

The Daily Press.



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SEEKING TO ESTABLISH PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

The coming Central American peace conference, which will meet in Washington under the official patronage of the United States and Mexico, and which will have for its object the establishment of permanent peace and possibly some degree of federal unity among the five republics of Central America, is to be regarded with sincere sympathy and not without hope.

The whole story of Central America is the story of broken peace pacts and dissolved unions. Its history is told briefly as follows in the current number of a magazine:

"Beginning as one kingdom under Spain, the five provinces became separate in their act of independence, but immediately thereafter sought reunion and incorporation with Mexico. Separation from Mexico and dissolution of the union followed, and then wars, truces, federations and secessions came in swift succession. Salvador's appeal for a United States protectorate, Guatemala's pretensions to hegemony, the rise and fall of the sixth state of Los Altos, the patriotic statesmanship of Morazan, the atrocities of Carrera, the United Provinces of the Centre of America, the Panama Congress, the Central American Federation, the strenuous campaign of Barrios, the Greater Republic of Central America and the United States of Central America, together with innumerable other incidents, names and essays, have passed into history, leaving the states no better off than before, excepting on the ground that the longest lane must have a turning, and that therefore the further these states proceed in their unhappy way the nearer they come to the inevitable turning point."

There are really strong reasons why there should be not only enduring peace, but also a firm and stable federal union among the Central American republics. They are all so nearly alike in geographical, social, political and industrial respects, that a union of them would be homogeneous.

The story that General Grant offered his services to the cause of the South at the outbreak of the civil war, has all the earmarks of truthfulness, but it is more than passing strange that it has never been known before. It would have been a powerful weapon against Grant when he was running for President, and had it become known at that time, he would have never occupied the White House.

The high price of turkeys is not bothering the occupants of the White House. That man up in Rhode Island, who has furnished the presidents with Thanksgiving birds for many years, is still living and doing business at the old stand.

lect, there will be hope that Inter-ly will come and that peace will follow an appreciation of honesty of purpose.

"IN GOD WE TRUST" ON OUR COINS.

There is a deal of twaddle being indulged in just now because our new ten dollar gold piece, designed by the late St. Gaudens, does not bear the words "In God We Trust." No one seems to dwell on the really pertinent and crucial point of inquiry, which is not why these words should be dropped, but why on earth—or rather on Uncle Sam's part of it—should they have ever been used. In a nation where religion and government are happily kept distinct, where the agnostic and atheist have equal rights with the theist and priest, it is well that our coinage and our currency should commit us as little as possible to creeds and confessions of faith.

It has often occurred to thinkers on the subject whether the words were not placed on the coin then as more of a bid for faith in the value of the coin, than they were as an expression of faith. Anyway it failed to save the two-cent piece coinage beyond its little day. Just after the war the words appeared on the gold eagles, perhaps superfluously, inasmuch as the possession of these made it rather easier to dispense with trust generally. It is very probable that in the quarter century that must elapse before another change in the coinage design of eagles becomes legally possible, the sticklers for the religious inscriptions on the "root of all evils" may come to a realizing sense of the bad taste involved in such innovations.

NORTHWESTERN RAILROADS UP TO THE OLD GAME.

The farmers of the Northwest are up in arms against the railroads of that section of the country for offering the old excuse that they cannot accept or deliver goods because of a car famine, and are demanding that immediate investigation be made by the Interstate Commerce Commission. It seems, notwithstanding the experiences and criticisms of last winter, and notwithstanding the promise made by the railroads that the situation caused by the alleged shortage of cars would not be repeated this year, it is already reported from St. Paul that the shortage in the Northwest threatens a complete paralysis of trade.

These roads said the same thing last year, but an official investigation disclosed the fact that thousands of cars were allowed to remain on side tracks and in yards, hence the farmers are convinced that another investigation would show the same situation.

