet it cannot be lost or mistaken. It is always there to welcome both strangers and citizens on their arrival in port. A gilt Liberty would be too much like an advertisement. Fortunately good taste prevails sufficiently to prevent such a desecration.

So strong is the human tendency to be jealous of wealth that many people are now mentioning J. P. Morgan's appendicitis in terms of envious admiration.

The development of a split in the democratic party would call attention to the disposition to copy Col. Roosevelt's policies.

Politically considered, some of W. J. Bryan's peace utterances sound like war to the kniffe.

Simultaneous Deaths. One of the most troublesome questions that can come to a probate court is that which relates to the question of precedence of death in case a husband and wife lose their lives practically simultaneously, as in a disaster. This question frequently arises and often on it hangs the disposal of property of great value. Such a case is now before the surrogate's court of New York city, where the future ownership of \$1,000,000 is involved. The husband and wife were passengers on the Lusitania and both

lost their lives. They made their wills the day before sailing on the ill-fated steamer, and referred to the possibility of their death, the husband remarking that if they died in circumstances which made it difficult to determine precedence it should be deemed that he predeceased his wife. But the husband's declaration may not govern the court in its decision, as under the terms of the will in this instance the fact itself and not the wishes of one of the testators is to rule. Yet it would seem reasonable to accept testimony on this point where it is impossible to judge as to the precedence of death. After all, the court should in all such cases be governed by the evident desires of the testators and not by rigid technicalities. So many cases of this kind have occurred that much litigation, usually very costly, would be spared by the establishment of a fixed rule to the effect that in case of virtually simultaneous deaths that of the husband or that of the wife took place first, according as the equities may most strongly govern in the determination of the rule. Some courts have held in these cases that the wife must be assumed to have died first, being of a physically weaker nature, while other courts have held that the husband would naturally assume the position of greater danger for the protection of the woman. Thus there is reason for either rule that whichever is established it should be definite for the sake of promptness of probate procedure.

While effectual in its censorship, the English government in discussing German atrocities does not fail to put a good man in charge of the publicity department.

Tammany is entitled to congratulate itself if at one stroke it got rid of the proposed state constitution and Elihu Root as a possible republican leader.

Greece is inclined to limit her interest in the war to the matter of adequate compensation for the use of her territory as a right of way.

King George at least enjoyed the distinction of being thrown from a horse instead of being hurt in a conventional motor car accident.

The Sultan of Turkey continues to seclude himself and wait for the other people to decide what they are going to do about it.

A long time has elapsed since Col. George Harvey invented the phrase "babbling boobies" and not a soul has used for libel.

The strictest neutrality does not always avail to prevent a foreign war from interfering with domestic politics.

A Mexican battle continues to be fraught with special peril for the innocent bystander.

Clubs, the value of which in the organization of specific activities among farmers and the building up of rural community life in general has been recognized by the Department of Agriculture, are also being fostered by the Federal Government on its projects where people gathered from the four corners of the country are engaged in the new pioneering—subjugating the desert with water. The reclamation service is required to provide for the practical and important in the building of the new communities and is interesting itself in seeking to bring the various women organizations into the movement.

The possibility of having in farming districts strong and active women's organizations has been pointed out by those in cities is not understood by easterners. The Reclamation Record notes that the east farms are large and rural population is scattered. Many of the western irrigation projects, however, are of a more intensive character, and the various types of farms, the units on some projects being as small as twenty and even five acres. The situation is different in the west, where the land is more intensive and the population more concentrated.

Through his scientific agencies Uncle Sam is not content merely to issue directions as to how things should be done. He is not afraid to roll up his sleeves, so to speak, and to lead the way, whether it be into a new industry or a new phase of an old one. He has just demonstrated this through the work undertaken by the bureau of fisheries to popularize the tullefish, a deep-sea product that so far as markets, consumers and even fishermen are concerned has practically never been heard of.

The government believes in the efficiency of advertising and makes use of it.

