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No Arms for Santo Domingo

Prevention Better Than Cure for the Evils of the Little Republic.

The Administration seems to have recognized the wisdom of withholding its protection from Americans supplying the Santo Dominicans with arms. President Roosevelt has been represented as being greatly annoyed by the islanders' unbecomable habit of fighting among themselves.

Most of the interference, actual or threatened, with American vessels has been due to the attempt of one party or the other to prevent its opponents from securing possession of munitions of war from this country.

This trade has been carried on openly. The names of steamers carrying shipments of arms, of purchasers and consignors have been published time and again. It must be said, in all fairness, that our American dealers in arms and shipping firms have observed the strictest neutrality in so far as they were always ready to do business with either side, or both sides, so long as they were well paid.

It has usually been considered the unalienable right of the nations of higher civilization to supply peoples of the tropics with powder and rum. So long as these agents of destruction worked only to the ruin and death of the inferior members of the human family, no great protest was raised.

Wealth and Conservatism.

Wealth as a Merit in Candidates for Office.

A curious idea is conveyed by a phrase in the letter of one of those citizens who used to call themselves "Veritas" and "Pro Bono Publico." He speaks of one of the possible candidates for the Presidency as a man whose wealth would naturally make him conservative, and who would appeal to the people on that account.

Evidently this means that if a man is rich he is to be regarded as a safe guardian of the rights of the people. The writer probably did not see his statement in just that light, but it could only have grown out of a half-conscious conviction that the "safest" man for high office is a rich man.

It is a queer development for the American people to have to acknowledge.

But is there a foundation for this conviction? Are our best men for office our rich men? Let us see.

An argument which might be used by an outsider is that if a man is already very rich he will have less temptation to patter with the rights of the people for a consideration. This is true up to a certain point; if a man is bitten with the madness for riches, and is poor, he is not a safe man to have in any office. He is not safe in any position where he can make money in illegitimate ways without being found out.

But the same sort of man, if elected to office when already rich, would be tempted to use his office not directly, but indirectly, to protect and increase his fortune. He would inevitably favor legislation and executive action which tended to make his interests safe, and to enlarge the circle of his power. He would discourage any action which worked against those results. He would consider the interests of the people who elected him only in so far as they were bound up with his own. The fiction of today is—and it is a very specious one—that the business interests of the people are so bound up together that what is good for one is good for all; that if the rich take care of their own fortunes they are doing the best thing

for the poor; that the poor ignorantly desire laws which would ruin their own interests along with those of capital. There is just enough truth in all this to make it plausible. It is true that the permanent interests of the whole country are pretty thoroughly mixed; but it does not follow that the temporary interests are. The factory-owners of the present generation can make more money, for a certain term of years, by working their employes so hard that they "use them up" than they could under humane laws which would permit the laborer to be reasonably comfortable. Of course, the reckless waste of men's strength, like the waste of the forests, makes a loss for somebody, in the end, and this loss falls partly on the successors of those responsible for the waste; but the unscrupulous man always adopts for his motto, "After me, the deluge."

The great Presidents have not been rich. Lincoln, our greatest thus far, was poorest of all. Immense wealth does not disqualify a man for office; but neither does it qualify him. His character, not his possession of a competency or a fortune, is the thing which counts. The question is not, Has he wealth? but, Is he seeking wealth?

Who Are They?

When the "Star" Denounces as "Conspirators" and "Assassins?"

A week ago yesterday our esteemed contemporary, the "Evening Star," solemnly delivered itself of one of its characteristic effusions. We say "characteristic," because it was bilious in temper and most decidedly constipated in style. Judging from the headline it was intended to be a plea in behalf of "fair play for the teachers." As a matter of fact, in wading through nearly a column, we were struck by its being more of a diatribe against some person—name not mentioned—who had presumed, actually presumed, to view certain things in a light different from that which the "Star" had graciously condescended to shed upon them, rather than a plea designed to be effective. In its wrath over such presumption the "Star" bankrupted its vocabulary of vituperation. It fairly foamed at the mouth, so to speak; it threw sundry rhetorical handsprings, and, in a final and supreme effort to deal damnation all around, demanded that the guilty wretch, or wretches, be "driven from their hiding places," "scourged pitilessly," and handed over, we presume, to the public executioner. At random we pick phrases like the following from the "Star's" article:

- "Evil and malignant slanders."
"Direct falsehood or lying innuendo."
"Malicious and lying assaults."
"Backbiting and slander."
"Spiteful scolding monger."
"Active and indeliberate scandal monger."
"A vile source of moral contamination in the community."
"Murderer of good reput."
"Venomous scandal mongering."
"Venomous and malignant slander."
"Deliberate, contaminating, demoralizing slander."
"Conspirators who treacherously and maliciously assailed individual reputation."
"Slenderous assassins of the city's good name," etc.