The searching inquiry made last year by the Interstate Commerce Commission proved that the alleged car famine was a trick to force the farmers to ransom prices for the transportation of their grain, or sell it to the railroads, of course, at ruinous prices; with the alternative of seeing it rot on the ground in expectation of its removal. The farmers have every reason to believe that they are being made the victims of the same trick again, but the managers of the railroads claim that though they have secured many more locomotives and cars, the population of the region has increased beyond their capacity. The facts of the case, however, do not bear out their assertion, and the people of the Northwest want the alleged car famine investigated at once. They reason that while there is money for the railroads in transportation charges at customary rates, there is considerably more in extra high rates based on an alleged car famine, and in vast quantities of grain that must be sold at any price or be a total loss to the farmer.

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phan asylums in Washington. It is to be hoped that they will be asserted, as the good teachers in the asylums would doubtless be asked many funny questions by the youngsters, if some of the cards ever reached them.

It does not take a very long search to find the humor in this Harvard news item which appeared in a Boston newspaper: "The Political and Social Significance of the Life of Jesus Christ" because of the football mass-meeting on that date.

A dispatch says that the riding tests are making the army officers sore on the President. The soreness is probably not confined to the President.

Ballooning should put the people in training for the high prices of the future.

Seventeen more days of the Jamestown Exposition.

WITH THE PARAGRAPHERS.

Tom Johnson's three cents made the other man look like thirty.—New York World.

The ancients who boosted Moses as the meekest man never saw a Texas bridegroom.—Houston Post.

Strange that so many self-made men are going to Muldoon to be made over.—Atlanta Constitution.

Life would be one grand sweet song if the Washington that had a Mills Hotel rate.—Washington Times.

England will hold four kings next week. Good hand—unless some anarchist plays the deuce.—Chicago Tribune.

When a man wears long chin whiskers it may be because his wife insists upon buying his neckties.—Philadelphia Record.

As long as a Pedestrian Weston eats corned beef and cabbage, both the meat eaters and the vegetarians can claim him.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Thomas Nelson Page has gone into the mule-raising business in Virginia. Perhaps Mr. Page is planning to have some of the best sellers in case of war.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The election being over for this year, the next vote will be on the size of the turkey that father will be called upon to pay for about the end of the month.—Washington Post.

Mr. Roosevelt did not refer in his election statement to Mr. Burton's defeat in Cleveland. Perhaps he left that for Secretary Taft to explain.—New York World.

Ocean freight rates are to be increased at an early date, but it is hoped that all that foreign gold will get in first.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The season's first carload of lemons has just been shipped from California. Too late for the election.—New York Tribune.

Now, gentlemen, please remember that the loser's tale of woe is uninteresting at best.—Washington Times.

The great strike in England will go down in history as not having been struck.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Looks extremely green—Christ-massy.—New York Mail.

THE THIRD TERM IDEA.

There seems a disposition with a large part of the American public embraced in the Republican party not to take President Roosevelt too seriously, in one particular at least, says the Memphis Appeal. When three years ago, the returns coming in on the night of presidential election plainly showed that the President would succeed himself, he declared it his unwavering purpose not to stand for a virtual third term. Coming into the presidential office so soon after Mr. McKinley's second term had begun, Mr. Roosevelt very properly considered that we had a real, and not a bogus, President as the successor of the lamented McKinley.

Since George Washington, in his farowell address, declared the impolicy of one man continuing in the presidency longer than two terms, it has become the fixed practice among party precedents and a confirmed principle of the government. So eminently wise was Washington's reason for declining to stand for a third term, that until 1880 there was no movement looking to any variation of the republic's existence. There were more two-term than one-term Presidents, yet the thought of a third term had taken no hold upon the people's political thought. How remote was the idea we shall illustrate by an incident in the life of John C. Calhoun.

After Monroe's second term was to expire, many ambitious statesmen desired to succeed him. The presidential campaign of 1824 was the most exciting and bitter campaign of any up to that time. John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson, William H. Crawford and Calhoun—all men of distinguished abilities and approved service in public affairs—contested for the honor. Calhoun was then only forty-two years of age. The historian, George Bancroft, left this story of an interview with William Winthrop, one of the National Intelligencer's editors, had with Calhoun, mentioning his extreme youth for such an office. Calhoun attempted to dissuade Calhoun from entering the race. One day, walking up and down

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the banks of the Potomac river, arm in arm, Seaton said. "Calhoun, you are too young a man for President. After serving your second term, you would go out of office in the very prime of manhood. What would you do with yourself thereafter?" Calhoun's reply was: "I would retire and write my memoirs."

