

"SCARE" PLEASES WAR DEPARTMENT

Officers Are Glad Public Knows the Unprepared Condition of the Army.

CONGRESS HAS BEEN WARNED

Progressive Republicans May Ask Hughes to Be Presidential Candidate—Democrats to Formulate Plan for Scaling Tariff Down Gradually.

Washington.—Members of congress made a brave effort to counterfeit astonishment when they were confronted with the report from Secretary of War Dickinson to the effect that this country is unprepared for war if it shall come. It was not as if they were not aware of the fact that the facts which Mr. Dickinson sent to congress would be made public and it was the public which made the members counterfeited astonishment, for the truth is that congress has known for three years that in the opinion of the army officers of the country, if conflict should come suddenly, the Japanese could take the Pacific coast, land an army on it and hold the section west of the Rockies for a long time before the United States could dislodge them.

There is a story back of all this. After the Spanish war there was founded in the war department a body known as the War College. The navy department has a similar organization. It is the duty of the officers connected with these colleges to study problems of war in connection with the possibilities of the United States and other countries. One of the problems had to do with a war with Japan and it did not take long to set forth evidence that the Japanese would have the best of it because of this country's lack of war material and of proper fortifications in the right places.

The committees of congress were told these facts privately and the members understood it thoroughly, but under the plea of economy and also under the plea that it was not to come, congress did not act. It felt, however, that it must express great surprise when the facts in the case recently were made public. In order that the public might be made to believe that the members had been negligent of their duties as they apply to the protection of our coast lines and our island possessions.

Spanish War a Severe Lesson.

The war department has in its memory the troubles of Spain and the days. Officers say that if this country then had been on an equal war footing with other countries, hundreds of lives would have been saved and with them millions of senseless property. Artillery went into Cuba with the old fashioned black powder while the Spanish batteries were equipped with smokeless powder. When Captain Capron's battery opened the battle in front of Santiago, the Spanish shells once made known to the Spaniards by the smoke which enshrouded it. The Spanish batteries replied, but as there was no smoke from their guns the American forces could not locate the enemy and, while the Spaniards gradually in order that business may adjust itself more readily to the changed conditions.

The Republicans say that the Democratic plan to reduce the tariff 10 per cent is a plan to reduce the tariff 10 per cent for the former put it, the Democratic party harbors within its ranks a good many protectionists who will attempt to save local industries from the action of the tariff. The Democratic leaders declare that before anything is attempted there will be unanimity in the ranks and that the Republican proposals will find themselves without honor. The Republicans are not unreasonable in their demand that it is not reasonable to pass on the merits of the proposal until the time comes for its fulfillment or its failure.

Washington Wants Canal Exposition.

The City of Washington wants to be named as the place for the holding of the great exposition which is to be given in celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal in the year 1915. San Francisco and New Orleans each claims to be named as the exposition city, and today in the capital the Democratic leaders declare that before anything is attempted there will be unanimity in the ranks and that the Republican proposals will find themselves without honor. The Republicans are not unreasonable in their demand that it is not reasonable to pass on the merits of the proposal until the time comes for its fulfillment or its failure.

Progressives Turn to Hughes.

The latest sharp political gossip in the capital has been to the effect that the Progressive Republicans are thinking of trying to induce the Supreme Court by President Taft to name as the presidential candidate in 1912. It is barely possible that the Progressives who have this in mind think that Justice Hughes, without giving direct assent thus early, might be inclined to consider the proposition a little more readily because it is said that he feels some resentment because he was not appointed to the position of chief justice of the Supreme Court by President Taft. There seems to be a partial belief in Washington that the justice was given to understand that he was to succeed Chief Justice Fuller.