And slammed it through the air. The foot ball didn't mind a bit. It never seemed to care. At first it was so nice and neat. It seemed a perfect shame. To jump on it with dusty feet. Throughout the thrilling game. The men who played got fearful knocks! And tore their trousers and their socks. Their parents did not frown. Though some of them went walking out. And others used a crutch. They still assailed that foot ball stout. But couldn't hurt it much. Although I raised my voice with glee. To hail the victor's name. The foot ball really seemed to me. The winner of the game.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Hundreds of hitherto unused acres throughout a large portion of the south and west, which have been being made available to school children to produce winter crops of garden truck this season. The work is progressing under an extension of the children's backyard-garden plan fostered by the United States bureau of education, and taken with the spring and summer work, will, officials of the bureau believe, constitute an epoch-making factor in the social, educational and economic development of the south.

The winter garden work in the southern schools is a direct outgrowth of the similar work which was started there just last year, and which, in turn, developed from the widely different "school plot" garden work that first originated in the northern states. The winter work which the bureau is doing is now confined, because of small acreage, to the winter garden work in the southern states. It is hoped before long to carry on the activities in all of the territory in which winter growth is possible. The school garden work of the south, both of winter and of the usual growing seasons, is all in charge of one agent of the bureau, Miss Ethel Gowan. For its northern work, however, the bureau has two other agents.

The gardening projects were taken up in 1914, authorized by the establishment of the home and school gardening division in the bureau that year. The first year's work was good. How good an investment this has been may be gathered from the fact that while there was work in progress in the school garden work in the south, and, therefore, a negligible production from this source, the first crop of winter garden work alone, by May of the growing season of 1915 had sold over \$1,000 worth of produce to the school children and their families with a goodly profit.

When it began its southern activities the bureau of education intended to plan a home-garden plan. All children who had back yards available were encouraged to set up work, and to plant them in the soil into shape. For children without back yards vacant lots were secured and the school children were encouraged to work in them. In some places, where sufficient land could not be secured in either of the ways, small plots were secured and have been leased in the outskirts of towns and generous gardens laid off for each child.

The bureau, it is believed, from the results secured, even in the short period of its activities, that the work which has been done is an effective means for giving the children a better and more constructive education. Its organization work has progressed most satisfactorily. Numerous communities have followed its suggestions and have, in turn, become enthusiastic supporters of the work. School superintendents, boards of education, women's clubs, business men's associations and other organizations have taken up the work of extending the movement and are giving it financial assistance in scores of communities.

Wherever the work is being done, especially for children between ten and fifteen years of age, and this age, it is believed, is the average age of the parents concerned, the average parents are glad of an opportunity to actually earn substantial amounts of money for their children. The educational experts directly in charge of the work call attention to the fact that the work also introduces the children to business experience, vitalizes the ordinary school work, puts many more children to work, and, in a positive way, continues to interest them in the work. The children who are naturally apt and aptitude for farming or gardening, and, in addition to all this, furnishes them with a good home, constructive, recreational activity.

Wherever it has been possible for vessels waiting at the two ends of the canal to effect exchange of goods, the cargo has been transferred. The road, which is controlled by the United States government, immediately put a special rate—practically a cost-of-service rate—into effect, and largely increased its crews.

While dredging forces are working at top speed seeking to clear obstructions from the canal, practically all Canal Zone employees in the Canal Zone are also working under special stress; for the tying up of traffic has revolutionized most of the activities on the isthmus that were beginning to settle into a normal routine.

The matter of demand for supplies, the closing of the canal made another point of emphasis in the planning to run through the canal in less than a day with practically no expenditure of money, and no loss of cargo that they would have to put back to sea and spend from twenty to forty days of steady steaming to reach their destination.

The tie-up came when the supply of fuel oil was low, and that enough was available to run the ships to the supply port. The chief embarrassment has been to supply sufficient ice and power for the refrigeration of goods at hand in sufficient quantities to meet all demands, and the government bakery, through taxed, has met all calls for bread.

Because the postal system has agencies in every city and town and many villages, besides a number of post offices, the postal system has been utilizing the work of routes in the country, and so comes to the aid of the people.

Intimately into the lives of most of the people, it is being called on more and more by Congress to perform additional services and to lend a hand in the transaction of their business. The postal system was originally the carrier of written communications. Now it carries as well articles of all sorts, and transports money, and invests in government bonds and issues travelers' checks for them when they are used.

