

The Washington Times

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1903.

Hands Off in Venezuela!

This Government Cannot Afford to Help Either Castro or His Opponents.

The State Department contemplates, it is said, placing at the disposal of President Castro's administration gunboats to carry officers and crews with which to man the vessels which were captured by the Germans in the course of the recent blockade, and which are about to be turned over to President Castro's representatives.

We trust that nothing of the kind is contemplated by the State Department, or by anyone in authority. To make transports out of our gunboats would, under such circumstances, amount to taking an active part in the hostilities now being carried on in the soil of Venezuela between the followers of Castro and the adherents of Matos.

What business is it of ours to interfere by giving aid to either one or the other of the participants in this quarrel? It isn't so many years ago that we came near burning our hands very severely by mixing up in the internal difficulties of Chile. Our official sympathy for Balmaceda's cause was as openly expressed as our disapproval of the Congressional party's doings was ill-concealed.

Balmaceda sent a bullet through his head and the Congressional party signalled its accession to power by sending every prominent Balmacedist into exile. For years they made the case of the Itata a cause for grievances against the United States, and to the present day they probably have not entirely forgotten it.

If it be true that the English and Germans are secretly aiding the opponents of Castro—in fact they have been accused of "financing" the revolution—that's their business. It's not a very nice business, to be sure, but it is, at any rate, not ours. Let us keep our hands and our record clean. Our Chilean experience in the Harrison Administration should serve as a warning.

Hands off, and leave the Venezuelans to themselves in the settlement of their difficulties!

No Surrender to Quay.

Senate Republicans Should Not Bow to His Selfish Dictation.

The spectacle of the United States Senate held up in the performance of its duty and compelled through a night session to listen to the reading of the Constitution of Colombia and other irrelevant documents is not an edifying one.

This obstruction of legislation is the work of one man, Senator Quay. It is true that, on this occasion, Senator Morgan divided the responsibility with him. But Senator Morgan is a sincere opponent of the Panama canal. He had a clear right to make a final presentation of his arguments against that route and in favor of the Nicaragua project.

No one wanted to abridge his right. He might be tedious, but he was sincere. The Senate was prepared to listen to him at whatever length he might find it convenient to speak, and then to proceed to a vote.

But with Senator Quay the case was different. His is a rule-or-ruin policy. To promote projects of his own, and to force the Senate to vote on the omnibus bill, he has not hesitated to hold up all important legislation for weeks. He has loaded his bill on half a dozen appropriation bills, and is willing to cut off the supplies of the departments rather than lose his scheme.

Senator Quay has been rather conspicuously known as a party man. When his own interests were affected, as, for example, in the struggle over his re-election to the Senate in the Pennsylvania Legislature, he has insisted upon party obligations very strenuously. But again, he can disregard party obligations altogether. His hold-up of the Senate has been carried out by the aid of Democratic

votes, and in defiance of the recognized policy of the Republican party in the Senate.

If there is one course of action more than another to which American sentiment, without distinction of party, is committed, it is the building of an interoceanic canal. The treaty against which Mr. Quay filibustered opens the way to the realization of that project, which has been a dream of American statesmanship for half a century. But considerations of that sort do not appeal to Mr. Quay. His own projects are supreme.

This being so, the Senate should not hesitate or compromise with Mr. Quay, but should have it out with him to the end of the chapter.

Monsters of the Deep.

Huge Modern Liners Make for Safety as Well as Comfort.

Welcome to the Cedric, the leviathan of the seas! She measures 700 feet from stem to stern. The tops of her four funnels are 150 feet above the keel. And yet, so perfectly is she proportioned, so finely are her massive lines drawn, that she does not look her size, and it is difficult to understand what a mighty host she accommodates on her ten decks.

We have been told that two heads are better than one. This does not apply to steamships. One monster is far better than two or four of the smaller kind making up the same tonnage. These great modern twin screw Cedrics and Cedries, and the big vessels of other lines, make for safety in every way—safety for their own passengers and crews, and safety on the ocean highway, which, broad as it is, could easily be overcrowded. And what it gains in safety it does not lose in comfort. Quite the contrary. In all ways the modern vessel outstrips the old. We bid the new leviathan welcome.