There are several reasons advanced by the men who are talking about the presidential candidacy of Justice Hughes, though admittedly talking it in whispers, for the seeming political wisdom of putting him into the field. The Republicans have sharp knowledge of the fact that Justice Hughes is in their party and they think that New York's former governor would command all the votes of Progressive and insurgent Republicans and the votes of many of the conservatives. Moreover, they hold that he would receive the support of thousands of voters who admire him and

INDIAN OF THE FAR NORTH

For Six Months of the Year a Veritable Vagabond, but Never Unhappy.

In the first place, the Indian of the far north is one of the most honest and loyal-hearted fellows on the face of the earth, and, unlike most other Indians, he is a lover of home and of wife and children. At the same time he is, during a half of the year, one of the most veritable vagabonds. It is in the big Northland for instance, the trapper comes in with his furs early in the spring, and brings with him his wife and children and the dog. He has had a successful season he is, for a few days, king among his kind. He decks his family out in a price-like style, and, in spite of all the arguments that the fact can bring against him, he persists in getting rid of his money. He spends his money at Monte Carlo. He lives near the post during the warm months, along with scores of other of his people. The big outside wilder-

ARE WE FREE PEOPLE?

CENTRALIZED POWER AN ENCROACHMENT ON LIBERTY.

While We Are Guaranteeing Liberty of Other Peoples, Why Not Guarantee Our Own—Hope in Democracy.

At the isthmus President Taft assured the inhabitants of Panama that the United States would guarantee their liberties. He spoke for the American people as well as for their government. While we are thus guaranteeing freedom to others, how is it with ourselves? Are we as free today as we were fifty years ago?

So far as legislation is concerned, negro slavery, the greatest of modern wrongs, was abolished by a three-line addition to the constitution. Like the white people, the blacks were freed when that amendment was adopted in 1865 that they have ever since. Excessive lawmaking, especially excessive lawmaking at Washington, where centralized power is always eager for new conquests and nearly always reckless of personal rights, cannot fail to encroach upon true liberty. Democracy and imperialism will make.

One of the surest tests of wise lawmaking is its effectiveness. Judged by this standard we accomplish little. By one legislative act, probably uncalculated in the first place, we make necessary for other acts, and finally whole sections, interests, and classes, become conscious of interference and perhaps of oppression.

To create new offenses in morals, industry and commerce that are difficult to prove and then by vexatious and costly espionage to add greatly to official power and expense is a favorite method with those who would govern too much. To establish selfishly an injustice or an inequality of some kind, like the extortionate tariff, and then attempt by additional laws to cure the worst of its corrupt manifestations is another. To increase expenditures so that many new forms of taxation must be resorted to is still another. Every tax that is wasteful abridges popular rights in more ways than one.

Clark Warns Tariff Scheme.

Champ Clark, Democratic leader of the house of representatives and who almost unquestionably is to be the next speaker, is watching the tariff scheme of the Republicans to get together on tariff commission legislation. Through his political and personal friend, Representative Underwood of Birmingham, Ala., who is a member of the tariff commission, Clark has followed closely the deliberations of the Republicans on that committee during the last few days.

The Democratic leader, his friends say, is alive to the seeming political advantage of the Republican plan. If they succeed in enacting tariff commission legislation which will suit the people and let them feel definitely that the ultimate desire is to make the tariff a business proposition.

Democratic Scaling Plan.

The Democrats shortly will hold a conference and when they get together it is believed that they will formulate a plan to scale most of the tariff down to 10 per cent. The rate, thus reaching by 10 per cent stages a schedule of duties which they think will put the customs upon a basis of tariff for revenue only. In other words, it is believed to be the Democratic plan to scale the tariff gradually in order that business may adjust itself more readily to the changed conditions.

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Beyond Price.

Precious beyond price are good resolutions; valuable beyond price are good feelings.—Hawes.

Money Love.

Money love hath this likeness to any other love. Fused to the object, it can be infinitely tyrannical; dissolved and then all its power of self-interest.—L. Wallace.

JERSEYMAN AND A SHADOW

Drinks Too Deeply at Fountains of Republican Spellbinders and Files in Terror.

