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## PASSING EVENTS

### Of Men and Things in the Public Mind.

In as much as the Schley-Sampson controversy as to who was the real hero at the battle of Santiago, and in as much as the court of inquiry appointed by the secretary of the navy has rendered its decision in the matter, which decision is not wholly accepted by the general public, the Republican has concluded to give its readers the benefit of the exact differences of opinions of the members of the court of inquiry as to actual facts of the engagement and the part Admiral Schley played therein, as taken from the most salient questions and the decisions of the judges on each point:

1. Did Schley proceed with all dispatch to Cienfuegos? Ramsey and Benham—No. Dewey—Yes, having in view the importance of arriving with as much coal as possible.
  2. Did he maintain a close blockade of Cienfuegos? Ramsey and Benham—No. Dewey—The blockade was effective.
  3. Did he use all possible means to ascertain whether Cervera was in Cienfuegos? Ramsey and Benham—No. Dewey—He expected to ascertain by the Adula.
  4. Did he proceed with all dispatch from Cienfuegos to Santiago? Ramsey and Benham—No. Dewey—With as much dispatch as possible while keeping the squadron a unit.
  5. Should he have delayed for the Eagle? Ramsey and Benham—No. Dewey—Apparently, no; but see his answer to No. 4.
  6. Did he dispose his vessels with a view to intercepting the enemy in any attempt to pass him? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  7. Was he "forced to return to Key West for coal"? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  8. Could he have coaled off Cienfuegos and Santiago? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  9. Was the retreat from Santiago justified? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  10. Did he leave Santiago wholly unguarded for twenty-three hours, and guarded only by an unarmored ship for twenty-five hours? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  11. Did he give Cervera a chance to escape? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  12. Did he make any effort to ascertain whether Cervera was in Santiago? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  13. Was his failure to obey the order of May 25 (to ascertain that fact) justified? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  14. Did he endeavor to capture or destroy the Spanish vessels at anchor near the Santiago harbor entrance on May 29 and 30? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  15. Did he do his utmost to capture or destroy the Colon or other vessels which he attacked on May 31? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—No.
  16. Was his blockade of Santiago after his return there effective? Ramsey and Benham state character of blockade but express no opinion. Dewey—It was effective.
  17. Did the Brooklyn's loop cause her to lose distance and position with the Spanish vessels? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  18. Was the loop made to "avoid getting into dangerous proximity to the Spanish vessels"? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  19. Did the loop cause the Texas to stop and back her engines to avoid danger of collision? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  20. Was the Brooklyn's loop justified? No opinion is directly expressed, but see answers to Nos. 17, 18 and 19.
  21. Did a conversation regarding the proximity of the Texas take place between Schley and Hodgson at the time the loop began? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  22. Did Schley do Hodgson injustice in publishing only part of their correspondence about the conversation? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  23. Was Schley's conduct during the battle of July 3 self-possession, and did he encourage his crew to fight courageously? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  24. Were his official reports regarding his coal supply and coaling facilities inaccurate and misleading? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
  25. Was his conduct in connection with the events of the Santiago campaign prior to June 1 characterized by vacillation, dilatoriousness and lack of enterprise? Dewey, Ramsey and Benham—Yes.
- To the foregoing Admiral Dewey has seen fit to add his opinion that Schley was in "absolute command" when Cervera attempted to escape on July 3 and "is entitled to the credit due such commanding officer for the glorious victory."
- As the court refused to hear any evidence upon this point, and repeatedly declared that the question of who was in command was not at issue, Admiral Dewey's opinion is evidently what the civil courts call an "obiter dictum"—the voluntary and unnecessary expression of a judge upon facts not before him.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Forest fires destroyed \$50,000,000 worth of timber last year.

The United States has seventeen communities of Shakers.

It is estimated that this year's cotton crop will number about 9,764, 000 bales in the United States.

From statistics it is learned that the United States exports on an average of 750,000 tons of coal per month.

There are in the state of California 45,000 Italians, and it is estimated that they own property there valued at \$50,000,000.

New Orleans has a leper colony not far from the city that has thirty-six inmates who contracted the disease from the Chinamen of that city.

The proportion of male criminals in Germany has increased quite considerably since 1882, while that of the female seems to have remained stationary.

Berlin, Germany, is to be equipped with a telephone system like unto that used in Chicago, which system has already been on test there for the past fifteen months.

A Boston paper has discovered over three hundred happy couples in New England who have passed their golden wedding anniversary, and it is still continuing its search.

During the present year 717 disasters to steamers occurred on the Great Lakes, which has caused an appalling loss of life and property. Is there no remedy?

Askani Chin, in Tibet, is the highest lake in the world. Its level is 16,000 feet above the level of the sea. The lowest is the Dead sea, which is 1,290 feet below sea level.