The federal land office, the War Department, the Navy and other government agencies are constantly using the postal system for the purpose of sending their advertisements, and recently the postal system has been made use of for the purpose of sending the employment bureau that has been established by the Department of Labor. The bureau has been called upon to perform for its fellow governmental agencies, however, is to sell maps for the government, and to sell the greatest of American map-making concerns.

Now whenever an additional area of territory is acquired, the government sends a sample map to the post office in the territory covered, as well as a sample map of the territory. The sample is conspicuously displayed and in every case numbers of the maps have been sold. Arrangements have been made for the post office to permit, so that the postmasters are permitted to receive a commission on sales.

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WIRZ IN THE STAR

Toward the close of the war a swindle was practiced in this city upon ignorant contraband. The seller is always supplied with genuine gold pieces, and if the victim doubts the genuineness of the seller calls any passer-by and asks him to verify it. The third party, of course, will answer affirmatively, and the victim will give all his greenbacks for the spiel munze, the seller slipping the genuine one when the sale is made. Reed, when taken, had on him \$3.85 in silver, \$4.50 in gold, \$14.40 in currency, 53 coppers, 3 penny tickets and one gold slide and a purse full of spiel munze. The detectives say they know where the spiel munze is sold by wholesale in this city, the \$20 for 40 cents each, the tens at 20 cents and the fives at 15 cents. But they say that if the buyer is not satisfied, he is sold simply as medals and the inscription upon them is 'Compos Spiel Munze.'

On the night of November 1, 1885, the workmen of Washington held a meeting in the interest of the establishment of an eight-hour day in this city. All the trades were represented in the parade, which marched through the streets with torches, banners and transparencies, and assembled at the city hall where a stand had been erected, with illuminated arches and mottoes urging the reduction of the working day. The Star said of this demonstration November 2:

"The parade and demonstration of the workmen last night, in furtherance of the eight-hour movement, was certainly a most successful and well-conducted affair. An effective feature of the procession was the working representation of the different trades, carried out with great success, with printing presses, forges, anvil, rolling machines, paint brushes, planers, adze, hammers, etc., in full operation. At the city hall, where the speaking took place, the crowd was one of the largest we ever saw assembled in Washington. The interest felt by the workmen in the demonstration and the eight-hour movement was shown by the fact that not only the spacious steps and landing of the city hall were almost entirely occupied by them, but numbers were also seen standing on the sidewalks for hours, waiting for hours to witness the procession or to listen to the addresses at the stand."

A serious problem confronting the government after the war was the establishment upon a self-supporting basis of the freedmen, emancipated slaves. This work was under the supervision of the Freedmen's bureau. Around Washington, in the State of Virginia, in the Star of November 2, 1865, is this paragraph: "The Freedmen's bureau has received from the superintendent in charge of the fifth district of Virginia his report for the month of October, from which it appears that the bureau has been successful in placing in the hands of the freedmen in Fairfax county are self-supporting. There are no camps in the county, and the freedmen are congregated. There are 135 colored people at Fairfax Court House, 30 at Fairfax station and about the same number at Leesville. The freedmen have been obtained for the freedmen, and there is not now one in the county who is dependent on the government for support. The freedmen are doing well, and the Freedmen's bureau has been very successful in placing the freedmen in a position where they are self-supporting and are able to care for themselves."

The keenest anxiety prevailed in this country fifty years ago as to the possibility of the cholera, then spreading in Europe, appearing on the shores of New York. In the Star of November 3, 1865, is an article which discusses this question seriously and gives suggestions for the treatment of the disease in its early stage. The Star said:

"The cholera is still advancing in Europe and there is very little ground for the hope that it will not enter this continent." In the same issue of The Star a dispatch from New York stated that the steamship Atlanta had arrived from London, and that the quarantine in New York had been relaxed, and that the cholera had not appeared among passengers, rumors prevailing that eight deaths had occurred during the voyage from cholera. The next day's Star printed details of the quarantining of the Atlanta, on which there were eleven cases of cholera, several of the passengers having died and been buried at sea. A memorial was presented to the commission for the purpose of relieving the cholera, and the treatment of the disease. The next day, November 4, 1865, The Star printed a dispatch from New York stating that fifteen deaths had occurred on the Atlanta out of forty or fifty patients.

