

Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY

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THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1908.

SENTIMENT IN POLITICS.

Beyond any peradventure of doubt the two most popular and powerful citizens in the United States to-day are Theodore Roosevelt and William Jennings Bryan. Both are feared and abhorred by many of their party leaders, and both are idolized by hundreds of thousands of their fellow-citizens. It is this personal prestige and this enormous hold on the masses that have given President Roosevelt and Mr. Bryan their extraordinary position as leaders. The remarkable feature in the career and power of these two men is the fact that neither of them are deep thinkers, wise counselors or trained statesmen. Mr. Roosevelt's policies, if unchecked, would land us in a bureaucracy which for arrogance and power would surpass that Prussian despotism of Bismarck's creation. As a statesman, Mr. Bryan is also far from perfect. His theory of free silver has been abandoned as hopeless; his government ownership of railroads plan has been laid aside in response to a popular demand that he could not withstand; his call for initiative and referendum has awakened no popular response, and still his power and place with the masses is strong and practically untouched. There must be some reason for the almost reverential attitude which the real followers of Mr. Bryan and Mr. Roosevelt feel towards their leaders, and the explanation is to be found in the fact that these two men have risen up to teach morals at a time when morality was more needed than statesmanship.

In preaching their crusade against materialism both Mr. Bryan and Mr. Roosevelt have been led into declamations which the Times-Dispatch cannot agree. Both have made charges which cannot be proved, and both have offered remedies which would be entirely ineffective or disastrous, but despite these mistakes, Mr. Bryan and Mr. Roosevelt alike have stood for manhood before money, and for the inalienable and glorious rights of the individual to live his own life under that freedom for which the fathers of the national charter conference, now in our incomparable city, they will have to be on the job every minute if they expect to make any noticeable inroads on our flock of little star-eyed blondes.

The St. Louis Republic argues that if our battleships can travel 42,500 miles without going to pieces, "we shall know for certain that they are worth the money they cost." The Republic's certain department appears to be exceptionally easy meat for R. P. Hobson.

"Secretary Taft," so thinks the Omaha Bee, "accomplishes more work for the government than all of his critics combined." The point at issue, however, is whether Secretary Taft accomplishes more work for the government than \$12,000 combined.

John A. Johnson, it develops, used to be a fine amateur baseball player. But even in the old days, of course, the Governor could never steal second when another runner on his side froze to the base and couldn't be pried loose.

The midst of Royal Richmond this morning contains seven times as many visiting physicians and surgeons (as they are called) as the combined forces of the British, French and Hottentots of the world.

"The State is full of the Knox boom," says the Philadelphia Press. Probably not full enough, however, to arouse the anger of the Taft prohibitionists.

This kind of talk is unnatural and unhealthy. It is not fair to blame for something pretty good, we are afraid the poor fellow will go mad and blow his brains out.

Old Virginia's amazing maize is only surpassed by her still more amazing Mays. Out-of-State contemporaries are urged to back off the grass.

"The country needs more rubber," says Colonel Nevins of Washington, who always sits in bald-head row on first nights.

The present gait of the Richmond ball-tosser indicates that there will be little demand for pop-bottles at our athletic park this season.

The Pennsylvania papers appear to think that Taft ought to cultivate a quiet, stay-at-home boominess, like Philander's.

Come to think of it, it would be pretty hard for William Waldorf Astor to do anything that would irritate this country much.

No one has ever accused the Lincoln Weekly Commoner of bolting the Bryocratic party anyway.

Now that we know that there is a town in Texas named Humble, we are ready to admit that anything may happen.

Next to Mr. Roosevelt, Bernard Shaw is the best advertised man in the world. Chance Dax is nowhere.

Rhymes for To-Day

ME AND THE OTHER FELLOWS.

NEVER whine that rare and scanty rhymes Adorn what pay envelopes I have met— Ah, no! I only knock the niggard praises That I get.

MISREPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

Despite the Democratic principles and the Republican necessities, which when combined would be amply sufficient to repeal the tariff on paper and pulp, Speaker Cannon has absolutely and steadfastly refused to allow the question to be put to a vote.

This procedure on the part of the Republican boss of the House will doubtless stave off the question of tariff reform for six months or a year, but it will set many people to thinking on the present system under which our government is administered.

Speaker Cannon is elected to Congress from the Eighteenth District of Illinois, and is made Speaker of the House by the vote of that body. He cannot be reached by the people of America, and yet he is able, by arbitrary exercise of power, to deliberately thwart the will of the majority of the representatives of all the people. This may be government by rules of order; it is not government by representation.

CROP OUTLOOK.

On Friday the government will issue its crop estimate, and so far nothing has occurred to impair the expectation of a big yield this year. The Ohio State report estimates a condition of 92 per cent. for winter wheat, as against 85 per cent. last month and 74 per cent. for last May. This is encouraging, but it must be remembered that May is a month of dangerous crossings. In 1903 the government's estimate was 97.3 per cent. as of April 1st and 92.6 per cent. as of May 1st; but later troubles caused these estimates to be reduced to 82.2 per cent. for June 1st and 78.8 per cent. for July 1st.

At present nothing disquieting has occurred, and every indication is that the farmers of this country will make unprecedented crops at a time when crops will bring large returns.

EXHIBIT OF CONGESTED CITIES.

For concrete illustration of the peril of congestion in modern cities nothing the exhibit now installed in the Mechanics' Institute. If the National Conference for Charities and Correction had brought nothing else to Richmond but the exhibit of congestion in cities, its coming would have been incalculably beneficial to this community. Every citizen who believes in health and happiness, fresh air for all the citizens and a square deal for the tenement dweller owes it to himself to study the maps, figures, photographs and plans in this exhibit.