The most pronounced effort ever made to have a three-term President took place in 1880. It was one of the most thrilling and spectacular attempts in the annals of presidential nominations. The friends and partisans of Gen. Grant argued that a third term for him in the presidential chair was a "military necessity." James G. Blaine, whom "Bob" Ingersoll in a nominating speech had dubbed "an armed warrior and a plumed knight," had shed his color for the first time in the ring. Persistent old John Sherman had led the political cohorts of Ohio for a quarter of a century. As Hayes' Secretary of the Treasury, he had acquired financial fame in a long record of faithful stewardship, and was ardently planning to capture the nomination.

Before events culminated in the final line-up, a broogly tilt in the United States Senate between Matthew H. Carpenter and Blaine took place on the floor in speeches made over the disposition of the Garvey award. Though disease had fastened upon him Carpenter made an able speech, whose conclusion was a handsome tribute to Gen. Grant. Grant's administration had been particularly marked by the ardor with which he demanded of Great Britain remuneration for the destruction done to American commerce at the hands of confederate privateers fitted out in British ports. Carpenter's astute political vision forecasted the future marshalling of forces, and he knew Blaine's vaulting ambition. Therefore, he let sound a clarion note in behalf of Grant, declaring him like Washington, first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of Americans and of all mankind.

Replying to Carpenter, Blaine was brilliant and witty and skillful. In closing his speech he eulogized Grant in terms of adulation far surpassing those employed by Carpenter. Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio, then got the floor. Drawing out that far-famed old red bulldog and kerchief, waving it significantly over the Senate chamber, and then giving his nose a trumpet blast, he exclaimed: "Both gentlemen have declared for a third term!" The manner and declaration of the redoubtable old leader of the Democratic hosts in the Senate called forth so much laughter and applause in the galleries that the president of the Senate threatened to clear them in order that the Senate might proceed with business.

Grant went into the convention with 306 delegates who were determined to "do and dare and die" for and with him, as the solid massing and devoted following showed through its thirty-eight ballots cast by the convention. On the last ballot, the combined forces of Blaine and Sherman nominated James A. Garfield. When the 306 faithful followers of Grant, under the mastery and brilliant leadership of Roscoe Conkling went down before the 399 votes that nominated Garfield, they did so with heads up and faces to the front. At some solace for defeat, Chester A. Arthur, a New York "stalwart," received the nomination for the vice-presidency.

From that remarkable convention to the present time, now twenty-seven years, there has been no occasion to consider the possibility of a three-term President. From the present point, as the political winds blow, it is highly probable that in 1908, like Grant in 1880, it will be Roosevelt against the field.

Helped Science.

Higgins—My "vet" was greatly pleased with that horse you sold me. Higgins—What pleased him about the animal? Higgins—Why, he discovered two new diseases he never suspected before.—Illustrated Bits.

TRANSPORTATION GUIDE

Chesapeake & Ohio Ry.

Fast Trains to Richmond. Leave Newport News 10:05 a. m., 11:55 a. m., 5:25 p. m., 8:30 p. m. Local Trains to Richmond. 7:30 a. m., 5:40 p. m. Through Trains to the West. 11:55 a. m., 8:30 p. m. Trains arrive Newport News, 7:35 a. m., 9:20 a. m., 10:35 a. m., 5:35 p. m., 6:00 p. m., 7:20 p. m. Steamer Service for Norfolk. Leave Newport News 7:40 a. m., 10:40 a. m., 5:40 p. m., 6:05 p. m. Ferry Service to Pine Beach Pier. Leave Newport News 7:40 a. m., 10:40 a. m., 6:05 p. m. Leave Pine Beach pier, 9:15 a. m., 11:15 a. m., 4:40 p. m., 7:40 p. m.

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Norfolk Ferry Schedule.

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