Fixing a Silver Ratio.

Our Aid Asked to Establish a New Coinage Standard.

The Mexican and Chinese notes, which the President transmitted to Congress the other day, ask the cooperation of the United States in devising and recommending to the governments of the world a standard of coinage for the silver-using countries.

This is a matter of vital interest to Mexico, for two reasons; first, because she is one of the largest producers of silver, and secondly, because her own currency rests upon the silver standard and has been greatly deranged by the recent sharp decline in the value of that metal. China also has much at stake in this question, which has an important bearing upon her ability to fulfill her obligations to the powers. As to the United States, while our interest is less acute, our commerce in the East and the present unsettled condition of the Philippine currency make it impossible for us to be indifferent.

The Mexican note, which is practically identical with that of China, expressly disavows any intention of seeking the restoration of free coinage of silver by either the gold or silver-using nations, or of asking the United States to modify its present monetary standard. It frankly recognizes the fact that bimetallism, in the sense of a free coinage of both metals, has been definitely discarded.

The end sought is that the governments of gold countries which have dependencies where silver is used shall co-operate in formulating some plan for establishing a definite relationship between their gold and silver moneys and shall take measures to maintain such relationship. In other words, it is asked that some such policy as that embodied in the Philippine currency bill as passed by the Senate, whereby the ratio between silver and gold is fixed at 32 to 1, shall be extended by concert of action among the countries where silver is used.

The first step suggested to this end is the appointment of a joint commission representing the United States, Mexico, and China, to study the problem, devise a plan for a universal standard of coinage, and then lay the matter before the governments of Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and other powers which have interests in the East.

This seems rational and practical, and should not be confounded with previous movements for a general system of international bimetallism.

The Latest Invasion.

American "Quick Lunch" Ideas Have Captured the British Public.

Away with protocols! Awaunt matters of state and affairs of court! England has been invaded by the quick lunch. London is threatened with dyspepsia. The Britisher, who for centuries has waited for roast beef and roast mutton, is about to

know the mysteries of instantaneous griddle cakes and surpassing coffee.

The leisure of Johnny Bull is at an end. Henceforth he will come in out of the fog to find that Americans, having assailed all his other industries, are bent on conquering his cookery and taking possession of his stomach.

Free-Hand Comment.

What begins in Gretna Green often ends in South Dakota.

Again Chicago leads. An analysis of water from the famous drainage canal shows 1,800,000 germs to the drop.

"The grade crossing must go," is the fine conclusion of editorial writers everywhere. Why is it that this cry always follows a grade-crossing disaster and then is forgotten until there is another from which to draw the same wise conclusions?

Miss Jennie Logan, of Husterville, Ky., said "No" at the marriage altar instead of "Yes" and spoiled all the plans which had been made for her future happiness. And for once a woman's no was taken at its par value.

Oil has been discovered near Mountjoy Square, in the good city of Dublin. With some of the inhabitants to furnish the pepper and vinegar, these ought to be salad days for the former home of the Irish kings.

Pope Leo has just celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his election. It is a remarkable fact that although he was elected on account of his delicate constitution, and to conciliate factions temporarily, he has survived all but one of the electors.

No, it is no longer true, Colonel Ingersoll, that Washington is a "steel engraving." We read only yesterday that he weighed 209 pounds and had larger hands than any other man in the Continental army. The facts about him are coming out in the style of the baldest realism.

"I am firmly convinced," says William Jennings Bryan, "that during this generation no man will be selected to carry the banner who is not fully and completely identified with the platforms of the Democratic party on which the campaigns of 1896 and 1900 were fought." Poor Bryan—"still harping on my daughter."

Locomotive engine men running the fastest expresses appeared in Albany the other day to oppose bills providing for "three men in the cab" for locomotives. Their testimony is the testimony of experience and sanity, and that testimony is that they do not want divided responsibility or ornaments in the cab. It should have great weight with lawmakers.

The Talk of the Day.