But we must stop. The extracts indicate sufficiently the highly inflamed state of our contemporary's "innards." We confess that it was with fear and trembling we took up on each succeeding day the task of perusing its contents. Another such explosion, and we felt we should be compelled to call on the fire department to put out the conflagration. But we have been disappointed—agreeably disappointed. Nothing has happened. The old familiar gloom has settled once more over the "output" of our neighbor's establishment, and "everything is quiet on the Potomac." "Nothing doing."

And yet we are not satisfied. We confess that for once we are "convinced by an overpowering curiosity. Who are these "slanders" and "conspirators" and "assassins," referred to in so mysterious a manner? The "Star" loudly declares that "the only just and effective way to check the inevitably resulting demoralization in the schools would be to drive from their hiding places and suitably punish conspirators who treacherously and maliciously assail individual reputation and the fair fame of the schools." With such noble sentiments The Times is in full accord. We have, in season and out, been in favor of turning on the light. Our readers, we feel sure, will bear us out in that. And though we can remember the time when the "Star" seemed in favor of keeping certain things dark, and fell to calling us names because we refused to enter into any such "disinterested and philanthropic" dark-lantern schemes, we bear it no ill will, but, on the contrary, extend to it the hand of cordial fellowship. We'll hunt together. "There is more joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth than over ninety and nine just persons who need no repentance."

Yes, by all means, let us "turn the rascals out," and "drive them from their hiding places." And, as an evidence of its sincere redemption, we now call upon the "Star" to turn on the light, not only by mentioning names, but also by informing the public what it knows, and what other people know it knows, about our public schools. Let there be no mystery, but only light, light, and still more light!

Study of Music in America.

Project of Making Music a High School Study.

The dearth of good music and musical talent in this country has been a fruitful source of speculation for a long time. In reply Superintendent Stuart says: "The Times asked Superintendent of Schools Stuart how parents might help teachers in the work of children in the schools. In reply Superintendent Stuart says: 'PARENTS can greatly aid the teachers in their effort to take care of the physical well-being of the child by visiting the school and observing for themselves the conditions under which the regular work is done. Our school house does stand invitingly open to everybody, and the teachers are glad to welcome all who come, especially the mothers. The responsibility for the child's right training should be divided in pretty nearly equal shares between the teacher and the parent, and each should be doing it in his own way. It is just as important for the teacher to know about the child's home life as for the parent to know about his school life.'"

HOW PARENTS MAY ASSIST IN PUBLIC SCHOOL WORK

By A. T. STUART, Superintendent of Public Schools of the District of Columbia.

The Times asked Superintendent of Schools Stuart how parents might help teachers in the work of children in the schools. In reply Superintendent Stuart says:

"PARENTS can greatly aid the teachers in their effort to take care of the physical well-being of the child by visiting the school and observing for themselves the conditions under which the regular work is done. Our school house does stand invitingly open to everybody, and the teachers are glad to welcome all who come, especially the mothers. The responsibility for the child's right training should be divided in pretty nearly equal shares between the teacher and the parent, and each should be doing it in his own way. It is just as important for the teacher to know about the child's home life as for the parent to know about his school life."

Far From Perfect.

"It is admitted that the graded system of schools is far from perfect, for too often the individual is lost in the mass; the talented child is retarded, and the dull child correspondingly pushed ahead beyond his abilities. This is chiefly because the teacher has far too many pupils to handle, and the adaptation of the required work to the needs of individual pupils implies, first of all, much smaller classes—not more than half the size of the present classes."

Dr. Eliot's Views.