If that study is made by the citizens of Richmond, then the reproach of our crowded condition will be taken away as certainly as light dispels darkness.

THE MUSIC FESTIVAL.

To-night the Wednesday Club, Richmond's chief choral society, will give its fifteenth annual series of concerts. The program and its rendition are better this year than ever before, and an opportunity for hearing extraordinarily good music will be offered Richmond and its guests to-night.

In Bates county, Mo., a deaf-mute accused of preaching in a noisy way, was quarantined, and on this ground got a divorce.

The reason cats dislike water is because they are afraid of the University of Chicago. It is easily wetted and does not dry quickly.

William Smith, a schoolmaster in the early days of Michigan, was so good that he can spell down any high school class in the State.

Methodist ministers in the United States are doing preaching in more languages than were used after the miracle of Pentecost.

Samuel Richard Newman, the "Father of the Fleet," recently celebrated his ninety-third birthday. He joined the British navy in 1822, eighty-five years ago, and retired as captain in 1882.

Many Chinese monasteries are endowed with land or a tribute of rice, but seldom are they supported, and the monks, clothed in rags, beg for food, and most of them are really very capable beggars.

Radium acts upon pure vitreous constituents of glass, porcelain and paper, imparting to them a violet tinge; changes white phosphorus to yellow, and causes many other curious chemical changes.

Prof. Henry Seeley White, of Vassar College, has been selected by the University of Chicago to fill the vacancy in the department of mathematics caused by the death of Francis B. Rowland.

The first annual dinner of the New England Aero Club was held at Boston. A committee was named to investigate American aviation, and to report on the progress of the industry.

Among the speakers were H. H. Clayton, of the United States, and Prof. W. H. Pickering, of Harvard University.

It is not believed that the natives in Africa are told about the natives in America, and vice versa. It gives a lesson in an uptown riding academy. I saw this pretty fellow tried on one occasion. A cowboy who had vanquished every pony he ever undertook to break in was induced to try a colt. After an hour's hard work, he succeeded in mounting the bird, which at first tried tactics, but he rolled him off, but first tried tactics. He was then, in spite of the man's cowboy, then, in spite of the man's cowboy, then, in spite of the man's cowboy.

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STATE PRESS Voice of the People

Choose the Best.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: This morning's vote for admirably the newly-created State Board of Charities and Corrections. This appointment will be the most important official act of the session, and its success or failure will depend largely upon its wisdom in this choice. The failure of the Legislature to do so has been due to a mistake at this point.

The Legislature has committed to this board the most important function of the State government. It is true from a humanitarian standpoint. The most needy and helpless of our citizens will look to it for relief, and it will be the children, helpless because of youth and confounding because of innocence; the feeble-minded and the epileptic, helpless because they are unable to defend themselves; the crime to allow the interests of the helpless, the infirm and those who are under restraint, to be sacrificed for the sake of expediency or personal ambition of political schemers. The interests committed to the new board are important, because they involve the welfare of the State, the prevention of pauperism, vice and crime, and the most devoted and skillful service.

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Filet Dress Nets

These new arrivals of Nets are 42 inches wide. They are both figured and plain, and for fashionable effects you cannot miss the opportunity.

69c Nets for 50c 75c Nets for 59c

Faulkner & Warriner Co., First and Broad

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Japan's Diplomatic Game

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Manchuria is but the thin edge of the wedge which Japan is inserting in the body of the Chinese empire. From their coign of vantage at the north end of the Korean peninsula, the Japanese are endeavoring to extend to the extension of the Chinese railway to Faku-men, a Chinese city, because it might interfere with Japanese railway business. For this reason they are flooding China with teachers and spies whose business it is to try to teach the Chinese that Japan is the equal of any nation, and that if China will only follow its lead the despised white barbarians will be driven from Asia.

However, Japan is not putting all its eggs in one basket, and if the Chinese will not succumb to methods of attack they may be forced to succumb by war. Japan, falling in diplomacy, will always fall back on war as its best asset. Just now it is in a position to do so, but never again will its army and navy be made ready for trouble, and if trouble comes in China, then Japan is there on the ground and China cannot defend itself.

There are two methods by which nations may acquire a great military establishment. One is that of the nation which can afford the expenditure and which keeps up a great army and navy to defend its territory and its trade. The other is that of the poorer nations which cannot afford the luxury, but which in the form of indemnities or territory, Japan obtained a huge indemnity from China, and while it was thwarted in its purpose to annex Korea, it obtained possession of Korea and Manchuria. It is not at all unlikely that Japan, contemplating a war with China, is now in a position to conclude that China, and not Japan, must foot the bill for its own demilitarization.

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A COURAGEOUS PROTEST.

Representatives Cooper and Nelson showed courage when they voted with the Democrats of the House in favor of a resolution censuring Speaker Cannon for arbitrarily adjourning the House a few days ago. They were the only Republicans to register their protest against the Speaker's action. These two Republicans represented their constituents truly. They voted for what was right for the country's good, and we miss our guess if the sentiment in their districts is not far from being the same. They have been most conspicuous in their opposition to the House ring, and that is an honor which they should not only appreciate, it is a mark of distinction.

Republican representatives from Wisconsin have been loud in their expressions of sympathy for the tariff revision. However, they vote with the utmost regularity with the clique that absolutely controls the House ring. It is not for the country's good, and we miss our guess if the sentiment in their districts is not far from being the same. They have been most conspicuous in their opposition to the House ring, and that is an honor which they should not only appreciate, it is a mark of distinction.

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