The New York police have been asked to hunt for a dress-suit case, owned in Boston, which contains, or did contain, \$2,500 worth of jewels and bonds. This is indeed a surprise. Dress-suit cases in Boston usually contain intimate garments for the laundry.

A Boston woman, it appears, put \$3,000 in bills and diamonds into a handkerchief, which she tied about one of her legs, and then lost. It is well to cling to traditions. The proper receptacle for valuables is a tea-pot or a stocking.

Ralph D. Blumfeld, the London correspondent of "Town and Country," gives a pathetic sketch of the Duke of Orleans as he dries up and down Hyde Park, eager to be recognized. Fortunately for the Duke, Mr. Blumfeld, who takes his exercise occasionally in the park, is not a bit of a snob, and has no prejudices against jukes. "I myself," says Mr. Blumfeld, "have frequently felt sorry for him . . . and, merely for the sake of giving the man a moment's pleasure, have taken off my hat to him. My reward was in seeing his face, an exceedingly handsome one, light up with a smile." Here is an example for our young to memorize and follow. Wherever and whenever you see a juke, smile sweetly on him. It costs nothing, and you do a truly charitable action. It does not follow that you should become intimate with him if he should stop to enter into conversation, nor are you obliged to lend him a trifling sum.

Over 100 students of Syracuse University have signed this agreement: "We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to let our mustaches grow from date unless this promise is dissolved by mutual consent." Yes, but suppose, they will not grow? Mustaches are not to be forced by legislation or iron-clad agreements.

In spite of the objections raised against it by certain Parisians who find it vulgar and inartistic, the cakewalk is the rage in Paris. The most fashionable dancing academies are teaching it; it was danced lately at the military ball; and some believe that it will be seen at the next evening reception at the Elysee. A Paris journalist writes: "A distinguished and veteran vaudeville list has regretted in print that he was not born black, because the dream of his life would then be realized; he would be high time that some eminent specialist discovered the cakewalk germ; otherwise, the physical effects on the boulevard of swaying his shoulders and of trying to touch the small of his back with his head will be most lamentable. It is clear that the Parisian bow—that distinguishing mark of gentility—will have to be reinvented. It is hopelessly old-fashioned nowadays. The young man who could bow, double-jointedly, with a backward sweep of the head that would allow the hat to fall off by itself would achieve fame in a single day."

And another Parisian journalist prophesies dismally that Mounet Sully and Madame Bartet will yet be seen on the classic stage leading in a cakewalk between the acts of a tragedy by Racine. Such a diversion would help some.

IN THE COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD.

France Pays Her Chief Magistrates More Liberally Than We Do—Mistaken Criticism of President Roosevelt's Expenditures for Entertainment—The German Crown Prince to Live in Hanover—Guns and Flags Lost at Jena Returned to Prussia.

Presidential Salaries.

President Loubet, as chief magistrate of the French republic, receives a salary of \$120,000 a year and an additional year's annuity of \$120,000 as allowance for entertainment and what are described as "frills de representation"—that is to say, expenses which he would not be called upon to incur as a private citizen.

Besides this the government maintains and furnishes for his use the palace of the Elysee in Paris, the chateau of Rambouillet, the chateau of Compiègne, and the palace of Fontainebleau, besides a number of state game preserves. It keeps all these palaces in excellent repair, pays the servants and officials connected therewith, and relieves, indeed, the President of every conceivable expense.

If I mention this, it is in view of the discussion which has been raised in Congress with regard to the White House and the expenditures of its present occupant. President Roosevelt's salary and allowances amount to scarcely a fourth of the quarter of a million dollars received annually by President Loubet. Yet the United States is as great a power as France—perhaps a greater; the rate of expenditure is at least 50 per cent greater in this country than in the Land of Gaul, and the demands upon the purse of the Chief Magistrate of the United States are greater than those upon the executive at Paris.

American taxpayers have therefore no ground for complaint. To put it mildly, they get their President at a very small cost, and if he chooses to use the whole of his relatively small salary in entertaining and in dispensing hospitality at the White House, it should be a subject for congratulation rather than for criticism. Salaries such as those of the Presidents of the United States and of France, or such as the ones which the viceroys of India and of Ireland and foreign ambassadors receive, are paid to enable them to maintain the dignity of their office

in a manner befitting the prestige and grandeur of the government and of the nation which they represent.