"Dr. Eliot, of Harvard, has said, within a year that in the reform which seeks a diminution in the number of children given to any one teacher, we touch the most important subject of reform in the entire American school system. In the absence, however, of an ideal condition which makes individual instruction possible, it is evident that nothing short of the wise co-operation of parents with teachers in the study of the needs and capabilities of the child will prevent the harmful overstrain of the week. The teacher is the first to discover that a pupil is misplaced, and is unequal to the necessary tasks of the grade."

Buildings Better.

"I think there are comparatively few cases of nervousness among our children caused by the strain of school life alone. Where such nervousness or other physical weakness exists, it is well to seek for causes at home as well as at school."

Home study is not required until the sixth school year is reached. There is a constant change of occupation and a frequent breaking up of the school sessions by recesses; the conditions of light, heating, and ventilation have steadily grown better with the construction of each new school building, and now in our latest school houses the sanitary conditions are better than in very many homes.

Few Examinations.

"Examinations as the chief or only test of the pupil's advancement no longer prevail; more and more is measured by the same standard of his daily accomplishments, whether oral or written, whether with books or without them. Such examinations as are given are restricted to merely to aid the teacher in making up a fair estimate of the pupil's progress, and never as a final test of his success or failure. The element that inspires terror in an examination is that so much hangs on the issue, which makes of the solemnity of a death sentence on the one hand, or becomes a graceful gift of life on the other. Apart from the harm wrought by subjecting growing children to the examination as a convincing test of scholarship, it should be considered that an examination itself is, under the most favorable conditions, an inefficient instrument for the determination of mental growth, and is restricted to only to re-enforce and strengthen judgments obtained by other and better means—such as the cumulative daily work of the student from the beginning to the end of the year."

PLATT-ODELL FIGHT ABSORBS ATTENTION

Political Careers of Both New York Senators Believed to Be Hanging in the Balance.

New York State politics has jumped to the front as the most important topic of the moment in Administration circles.

It is recalled today that Senator Platt "dove" out at last. That is going a little too far. "Dove" I would say, but not "dove" yet. He's got lots of fight in him yet, mark my word. The odds are all against him, but remember he has won out many times before, in cases where his defeat was freely predicted. The main point to consider now is this: Has he waited too long to take the offensive against Odell? That's the question?"

Platt's Supreme Effort. It remains to be seen how many of the local leaders called to arms by Senator Platt will answer the roll call at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He will crack the whip and keep a keen eye for those who have helped to do the hard pulling in the past to come and put their heads back into the Platt machine collar. Odell is confident of winning out, and ex-Gov. Frank S. Black is understood by many to be slated for Dewey's place in the Senate. Rumor credits the so-called "Chauncey" with much uneasiness of mind as to the outcome. Consequently his efforts for the time being are expected to be in the midst of his admiring comments on Platt's record and other strategic points in the Empire State.

The states now read: For State chairman, Governor Odell in chief of Col. George W. Dunn, Platt's chief lieutenant, who last week refused to be sidetracked by an appointment from President Roosevelt to be secretary of the Territory of Arizona; for United States Senator, Frank S. Black, to succeed Dewey. Administration concern is centered in the power Platt may wield if defeated in his struggle for control of the State convention. The assistance felt by many Democrats that they can carry N. Y. for the national ticket next fall if any good New York man is nominated, has caused sober thought among Republicans, but they have felt equal confidence that a united party could pull through safely.

With a divided party, however, and Platt blaming Roosevelt for raising Odell to the State leadership, it is realized now that the present struggle in New York may be the forerunner of success or failure for party prospects, not only in the Empire State next fall, but in the nation. The local working by the Platt and Odell wings of the party and the forcing of the issue through the convention are regarded in many quarters as working together for the advantage of Grover Cleveland.

NEGLECTED CHILDREN AND THEIR PROPER CARE

Meeting to Discuss Subject Will Be Held in Carnegie Library.

Tomorrow evening there will be held a meeting in the lecture room of the Carnegie Library, at 8 o'clock, under the auspices of the Legion of Loyal Women. Mrs. Julia G. Burnett is chairman of the committee. The subject under consideration will be "The Needs of Neglected Children of the District, and Concerted Action for the Passage of a Law for Compulsory Education and the Abolishment of Child Labor." B. H. Warner, an honorary member of the legion, will preside. A carefully prepared leaflet will be distributed free to those present, and it will be found to be valuable for future reference. A comprehensive address on "Real Conditions and Proposed Remedies" will be delivered by Mrs. E. S. Mussey. Among other speakers who will participate will be the Rev. Wm. B. H. G. Pierce, pastor of All Souls Church; the Rev. Claudius F. Smith, pastor of St. Ignace; the Rev. John Van Schick, Jr., pastor of Church of Our Father; H. N. Couden, chaplain of the House of Representatives; Z. H. H. of the International Sunshine Society; C. F. Weller, of the Associated Charities; and the Honorable Board of Children's Guardians, Dr. Emilie Young O'Brien, and others.