Yankee ingenuity has found encouragement even in far away Egypt, as a Yankee has invented an arrangement for hoisting coal at Alexandria by which 2,120 tons of coal can be unloaded from a steamer in ten hours.

Uncle Sam spends \$2,000,000 annually for the education of the deaf and dumb. There are fifty-seven schools that own property valued at \$11,235,087, and there are at present 10,984 pupils and 1,150 institutions.

Capital aggregating to something like \$7,000,000 are tied up in hotel propositions in London. During the busy month the hotels of London accommodated 8,400 guests every night and find employment for 4,500 servants.

Dressmaking in Paris is more extensively carried on than in any other city of the world. It is reported that there are 75,000 persons employed in dressmaking establishments and 140,000 all told that are employed in some form or manner in the dress manufacturing business.

A geologist in search of coal mines in the mountains of Colorado, found a deserted mine and at the bottom of it was a large Newfoundland dog, a sheep and a bear. Each of them had fallen into the pit and was unable to get out. The bear was practically starved to death, while the dog and the sheep were fat and fine.

Carefully compiled statistics of the British Empire, compiled by a trade paper, bring out the rather startling fact that out of a population of nearly 400,000,000 about 48,880,000, or less than one-eighth, are of British birth and descent, nearly 4,000,000 are non-British white men, and the colored race numbers 343,000,000.

Rice forms a larger part of human food than the product of any other plant, being the diet of India, China, and the Malayan islands and occupying a place on the tables of 90 per cent of the inhabitants of the civilized world. One may safely venture the assertion that 800,000,000 people eat rice every day in the year.

The word "infantry" had its origin among the Spaniards in the war with the Moors, who so designated the body guards of the royal prince, or infant. It was extended to the entire body of foot soldiers and subsequently adopted throughout Europe.

It is estimated that there are 1,000 men and women employed to conduct summer vacation schools and play grounds in the province of Manhattan and the Bronx. Last summer over 100,000 boys and girls were in constant attendance.

In calling for Edgar S. Maclay's resignation, President Roosevelt is neither affirming or denying Maclay's historic version of Schley at the Santiago battle, but he is simply removing from the navy a man that will prove a disturbing element, whether what he said was or was not true. Maclay was removed on the same principles as was General Nelson A. Miles censured for commending Dewey for the stand he took in the court of inquiry. In other words, the President is washing the hands of his administration clear of the whole affair, which is right and proper.

The office of The Seattle Republican has been removed from 714 Third avenue to 1411 Third avenue. Notwithstanding this removal it has the same telephone number, and the persons wishing to do business with The Republica will do well to call it up by phone and a representative of the paper will call on you at once.

## BROTHER IN BLACK

### Under Critical Eye of Observing Men.

#### A WHITE MAN PARTY.

The announcement that Henry C. Payne, of Wisconsin, is to succeed Charles Emory Smith as Postmaster-General in President Roosevelt's cabinet will not be very interesting news to the Afro-American of the United States, for it was this same Mr. Payne that unblushingly said to the Afro-American contingency of the National Republican Central Committee at the close of the 1900 campaign, that a "white man's Republican party would be organized in the South, and that in future a policy would be carried out by the President of the United States looking forward to that end." It is claimed by leading Afro-Americans that the late President McKinley had begun just such a policy, and it is claimed that President Roosevelt is not wholly averse to it, but whether that be true or not, with Mr. Payne at the head of the Post Office Department, he will have ample opportunity to put into effect just such a policy as he declared would be put into effect under this administration. No man rules President Roosevelt except it be Theodore Roosevelt, but, as the head of one of the government departments, one man has plenty of chances to do many things detrimental to a certain element of the voters of this country if he so desires, and it is thought that Mr. Payne has the desire, and the President be none the wiser of what he has actually done.

#### THIS PAPER VERIFIED.

The Republican criticized, a few weeks ago, the participants in a debate which took place in Seattle last Thanksgiving Day, and for that criticism some of the participants in turn rather severely criticized The Republican. It was all done in a friendly spirit, however, and done for motives that it was hoped would prove beneficial to both the paper and the race. The facts as stated by The Republican were not denied by any of the participants, though they did claim that the paper was premature in bringing them out. Since that time, however, the editor of The Republican has read with much pleasure some comments made by the New York Journal along this line, which bear out the criticisms made by it some weeks ago. For the benefit of our readers the article from the New York Journal is herewith reproduced in full, and it is not only timely, but most instructive:

#### THE NEGRO'S OPPORTUNITIES.

(From N. Y. Journal.)  
Of all the grievances that distress ambitious Negroes the most galling is the disadvantage of their race in the matter of earning a living. None but mental positions are open to black men, they say. The Negro has no chance to be anything but a hewer of wood and a drawer of water.