Economies Justly Condemned.

When these salaries given for this specific purpose are hoarded they expose those who receive them to charges of indelicacy, and give just cause for censure and public ill-will. Indeed the chief cause of the unpopularity of Jules Grevy was the fact that he saved every penny that he could of his salary and allowances as President of the French republic so that when eventually he was compelled by public clamor to resign he retired into private life possessed of a large fortune, the result of his savings.

The conscientious man, however, the man who is possessed of a high sense of honor, uses his pay and allowances for the purpose for which it is given, and that is why Lord Dufferin, who had been in turn governor general of Canada, viceroy of India, and ambassador at St. Petersburg, Constantinople, Rome and Paris, found himself in straitened circumstances when, after having attained the age of three score years and ten, he retired from the service of his country, why Lord Pauncefote left his family far from affluent at his death, and why Marshal MacMahon retired from the French presidency a considerably poorer man than when he had assumed the office.

President Roosevelt in spending his modest salary in dispensing hospitality at the White House, and in maintaining the dignity of his office, shows that he is possessed of the same high-minded sense of honor and conscientiousness as the personages I have just mentioned. He uses his pay for the purpose for which he understands it to be given to him, namely, for "frills de representation," and in so doing is entitled to the commendation of his countrymen.

Prussia and Hanover.

Germany's young crown prince is to take up his permanent residence at Hanover. This has been officially announced, and the royal palace there, which has not been occupied, except for a few days at a time, since it was vacated by the late King George of Hanover, at the moment when he lost his throne in 1866, is now being redecorated, refurbished and given in order.

This news must be taken in conjunction with persistent reports to the effect that the crown prince is about to marry the second daughter of the Duke of Cumberland, and of Brunswick, Princess Alexandra, who is a niece of England's Queen and her godchild. It may be remembered that the late Prince Bismarck arranged the marriage of the present Kaiser with the daughter of the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein Augustenburg in order to reconcile the population of these annexed duchies to Prussian rule, and now a union between the young Crown Prince of Germany and the daughter of the ex-Crown Prince of Hanover would go a long way toward completing the reconciliation of the subjects of the old Hanoverian dynasty to the Kaiser's rule.

In fact with the young German crown prince and his Guelph consort established in the royal palace at Hanover and holding a court there once more, the old Hanoverian aristocracy which has always retained a certain amount of loyalty toward the Guelphs, would quickly gather round the young couple, resume residence in Hanover and revive the prosperity of the city which in former times was a national capital, but which during the last forty years has dwindled to the level of a mere provincial town.

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AS AN ENGLISH DIPLOMAT'S DAUGHTER SAW US.

The Hon. Maud Pauncefote on Washington Life and Washington Society.

actor of a village where everyone was known to everyone and each carriage was recognized, a luxurious town has grown up. Parties are no longer simple affairs. Nowadays, dinners are superb, French chefs, good wines, etc., are no longer the exception. Competent judges maintain that for the size of society the quantity of dinner parties is unequalled elsewhere. Certainly, the number of invitations for all is in excess of the capabilities of one evening.

There are fewer balls than in other places; this arises partly from the scarcity of young men, for as there is no business in Washington the sons, once grown up, are off to the centers where they can work, and the daughters remain. It is decidedly the American Elysium for elderly people, who elsewhere give up all going out to the young. Outside the town, however, are several golf clubs; and what with automobile, riding, and driving, the younger people are not to be pitied. They also have frequent young dinner parties for themselves, and except for the lack of dancing have no cause for complaint.

The Calling Mania.

