

# The Democrat.

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## THE INTERESTS ALL ON LORIMER'S SIDE.

In the upheaval last November, "the interests" lost heavily in the upper House of Congress. They lost Buckley of Connecticut, Hale of Maine, Depew of New York, Dick of Ohio, Keane of New Jersey, Scott of West Virginia, and Elkins of the same state, by death. To offset some of these losses, a great effort was made to induce the democrats of Ohio to elect McLean to succeed Dick, and the democrats of New Jersey to elect Smith to succeed Keane. In both of these attempts "the interests" signally failed, but they still hope to elect an interest-serving democrat to succeed Depew in New York and a republican of that stripe to succeed Dooliver in Iowa. They have also informed their agents in the senate that Lorimer must retain his seat. The forces of greed and graft are fighting a losing battle, but they vigorously contest for every advantageous position. They fear more than all else the election of senators by a direct vote of the people, or a primary law which gives the people direct control in the selection of senators.

The agents of the steel trust, and the lumber trust, and the copper trust, and all the other big and little trusts, are jumping into their collars and pulling like draft horses, to hold Lorimer in his purchased senatorial seat. And a few democrats (D. Bailey are members of this trust-combine team. If "the interests" can combine their forces whenever necessary, the people must unite their forces also, if they hope to successfully protect their rights.

## KINDNESS MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD KIN.

"Good morning Mr. President."  
"Good morning Mr. McQuade."  
Many mornings since Mr. Taft became president of this great country, the above greetings were exchanged between him and Secretary Dickenson's coachman.

Several days ago the coachman, Edward McQuade, was killed. He drove his runaway team into a steep bank, thereby saving the life of Secretary Dickenson's three-year old daughter.

The President and Mrs. Taft attended the funeral of the man, who gave up his life to save the life of a child entrusted to his care. They occupied an ordinary pew and came and went unattended the same as the members of the coachman's family.

The stations in life of these two men could not be further apart, but they had exchanged kindly greetings until their feelings had become akin to the feelings of brotherhood. Kindness toward a fellow mortal produces in the heart of a president the same emotions as in the heart of the humblest citizen.

This country's star of progress will retain its ascendant place while men of big, kind, humanity loving hearts are intrusted with the highest offices in the land.

President Taft, when he turned aside from pressing cares and state duties to attend with his wife the funeral of a humble citizen, he presented a picture of kindness and humanity and genuine democracy not to be seen in any other country in the world.

Governor Carroll did not help his own political future a little by vetoing the measure commonly called the Oregon primary law. Every trust and every special interest is opposed to the Oregon primary plan, because it prevents them from purchasing seats for their agents in the United States Senate. When Governor Carroll used his veto power to promote the interests "of the interests", he misrepresented the people of Iowa. His reasons for so doing were worse than silly; they were ridiculous, and have made Iowa's Governor an object of ridicule in all sections of the country.

The democrats passed the Canadian reciprocity bill in the House, and if it passes the senate, it will be passed in that body by democratic votes. All the democratic members of the House except five voted in favor of the bill, while a majority of the republicans voted against it. If Canadian reciprocity proves popular, as we believe it will, the democrats will be entitled to credit for the close commercial relations which it will establish between this country and its neighbor on the north.

At this writing it looks as though "the interests" would be able to keep Lorimer in the United States Senate, if a vote can be procured before the close of the present session of congress which ends on Saturday of this week.

## JUST A RUNAWAY.

When we read that the Hon. Champ Clark, who joyously referred to the annexation of Canada, and was surprised to find that embarrassing remark pinned as an uncomfortable exhibit to the reciprocity documents, has proceeded, undeterred, to pronounce the Jeffries-Johnson fight a "great and scandalous fake," we are seized by a shrewd suspicion.

Mr. Clark must have been practicing with the team of Missouri mules he is under contract to drive to the capital when he takes office as speaker. Now they are running away with him. This discovery only increases our apprehension. Mr. Clark already has run over the reciprocity agreement, and he has dashed into a group of our most prominent publicist gentlemen. The ambulance is picking up the survivors. Will some one kindly assist the German potash question out of the way? And wheel the infant "Canal Fortification" into the nearest protecting doorway? And help Mr. Cannon up the lamp post on the corner? And run into the house with that scuffling brat, "The Galapagos Island"? And give an arm to that timid and near sighted old lady, "The Japanese War Scare"?

Then if patriotic persons will head the mules off the White House lawn, we must be content to take our chances until the team runs itself down, meanwhile suggesting that Mr. Clark get an automobile.—Chicago Tribune.