A New Jersey Republican, discouraged by the elections result, announces his residence for sale and announces his purpose of spending some years in England. In his opinion, the people of this country are booked for a long time in the near future. He sees the triumphant party "unkinking with the tariff," upsetting budgets and throwing things generally into confusion. He will flee from the storm, and remain abroad until it is over and calm once more reigns in America.

Evidently here is a man who during the campaign drank too deeply at the fountains of his party's spellbinders. He accepted all they said too literally and seriously. He probably lacks experience in practical politics. Spellbinding is a recognized industry, and no party could afford to do without it; but even in its best estate its predictions and maledictions about the other side must, for safety's sake, be liberally discounted by the reflecting measure of the Republican stumpers. He has described, or, for that matter, has logically grown out of the deliriums of some of the Democratic leaders in times past, there might be such a commotion in the business world as this Jerseyman fears.

Too Ardant a Lover.

Georgio Fontano, an embroiderer who lives in the Rue Sevres in Paris, has been arrested for what seems to her a harmless act. She was going home from a concert a few evenings ago when she decided she would like to see her fiance. As she happens to live in a tenement, it occurred to her it would be very easy to summon him to her side by breaking the glass of the fire alarm and sounding the alarm.

She did so and in a few moments fire engines came from several directions, all laden with firemen, of course, but alas! her fiance was not among them, and more than that all the firemen were angry, and before she knew what had happened she was taken to a magistrate, who proceeded to make the course of true love run unsmoothly by sending her to prison for a month on the ground that she had broken the glass of the fire alarm and that she thought it would be a simple way of bringing her fiance to her side.

Two Very Old Ladies.

We have heard a great deal lately about long-lived people, but it is probable that the oldest two people in the world today are Frau Dutkevitz and another old lady named Babavalka. The former lives at Posem, in Prussian Poland, and was born on February 21, 1785. She is therefore one hundred and twenty-five years old. The latter, however, is nine months her senior, having been born in May, 1784.

Reciprocity and Common Sense.

The people of the United States are ambitious to trade over a large area of the world. They are not content with the affairs of the whole of the British empire, it would be their interest to help maintain the empire in its integrity. I believe that the beginning of this much desired end is a trade alliance with the United States and the Dominion of Canada. We have ourselves seen the benefit of free and unrestricted trade over an area of three million square miles. If Canada be joined to us we shall have a trade area of six million square miles. The British empire were added, we should have a trading area of fourteen or fifteen million square miles. It is likely also, that other countries of Europe will be glad to join such an alliance, the beneficial effects of which, if properly managed, will be incalculable, perhaps, be better imagined than described.

If the people of Canada are now prepared to co-operate with the people of the United States in bringing about such a condition as that I have mentioned, they will not only do themselves material benefit, but they will likewise be benefactors of the human race.

For Senators by Direct Vote.

The Democratic national platform of 1909, 1904 and 1908 each contained a declaration in favor of the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. That public sentiment in support of this project has been steadily growing in the past ten years is undeniable. In the next Congress the house of representatives will be fully in the control of the Democrats, and the senate will be so constituted that a majority can be easily commanded by them upon any proposition which could be supported by the progressive wing of the Republicans. Of course, a majority is not two-thirds, but the time will have arrived when a proposal to submit to the states, by constitution, the amendment providing for the direct election of senators by the people will be in all ways opportune. Indeed, if the amendment were put forward by the Democrats, the Republicans in the senate could not oppose it without furnishing to the other side a very acceptable bit of campaign material for the impending presidential campaign. Campaign pledges, the merit of the case, and calculations of party expediency, therefore, all conspire to point to this move as part of the coming program of the Democratic party. In the meanwhile, it is not untimely to mention that the Rochester platform declared for popular election of senators, and that the party has an opportunity of acting in the spirit of that declaration without waiting for a constitutional amendment. This the Democrats in the legislature can do by choosing for United States senator the kind of man whom public sentiment will approve as fitted for this high post.

Words Carry No Conviction.