THE TREASURY SURPLUS LESS THAN LAST YEAR

The Treasury surplus for the current fiscal year at the close of business yesterday amounted to \$6,531,738, as against \$11,291,289 at the same date in 1903. The excess of receipts over expenditures thus far in March is \$1,729,422.

Government receipts and expenditures yesterday were: Customs, \$14,671; internal revenue, \$73,939; miscellaneous, \$39,746; total receipts, \$123,347; total expenditures, \$11,600,000.

LOST LIFE IN FIRE.

GENEVA, N. Y., March 19.—Fire destroyed several buildings in the business section of this place. Inez J. Bonnell, a music teacher, who occupied a room in one of the burnt buildings, was suffocated. The money loss is \$25,000.

QUIT CLAIM BILL.

Among the bills signed by the President yesterday was the act to quit claim all interest of the Government in square 124, in this city, to Sidney Blocker.

GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE IN RAILROAD BUILDING

Expectation That It Will Be Extended to Capitalists Who May Construct Lines in the Philippines.

Secretary Taft is willing to have Congress guarantee railroad builders an income of 4 per cent on investments in railway property in the Philippines.

Railroad builders are holding out for a 5 per cent guarantee, and until an agreement is reached as to the rate to be offered there is little likelihood of railway construction in the insular possessions.

In addition to offering the guarantee of 4 per cent Secretary Taft is willing that all materials required for the construction and equipment of the railways shall be admitted to the Philippines free of duty, as was the case in Cuba at the time railway construction was encouraged by this country.

Encouraging Outlook.

Secretary Taft is much encouraged by the interest railway magnates have shown in the efforts of the War Department to encourage the building of railway lines connecting the agricultural districts with the coast, and believes there will be no difficulty in inducing capital to seek investment in Philippine railways which shall be regulated in a measure by the Philippine commission.

Sir William Van Horn, who is prominently identified with the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is interested in Cuban lines, recently stated he believed this Government will have no trouble in getting capital to invest in Philippine railways if the policy of the Government be as liberal as it was in Cuba.

NO HOPE FOR CREW OF BRITISH SUBMARINE

Search for Possible Survivors of, Run Down by Steamer, Continued Yesterday.

PORTSMOUTH, March 19.—Search for possible survivors of the British submarine boat A1, run down yesterday by the steamer Berwick Castle, continued today.

No hope is held out, however, that any of the eleven of the crew escaped. It is the general theory that the boat was turned over, that her gasometer tanks were upset, and all on board were suffocated by the fumes. Efforts will be made at once to raise the vessel, which lies at the bottom, her hatches battered and no breach in her hull.

The A1 was in command of Lieutenant Mansergh when she was struck. She was off the Nab Lightship, engaged in the maneuvers, and was lying in seven fathoms of water waiting the approach of a battleship. The Berwick Castle was bound from East London, South Africa. The loss of the submarine boat was not known for some hours after the liner had reported to the maneuvering fleet that she had struck a torpedo.

The officers of the liner say that they saw a glistering torpedo-like hull in the water, and it is supposed, therefore, that the submarine boat rose just before she was struck.

The officers of the fleet did not suppose for a moment that the submarine had been struck, and continued operations, expecting that vessel to reappear at some other point. Finally a search was made and the breaking of the waves revealed the presence of the ill-fated boat.

There is no doubt that all the members of the crew died in their steel tomb. It is presumed that the Berwick Castle, striking upon the torpedoes, the boat and spilled the gasoline in her tanks, rendering her helpless.

GETTYSBURG DEMOCRATS MEET IN HARMONY

GETTYSBURG, Pa., March 19.—The Democrats held their county committee meeting in the afternoon. W. P. Devine, chairman; C. W. Bucher, secretary, and Emory J. Plank, treasurer, were all elected by acclamation.