## TAXATION OF MORTGAGES.

The proposition of providing a just system of taxing money loaned on real estate and of providing an equally effective and agreeable method of collecting the tax is now before the legislatures of several states. The repeal of the tax-ferret law in this state will place Iowa face to face with the problem for without the tax ferret law the present system allows much money to escape taxation entirely. The following from the Chicago Tribune furnishes some valuable suggestions.

It is to be hoped that the legislature will waste no time over the proposition that the owner of mortgaged real estate shall be relieved of the tax on that part of the value of his property represented by the lien and that the mortgage holder should pay the tax on it. This is an expedient which has been tried in many states and has failed in all.

The lender has shifted the tax back to the borrower in one way or another. The borrower has invariably had to pay an interest rate enough higher to make good to the mortgage holder whatever tax he might have to pay if the assessor were to run him to earth. That is what the assessor generally falls to do.

The Illinois legislature ought to understand that there is but one way to get more revenue from real estate mortgages than the infinitesimal amount now obtained. That is to abandon the attempt to make the general property tax apply to them. That has been done in New York, a small tax being collected when a mortgage is recorded, with future exemption from taxation. Now the state gets from mortgages seven times as much as it used to.

## A POOR REASON FOR A VETO.

Chicago Record Herald.

The governor of Iowa gave a very flimsy and far-fetched reason for his action in vetoing the so-called Oregon senatorial plan bill. He says that it is a plain violation of the federal constitution to ask candidates for a state legislature to make any declaration or take any pledge with regard to United States senatorships.

How a state statute which provides for action that is only morally binding on the part of those who take it, and which requires no one to do anything beyond stating his purpose with reference to something done by the voters themselves, can "violate" a federal provision relating to legislative functions, it is rather hard to make out. Besides, the Oregon plan is in force in that state, and while it had many opponents no one challenged it in the courts. There is no way in which it can be challenged—a sufficient refutation of the assertion as to its flagrant unconstitutionality.

Furthermore, what of the "unconstitutional" nomination of presidents by conventions and parties, and the placing of presidential names on ballots? The constitution established electoral colleges, and knows nothing about conventions of popular nominations. Would Governor Carroll revert to the electoral college as originally conceived?

**NOT SCARED.**

The Iowa Wholesale Butter and Egg Dealer's Association met at Des Moines last Tuesday and did not go on record against reciprocity with Canada. They said Canada produced eggs only a few months in the year and did not have the grasses with which to produce fine grades of butter. The fear that reciprocity with Canada will ruin the Iowa farmer seems to be confined to the politicians who offer him salvation in exchange for his vote.—Globe-Journal.

## GOOD RESOLVES.

To keep my health!  
To do my work!  
To live!  
To see to it I grow and gain and give!  
Never to look behind me for an hour!  
To wait in weakness, and to walk in power;  
But always fronting onward toward the light,  
Always and always facing toward the right.

—Charlotte Stetson Gilman.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

## SPECIAL WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

By Clyde H. Tavener.

Louis R. Glavis has been vindicated in a speech made in the lower hall of Congress, and his vindication has gone into the Congressional Record, there to remain for all time as a tribute to his honesty and patriotism.

Nearly every reader of this article will be able to recall the name of Glavis. He is just a young man. He was once upon a time a special agent under Secretary of the Interior Ballinger.

Because he did his duty, saving valuable coal lands in Alaska from falling into the hands of J. P. Morgan, the Guggenheims and others, he was arbitrarily, summarily and without hearing dismissed from the government service. This was his reward for saving to the people some 33 coal claims containing by actual survey approximately 66,000,000 tons of coal.

President Taft, United States Attorney General Wickersham and Secretary of the Interior Ballinger intended this boy's dismissal should carry with it disgrace. Perhaps his punishment was intended as a warning to other employees of the government not to interfere with the carrying out of policies approved by the head of a department.

Glavis took his punishment, and is now running a little fruit ranch out in the state of Washington. Perhaps he feels his efforts were not appreciated. He would not have thought so, however, if he could have been in the gallery of the House of Representatives when Judge James M. Graham delivered his speech on the Ballinger investigation. The Illinois member paid high tribute to Glavis.

"When this story opens Glavis was only a young man—only 24 years old," said Judge Graham. "He had no ax to grind, no enemies to punish, no friends to reward. He had instructions to guide him in his work. He believed they were given seriously. He is by nature serious and matter of fact. He is not endowed with much imagination, but he has an abundance of courage, intelligence and sterling honesty. He was convinced these claims were in fraud of the law, and hence a fraud upon the people."