If my career, if my life means anything, it means that I never say anything of senators, and that the party has an opportunity of acting in the spirit of that declaration without waiting for a constitutional amendment. This the Democrats in the legislature can do by choosing for United States senator the kind of man whom public sentiment will approve as fitted for this high post.

Was Superfluous.

Petroleum and its products are among our chief exports. We not only produce far more than we consume, but supply a great part of the world, competing even with the Russian and the American. It is not to them, by reason of the superiority of the American processes of refining and American business organization. Even with this world-wide market, the Standard Oil company has nearly a year's surplus supply now in store, and the idea that a duty upon imaginary and impossible imports would make any difference to it or to Pennsylvania oil producers is wildly absurd. This duty has been proposed, abolished, because it is in every sense superfluous.

Never Feel Comfortable.

It is hard to believe, though that Senator Aldrich's chair in the senate will ever feel comfortable with Mr. La Follette in it.

Never Feel Comfortable.

The Republican state committee of Rhode Island indorses Aldrich's choice for his successor. The hope that Aldrich would cease to run things seems to have been a lovely mirage.

Mistletoe Is Dangerous.

Few people who know mistletoe only as a desirable feature of Christmas decorations understand that the plant is a parasite dangerous to the life of trees in the regions in which it grows. It is only a question of time, after mistletoe once begins to grow upon a tree before the tree itself will be killed. The parasite saps the life of the infected branches. Fortunately, it is of slow growth, taking years to develop to large proportions, but when neglected, it invariably ruins all trees it reaches.

English Women Smoke Pipes.

The latest fancy of the woman-smoker is a pipe—not the tiny affair that suffices for the spouse, but a good-sized brier or a neat meerschaum. The pipe is boldly carried along with a gold case and chain-purse. For some time now the cigarette has been the fashion, but small in size and mild in quality. Women said they were tired of the cigarette, and wanted a bigger smoke.—London Mail.

Cripple Rides Bicycle.

George Anstey, aged 12, a cripple, of Leicester, England, is one of the most remarkable cyclists in the country. Both his legs are withered and paralyzed. A municipal official, Cripples' Guild has provided him with a two-wheeled pedalling machine, with a padded tube covering the axle bar. Across this he lies face foremost, and with wooden clogs strapped to his feet, he pedals himself along the streets and roads in a marvellously rapid manner. He has complete control of the machine, his hands acting as pedals, steering gear, and brake combined.

Planting Wedding Oaks.

Princess August Wilhelme, wife of the Kaiser's fourth son, set herself the task of reviving one of Germany's oldest customs, that according to which newly wedded couples immediately after the marriage ceremony plant a couple of oak saplings side by side in a park or by the roadside of their native town.

An Unnecessary Confession.

A heavy jailer was once engaged at the Birmingham police court by a prisoner who gave himself away in a very delightful manner. The man was the first on the list, and the charge against him was merely one of being drunk and disorderly. He stepped into the dock, however, just at the moment when the dock officer was reading out a few of the cases which were to come before the court that morning, and a guilty conscience apparently led him to mistake these items for a list of his previous convictions.

Blaming Americans for Lack of Politeness.

All the Mexican correspondents who have written on the subject of why Americans are not better liked by Mexicans agree that it is largely a question of a lack of politeness on the part of the foreigner here, and in some cases an ill-concealed contempt. The latter is inexcusable, and certainly must emanate only from ignorance or poorly educated persons, from which no nation is free. Politeness, however, is largely a matter of form and training. It is undeniable that the Anglo-Saxons do not excel in the art of expressing thanks and appreciation, are simpler and shorter than the Latin forms. To many who have all their lives been accustomed to the briefer Saxon ways, an attempt at the more elaborate Latin manner seems, for them, nothing short of affectation, and they simply cannot do it. There are exceptions among Americans and Englishmen who, readily with the more elaborate Latin manner, they are the exceptions. And it is difficult to see how this can readily be changed. 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