Although the trial of Henry Wirz for atrocities committed at Andersonville prison during the war was concluded on October 21, 1865, no announcement was made for some time. In the Star of November 4 is the following:

"Wirz has not yet been informed of the findings in his case and is very impatient to hear the result. Yesterday he wrote to his counsel, Mr. Schade, begging him to come and see him, and to relieve him of the suspense he was under, asserting that his anxiety will still be increased if he does not hear from him. He says that he expects to be hanged, but that he wants to know it and prepare for it. He says that he is a native of St. Peter's Church, Capitol Hill, called frequently to see him and converses with him, and ever ready to help him. He will come to see him. That will come there. In the Star of November 4, 1865, is an article in which it is stated that Wirz talks rather cheerfully and seems pleased when any of the officers listen to him. He could not spend much of his time in reading German works with which he is supplied by his counsel."

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ON EXPLOSIVES AND EXPLOSIVES

The political importance of explosives and explosives is daily augmenting, employed both in actual war operations and in the destruction of the enemies' ways and means. When the mine, the mortar, the torpedo and the hand grenade have become the most powerful weapons of combat it behooves us to resume some notions of the subject the importance of which is capital.

First of all, explosives possess the same order of chemical phenomena as the other explosives, and the conditions to which they are subjected. Put fire to dynamite in the open air and it burns inoffensively. Inclose it in a primed cartridge and it explodes. The dust of flour or of charcoal which burns in a heap in an uncovered place is consumed slowly; suspended in the air in an enclosed space it will explode. Not being simple bodies like oxygen, iron, azote, they are mixtures or compositions of other bodies. Mixtures are very unstable; that is to say, taking fire readily by ignition, shock, friction, shaking, or by the action of acids, requires great precautions, varying with the composition. A common character of all explosives is that they are either endothermic or exothermic. It has partially so; that is, bodies formed with a great quantity of heat, with a great amount of gas, and which, by the action of decomposing evolve on the contrary great heat.

The characteristic of explosive bodies is the production of a great quantity of gas. It is the expansion of gas that determines the effects of pressure and of displacement of a projectile if it is a result of powder of gun or cannon, bursting of the walls of a boiler, or the explosion of a mine. Some explosives may serve equally for propulsion and for shattering; that is, they are used for the treatment that alters the properties, with a view to obtain the desired effect, of a projectile, or a bursting explosive, or an explosive for the purpose of the action of an explosive having naturally slow action.

Why is it that dynamite is worthless as an explosive of propulsion, when as a shattering explosive it is so effective? The explanation is contained in the fact of slow and rapid explosions. Slow and progressive powders suit the cartridge for the rifle and cannon. Shattering powders for bombs and cartridges are destined to destroy bridges, rails, etc. They are of the nature of powder acts on the ball or bomb during the time the projectile passes from the breech to the muzzle; the shattering powder may burst the cannon or the rifle. These shattering explosives are reserved for cases where a destructive effect is desired.

M. Henry Le Chatelier, the eminent chemist and metallurgist, has recently given interesting indications on the different sorts of explosions. He has classified them into two classes: variable, according to the explosive and the conditions in which the explosive is placed; and constant, which are the same for all explosives. Let us take up the dynamite cartridge and put fire to it. It burns as a torch, it produces a flame, it is a slow explosion. The dynamite cartridge, on the other hand, is a fast explosion. The dynamite cartridge, on the other hand, is a fast explosion. The dynamite cartridge, on the other hand, is a fast explosion.

Black powder cannot do else than burst a boiler, or a gun, or a mine, or explode with a loud noise. But dynamite and gunpowder can be processes of fabrication or of utilization be made to flare up in place of exploding.

No one ignores the virtue of an explosive which does not depend only on the conditions which have been mentioned. The mode of priming plays a very important role. According to the priming the same body burns or bursts, decomposes progressively or not, and explodes or not. It is not the explosive itself, but the conditions in which it is used, that determine its effect. It is not the explosive itself, but the conditions in which it is used, that determine its effect.

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ON EXPLOSIVES AND EXPLOSIVES

Arabs from China. The first fuell or musket was created by the Arabs; it was made to propel arrows. Three thousand years ago the Chinese discovered the invention of powder to Roger Bacon, to Schwartz-Severinus or Tilsbein. In the thirteenth century cannon and "bombs" existed, but the inventor's name is a myth. Powder (