"A whole corps of his superior officers tried to shake his purpose, but in vain. Losing faith in the good intentions of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, he appealed to his friend Schwartz and to the Secretary of the Interior. All stand arrayed against him. What shall he do? He knows the value—the enormous value—of the property which is about to be fraudulently taken from the people. He wants to prevent it, but he finds the whole department with which he is connected against him."

"Finally he turns to the forestry bureau for assistance. There he finds he finds a different standard of public morality prevailing. He finds them as faithful as the others seem faithless; the one alert to serve the people, the other to serve the syndicate; he finds the difference between active, aggressive, militant, public honesty, and that pretense of patriotism which appeals to the weaknesses and prejudices of the people while it exploits them; in short, the difference between Gifford Pinchot and Richard Ballinger."

"There are many ways of manifesting courage. The world has celebrated in song and story the courage of men who in the clasp of war and the excitement of battle have marched face to face with death, and I would not pluck a single laurel from their brows, but I tell you there is a kind of courage higher even than that, the kind that stands alone, unaided for months and even years, facing great odds, facing great loss, facing the loss of friends, the loss of place and of prestige, and yet stands ever solidly for duty and for that which is right, simply because it is right. That is the highest courage, and that is the kind of courage shown by this young man Glavis."

**The Lorimer Case.**

Some able arguments are being made in senate in favor of Lorimerism. The pro-Lorimer speeches, however, sound much like the pleas made by the great corporation lawyers. The senators who are urging Lorimer's retention find technicalities in the law, and turn them in favor of special privilege, instead of in favor of the people. Query: How does it come that no one ever finds a technicality in the statutes which can be turned in favor of the public interest, and against corruption?

**Magazines Will Win.**

Postmaster General Hitchcock has virtually abandoned his fight upon the independent magazines of the country. If Congress had adopted his plan of increasing the magazine rate from 1 to 4 cents a pound many of the popular independent magazines would have been driven out of business. Hitchcock's explanation of the proposed increase was that he wished to reduce the postal deficit. Only two weeks before he announced his attack on the magazines, however, the Postmaster General advocated the passage of the "ship subsidy grab" bill which provides for the donation of \$4,000,000 every year to private ship owners, the \$4,000,000 to come from the profits of the foreign mail division of the postoffice.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has had bad luck with nearly all of his so-called economy plans. He proposed to save money by making the railway mail clerks work overtime, and by reducing the force in the face of increasing business, but the mail clerks, like the magazines, have made such a protest that the Postmaster General has in each instance been obliged to run to cover.

**Lorimer Committee Censured.**

The committee which investigated the Lorimer scandal and returned a report exonerating him, has been censured in the speeches of Senators Owen, Bristow, Cummins, Root, Bur-

ton and others. The senate instructed this committee to report to the Senate "whether corrupt acts or practices" were used in the Lorimer election. Being unable to report that "corrupt acts or practices" were not resorted to, the committee evaded by disregarding the instructions of the senate.

## DES MOINES LETTER.

To gratify the ambitions of School Text Book companies who seek to further their own commercial interests regardless of the cost to others, a bill has been introduced in both branches of the Iowa legislature providing for a radical upheaval and reorganization of present school laws at a cost of at least One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars, (\$120,000) per year to the taxpayers. This bill is known as Senate File No. 48 by Senator Daniel C. Chase of Webster City, and House File No. 66 by Representative Arthur Pickford of Nora Springs.

The purpose of the bill is cleverly disguised and might easily be passed if those who are to suffer from its provisions are not on the alert. Political devices such as are known to the School Text Book companies are being worked and pressure is being brought to bear to gain the endorsement and support of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, A. M. Deyoe. The bill, however, is not approved by leading educators, familiar with its object, for a similar bill was offered two years ago in the legislature and was defeated.

The bill provides for the creation of a County board of education, which is a bold step toward the centralization of power. This board, the measure provides, shall consist of the County Superintendent and four members to be elected "at large" in the county. To this board is given the power to decide all disputed of school boards; to determine rights of pupils; to control consolidation of school districts, to establish and dictate the "standard" heating, lighting and ventilation; to have charge of school enumeration; to adopt and purchase school text books; to enforce laws affecting public schools; to act as arbitration board in settling questions between patrons and school boards relative to transportation and transfer of pupils, etc.

The bill provides for the appointment of a secretary at a salary of \$900 per year by the County Superintendent—another step toward centralization of power in one man. The board members for each county are allowed a salary of approximately three hundred twenty dollars, (\$320.00). Accordingly it is readily to be seen that with the additional nine hundred dollars secretary's salary the newly created expense to the various counties of the state would be at least One Hundred twenty thousand dollars, (\$120,000.00) a new burden for the taxpayers merely to gratify the ambitions of certain publishers of school text-books which to dispoose of their products.