Delegates to the State convention are: Dr. B. K. Foreman, of Littlestown; E. N. Cashman, of York Springs; Albert W. A. Zeigler, of Gettysburg; George M. Neely, Fairfield. It was the most harmonious convention held here for years.

ALFRED CALDERON LECTURES ON PERU

Interesting Talk Before Geographic Society.

ILLUSTRATED BY PICTURES

Value of Panama Canal to This "Corner of the Earth" Shown to Be Enormous.

Alfred Alvarez Calderon, son of the Peruvian minister, gave an illustrated lecture on the subject of "Peru" before the National Geographic Society at Columbian University yesterday afternoon. The address was to have been delivered by Minister Calderon, but owing to slight indisposition he was unable to attend the meeting.

Value of Canal.

Greatest interest centered, perhaps, in Mr. Calderon's remarks concerning the Isthmian waterway. "The importance of the new route with the development of Peru can't be overestimated," he said, "for with the opening of the canal the country will no longer be a remote corner of the world. It will be the means of filling the country with immigrants, who will settle in the uncultivated regions and establish civilization, where wilderness has hitherto been. Now the country has an average of only four inhabitants to each square mile, leaving the greater portion of the rich forests and valuable mineral lands barren of inhabitants."

Trade With the United States.

Commerce between Peru and the United States will also be vitally affected by the canal, said Mr. Calderon, chiefly by reason of the establishment of competition for the transportation of products. Rates for the conveyance of freight between the two points, have in the past proved prohibitively against the canal route, the ships are compelled to take in reaching this country. The distance traversed by the vessels by way of the Strait of Magellan is over 5,000 miles, as against a direct route of 2,500 miles afforded by the Panama Canal. Interchange of products between the two nations is sure to follow, he said, and the benefit to both can scarcely be estimated.

Foreigners in Peru.

In referring to the policy of the Peruvian government toward foreigners, Mr. Calderon said no distinction was shown between immigrants and natives. Foreigners may take part in municipal government, and are open to receive the benefit of the land grant system which embraces the distribution of land in the forest region in pieces not exceeding five acres. Additional property is leased by the government at the rate of 50 cents an acre yearly, or bought at \$1 an acre. The forests are rich with rubber trees, and the production of the substance has proven a profitable business for the army of settlers.

Americans Are There.

Many Americans have taken advantage of the government's generosity, and it is no unusual thing to find a tiny settlement in the heart of the wilderness having the name of Washington, New York, Baltimore, or some similar name in the United States.

CONGRESSMEN TO VISIT THE FAR NORTHWEST

Large Party Expected to Leave St. Louis on May 18 for the Gold Fields.

If present plans are perfected, a large party of Senators, Representatives, and others interested in the Far Northwest, will leave St. Louis on May 18 for a trip through Alaska to the gold fields and spend the Fourth of July near the Arctic circle.

The special train will go from St. Louis almost due west to Denver, Colorado Springs, and Salt Lake City, and to San Francisco. While in San Francisco the members of the party will be received by Governor Pardee. A walk will be spent in southern California, and the start made from Seattle for the early part of June.

ARTHUR M. BEAUPRE OFF FOR NEW STATION

Arthur M. Beaupre, the newly appointed United States minister to the Argentine Republic, called at the State Department yesterday and said good-bye to Secretary Hay and Assistant Secretary Loomis.

Mr. Beaupre left Washington yesterday for New York and will sail today for Great Britain. He will be in London for three weeks and will then sail for Buenos Ayres, where he will succeed John Barrett, who was recently transferred to Panama.

IS EVANS RESPONSIBLE FOR BISCOE CHARGES?

"Service jealousy and personal malice" are the causes to which the friends of Paymaster Henry E. Biscoe, of the navy, ascribe the action against him which resulted in his trial by a court-martial, and sentence to loss of rank for "neglect of duty."

An appeal from the decision of the court-martial, which tried Paymaster Biscoe is said to be on its way to this country from the Philippines now.

It is intimated that Admiral Evans dislike for Biscoe is responsible for the charges against him.

MILLIONAIRE FOUND DEAD.

JANESVILLE, Wis., March 19.—Alton P. Lovelock, who was worth \$1 million, was found dead in bed yesterday. He was seventy-nine years old.