There is something in that when the Negro looks exclusively to finding some white man for an employer. But why should a people ten million strong need to look for employers outside of itself? There are as many Negroes in the United States now as there were people of all colors in 1820. The average American in Monroe's time did not think it necessary to hunt an Englishman to give him a job.

The fundamental industry, especially for a race of primitive culture, such as the colored race is now, is agriculture. It contains the promise of complete independence. The thrifty colored man who owns forty acres and a mule is nobody's servant. He is infinitely freer than the white factory hand or clerk. He can bring up his children in the healthiest possible conditions. The only limit to his advancement is himself.

On this solid agricultural foundation can be built a substantial structure of dependent industries. Tussocks have shown how. The colored farmer must have his mules shod, their plows sharpened and their wagons tired. If they do not employ colored blacksmiths it will be either because they do not take the grievances of their race very seriously or because there are no competent Negro smiths to be found.

These farmers can furnish a market for the services of colored carpenters, ministers, physicians and storekeepers, and these people in turn can employ still others. There is every opportunity for the erection of a great self-supporting, self-respecting community, without depending upon the favor of the whites.

Of course, there will always be colored cooks, waiters, barbers and porters, but these employments may not be in the principal fields of Negro activity unless the Negroes wish them to be. There is no reason why the highest ambition of a bright colored youth should be to become a Pullman car porter. The road to independence is open.

Some employments open to white men are not very promising to black ones. Owing to the fact that the courts are generally in white hands, there may be a handicap on colored lawyers, but that can hardly be considered a calamity to the race, any

more than the slim pickings for colored politicians. There might be some obstacles in the way of a black man becoming a member of the New York Stock Exchange, but there is nothing to hinder his speculating in stocks and becoming a Napoleon of finance if he can. The wool of black lambs is appreciated as highly as that of white in Wall Street.

The paths of literary fame are open, as Mr. Paul Lawrence Dunbar has found. Negroes may start newspapers and magazines for people of their own race. They have a wider field to cultivate than the founders of the London Times and the Edinburgh Review had. Negro capitalists may accumulate wealth and invest it in great enterprises. They may build railroads, hotels, restaurants and theatres of their own, in which people of their race may be sure of the best accommodations.

In short, the future of the Negro is in his own hands. Whether the white man treats him justly or not he cannot be kept down unless he is willing to stay down.

#### TO ESTABLISH BANKS.

Mr. W. P. Pettiford, who is president of the Alabama Penny Savings Bank, located at Birmingham, has a most remarkable article in the Southern Workman, a publication issued monthly from the famous Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute for Negroes and Indians, which labors to encourage the establishing of small banking institutions in those cities and communities in the South where there are large numbers of colored folk, and he cites facts and figures to prove that it will be the strongest incentive for them to save their money and become independent citizens, the same as their white brethren, that could be put forth. At present there are only three such banking institutions in the South, and the results of their efforts towards inducing the members of the colored race to save their earnings and bank the same, are exceedingly flattering. In comparing cities that have no such banking institutions with the cities that have such, it shows a decided advantage in favor of the latter in the way of bank deposits on the part of colored folk over cities that have none. Says he: "Atlanta, with no such institution to stimulate its colored population to save, has only 1,000 colored depositors in the banks of that city out of a total colored population of 39,000, or one out of every thirty. Richmond, Virginia, with a thriving institution of this character, has 5,000 colored depositors out of a total colored population of 45,000, or one out of every nine. Birmingham boasts of 5,000 colored depositors (4,000 of whom deposited with the bank with which the writer is connected), out of a total colored population of 20,000, or one out of every four. These thriving Southern cities blessed with equal prosperity and promise, furnish convincing proofs of the great power exerted by such institutions." Here is another convincing proof of the facts advocated by The Republican in its criticism of one certain debate mentioned in another connection, and clearly demonstrates the fact that the citizenship of the colored man of this country is not a theory, but an actual fact and if he but grasp the opportunity he can use it to the best advantage to become as potential as any other distinct nationality in the land. Instead of the Southern white man opposing such legitimate and meritorious propositions, they should favor them, and offer them every assistance possible to keep them afloat. On this point Mr. Pettiford's own words are quoted: "The Birmingham Penny Savings Bank has enjoyed, ever since its establishment, the moral support and cordial good wishes of the white people of that section." He further quotes from the Charleston News and Courier, to verify the friendliness of the whites for such institutions: "The Negro with a bank account, with houses and lands and with education in the practical things of life is a far better citizen and saver, and a more desirable neighbor than the Negro who is steeped in ignorance, and has really no part in the life of his country." This shows that the whites, as a general thing, are equally as anxious as the Negro himself for the Negro to become financially influential and enjoy more than a mere life of wretched poverty.

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