The power of purchasing text books for the county is given by the present law to the County Superintendent, County Auditor and Board of Supervisors, which act without extra cost to the taxpayers and do not rob the rural school township trustees and independent school districts of their home rule.

The proposed bill would leave every rural township and independent school district in the county without direct representation and, the members being elected at large, it would be but the matter of a short time that the members would all be elected from the populous towns in the county leaving the country districts without representation whatsoever.

This bill, if enacted, would force county uniformity of text books in all rural public schools, independent districts and townships, with the new board as judges of the school text books. Under the present law it is optional with the school trustees of the numerous districts throughout the county whether or not uniformity shall be adopted a veritable home rule policy.

This bill is such a bold step toward the centralization of power that township boards would be told what kind of a school building they must erect, what make of heating apparatus they must buy, what the rights of the school pupils are, how districts shall be consolidated, etc.

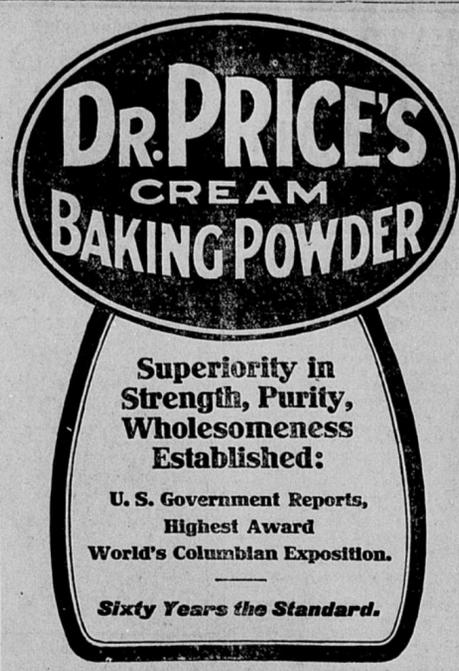
One member of the senate committee on schools to which it was referred favors an amendment providing for the appointment of the county board by a district judge instead of the election of such. This would remove the control of the schools entirely from the hands of the people, residents in the smaller school districts not even having a vote on the members.

Already members of the legislature are in receipt of letters and petitions from their constituents opposing this drastic school measure.

J. S. Woodhouse.

## POLITICS IN THE POST-OFFICE.

The glaring impropriety of turning over the management of the postal business of the United States to the manager of a Presidential campaign, has become obvious to all men of all parties. Mr. Hitchcock, as we have always gladly admitted, could learn to manage the business of the Post-Office Department as well as he has learned the ins and outs of party politics. He is the unhappy victim of a situation that he did not create. But it is impossible for him or any other man to serve these two divergent interests at the same time. How could any man, in so distracting a predicament, give wise thought and direction to postal affairs or rid his mind of political motives when he has decisions to make? The scheme to penalize the magazines, though promising to have a postal-revenue mo-



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live, has no merits whatever from the revenue standpoint. It classifies matter at one cent a pound is paying enough, a very simple and obvious device would be to increase that rate by 25 per cent, or even 50 per cent. Such an increase would immediately wipe out the existing deficit, would change no relatives conditions, and raise no questions in that broad, shadowy zone between newspapers and periodicals, that no man can be safely allowed to determine.—From "The Progress of the World," in the American Review of Reviews for March.

## CARROLL AND THE CONSTITUTION.

Cedar Rapids Gazette.

Governor Carroll says the Oregon plan is unconstitutional. Is it more unconstitutional than the plan of electing senators, not by the free votes of the members of the legislature, but by the dictation of party caucuses? More men have been sent to the senate, through dictation by the partisan caucus, than have been elected by all other methods combined.

Does the constitution say anything that looks like an O. K. of the legislative party caucus? Not yet. And, yet every senator chosen from Iowa by legislature has first been selected by party caucus.

It would be unconstitutional, however, for the people to caucus on the

## SPRING ARRIVALS

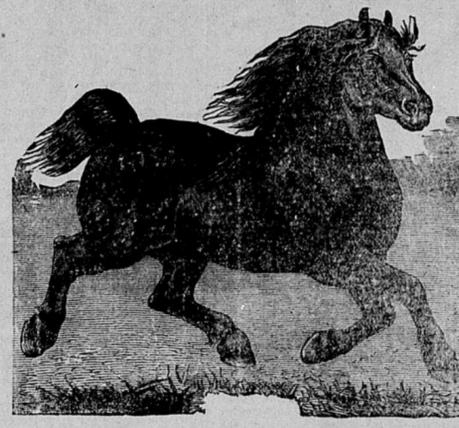
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