Visiting has reached a great pitch in Washington, as everyone, both great and small, has a day. If the after-dinner visit is not made personally on the at-home day, the hostess regards her guest as very impolite. Whole streets are at home on certain days, which is very convenient, as one can pop into one house after another so quickly. Nearly every day of the year, from December to Lent is taken up by official recep-

tions, which almost anybody and everybody attends once during the season. Owing to the crowds the wives of Cabinet ministers, etc., are obliged to ask several ladies of their acquaintance to come and help them—that is, to stand about and talk to the strangers and to invite them to take tea. When invited for such purpose the lady comes very smartly dressed and without her hat, so that the stranger may see who are of the receiving party. If a hated or hated lady began a conversation without an introduction, perhaps the stranger might not like it. Travelers come from all States to Washington and make it their business to call on their Senator's wife, the Congressman's wife and all the Cabinet, so that among the receiving party they probably find people from their own town or State and do not feel lonely.

Life Here an Education.

In a new country these customs are all founded on common sense and have important reasons. American women are very quick to take hints to improve themselves. Take, for instance, a woman from the West or South, who has had no social training and who has become better off with time. She arrives at a hotel for a week and is permitted by custom to pay all these visits. She then probably for the first time sees afternoon teas, watches the manners and dress of the different ladies and looks at the pictures and different objects d'art, for most of the hostesses are exceedingly rich.

She goes home to "Idaho" with a much wider horizon than she had on arriving at Washington, and probably puts what is possible into practice at once. Supposing her husband eventually goes to Congress, it will be her turn to receive the stranger. In this land of possibilities a man may become a millionaire, a Senator, or even be elected President, and it is this which makes this wonderful people always on the lookout to improve and learn; their secret is that they are never satisfied.

The Terrors of Summer.

Though Washington is the Capital of the United States, it is a place with a "season," for after June the heat becomes so great that every person who can leave goes away. After the first frost is considered early enough to return. By the end of June the population has grown black, for nearly every white person has left, the intervening months are so oppressively hot and unhealthy as to prevent any desire to remain. The thermometer is always at the nineties, and frequently goes up to 105 degrees in the shade, with great humidity—a very depleting climate. However, since the era of bicycles, electric cars, and automobiles the first hot weather has lost somewhat of its horror. Nowadays the poorer classes can go seven miles into the country in almost every direction for 25¢ in the open car, as well as all over the town. The means of conveyance, so quick, so clean, so cheap, has enabled the builder to wave Aladdin's lamp over the hills—and rows of houses now stand where a few years ago forest trees brought nature almost to the confines of the city.

Captured Trophies Restored.

The Emperor, by the by, has received a very remarkable present from the reigning house of Bavaria. The first Napoleon, it may be remembered, was on terms of great friendship with the ruler of Bavaria of his day, whom he transformed from a prince elector into a king, and, after the crushing defeats which he inflicted upon the armies of the King of Prussia at Jena and elsewhere, sent a number of the guns, regimental flags and other military trophies which he had captured from the Prussians to Munich for safe-keeping until he had time to have them forwarded to Paris.

There they have remained ever since, as some of the most valued treasures of the Bavarian Army Museum. It was only on the occasion of the last visit of Emperor William to Munich that his attention was attracted toward them, and he manifested such an intense interest in them that the Prince Regent of Bavaria decided that he would present them to the Kaiser. Accordingly, these Prussian regimental flags, guns, etc., which have been for 100 years at Munich and are, I understand, to figure in the Hohenzollern Museum.

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Presidential Salaries.

President Loubet, as chief magistrate of the French republic, receives a salary of \$120,000 a year and an additional year's annuity of \$120,000 as allowance for entertainment and what are described as "frills de representation"—that is to say, expenses which he would not be called upon to incur as a private citizen.

Besides this the government maintains and furnishes for his use the palace of the Elysee in Paris, the chateau of Rambouillet, the chateau of Compiègne, and the palace of Fontainebleau, besides a number of state game preserves. It keeps all these palaces in excellent repair, pays the servants and officials connected therewith, and relieves, indeed, the President of every conceivable expense.

If I mention this, it is in view of the discussion which has been raised in Congress with regard to the White House and the expenditures of its present occupant. President Roosevelt's salary and allowances amount to scarcely a fourth of the quarter of a million dollars received annually by President Loubet. Yet the United States is as great a power as France—perhaps a greater; the rate of expenditure is at least 50 per cent greater in this country than in the Land of Gaul, and the demands upon the purse of the Chief Magistrate