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ANNOUNCEMENT

All the capital stock of The Herald company, the corporation which owns and publishes The Los Angeles Daily Herald, has recently been purchased from the former owners by parties who have no connection with any other newspaper in Los Angeles, and who have taken over and control ABSOLUTELY and INDIVIDUALLY, and NOT AS TRUSTEES, every share of the leased and outstanding capital stock of the corporation.

JOHNSON OF MINNESOTA

THE embryo boom of Governor Johnson of Minnesota for the Democratic presidential nomination, though it has been received in many quarters by the query, "Who is Johnson?" is nevertheless worthy of serious consideration.

Throughout the northwest they do not ask, "Who is Johnson?" They know him. Answering the question, however, it may be said—and this argument is addressed to the "practical politicians"—that he is the man who carried Minnesota by more than 6000 votes at an election when the state went for Roosevelt by more than 160,000.

Governor Johnson is the son of Scandinavian parents. In Minnesota, the Dakotas, Iowa, Wisconsin, and even in Illinois, the Scandinavians hold the balance of political power, and they are clannish. Chicago is the second city of the world in point of Scandinavian population. Minneapolis is the third.

The first is Stockholm. Ordinarily all six of the states named are reliably Republican, but with Johnson as the candidate the result at least would be in doubt. The number of electoral votes involved is seventy-two. New York has but thirty-nine, and those thirty-nine have more than once dictated a nomination.

Strategically, therefore, Governor Johnson occupies an enviable position. It is urged against him that he is little known in the south and in the east. That is true, but the south is loyal to the Democracy, and the east, the governor's friends say, can be cultivated. Johnson is a forceful and indefatigable campaigner. In support of his gubernatorial candidacy the last time he made 119 speeches in forty-two days, in seventy-eight out of the eighty-four counties in Minnesota. And every speech made him votes.

Physically Johnson is a big man, standing only a trifle less than six feet, and well proportioned. He always has been a Democrat and was a state senator before he was elected governor. He is a tariff reformer and in his administration of Minnesota state affairs has invariably aligned himself with the people in all just fights against corporate aggression. This was noticeable at the time President Roosevelt got after the railroads, Governor Johnson being one of the executives who gave the president his most hearty cooperation. In response to the president's invitation. Within the past few days he has been much in the public eye in connection with a strike of miners on the Minnesota iron range, which was ended yesterday.

Governor Johnson's life history is remarkable. His father became a drunkard and at the age of 12 the boy went to work to support his mother and sisters. He was employed in a printer's office at St. Peter, his first salary being only \$10 a month, all of which went toward paying the family expenses. Then he became a drug clerk, and at 16 was earning \$75 monthly. Still later he returned to the printing business and in time became editor of the St. Peter Herald. He served seven years in the national guard and rose to the rank of captain.

Up in the northwest Democratic loyalty is divided between Bryan and Johnson. The Nebraskan is popular there. He was never more so. But Johnson has just arrived. He is a young man and, if needs must, he can afford to wait. However, should circumstances arise to make the nomination of the great commoner inexpedient, then Governor Johnson would loom big as a potential candidate.

There are good points in the dark horse selected by Col. Henry Watterson, many of them.

Of course it was a sheer coincidence that four leading ice companies doubled their prices in a single night. The swing of the district attorney's club and swat of the Cartwright anti-trust law may follow simultaneously as another remarkable coincidence.

The coal man to the ice man: "Easy there, brother, easy; remember the rest of us have to live."

THE ICE COMBINE

LOS ANGELES people have been so busy of late in criticizing the unholly doings of San Francisco craft pirates that they overlooked things at home, till the combine of the Merchants' Union, Los Angeles and National Ice companies forced them to sit up and take notice.

This combine to raise prices (for it certainly seems to be such) is not only a violation of the Cartwright act, but a most ungenerous and ungrateful treatment of the people who by loyalty and patronage made it possible for the Merchants' company to live and thrive.

District Attorney J. D. Fredericks is up and doing to fight this alleged treacherous act on the part of the ice-men, and the good will and personal aid of every consumer in Los Angeles will be his in the battle. The frivolous excuse of advanced cost of delivery is of a piece with the act itself and deceives no one. If it can be proved that collusion is at the bottom of this ruthless rise in price of an absolute necessity for all the people, the deserved hue and cry of an outraged populace will prove to the conspirators that Los Angeles works on a vastly different plan from that in vogue in San Francisco.

To the end that this inquiry may be sudden and effective every man and woman in the city who knows aught that can prove collusion in restraint of trade by these ice companies should present themselves at the district attorney's office and aid Frank Blair in determining that fact. If such collusion is proven it will be warm times for the ice men.

SAFEGUARD PASSENGERS

NOW that grief and surprise are stilled in the matter of the dreadful loss of the steamship Columbia, the pointed query is pertinent, "Who is responsible?"

The public inquiry develops many things it is well to know, but fails, significantly, to reach effective remedy. Both ships were steaming at full speed, in a fog; each knew of the other's presence and the consequent danger; both signaled according to rule, and both changed courses when it was too late. As a result scores of lives were lost, and scores of men and women subjected to unnatural trials. It is charged that the steamship company refused to transport the wrecked passengers to the port of departure, and to care for them in the heavens they found.

The passengers' belongings are lost, and at best a \$100 liability is all the company can be held for. Sickened, suffering, loss of effects, fright, all are balanced by the \$100 liability, and even that is not certain. The company will, doubtless, abandon the wreck to the underwriters and appeal to the courts for release from other liabilities. Such has been the custom and it is likely to be followed in this case. The public passengers included, have received "all that was coming to them," and now the query: "Who pays the freight?"

What can Captain Birmingham, the government supervising inspector, do to lessen the chances in some other case? Captains will take chances, and must use discretionary power, so that cast iron rules are powerless to guide them. The coast is lined with the steamers of competing firms, and lower rates draw the people from the railroads. Like collisions may occur at any time in the season of fog, and that is never certain to be well defined. There is no record of the scores of chances taken and "close calls" experienced by steamers, and never will be till their captains are caught in disaster.

Why not have a supervising inspector of log books, forcing master and mate to keep separate books, as they must do in deep water trade, holding the one as a check on the other, and each inviolate from the other? If the honor of a soldier is his bond, it certainly is the bond of the seaman, and when officers know that their hourly work for every day must pass inspection by a government expert at the end of each run, they will be less likely to take forbidden chances.

With this practice installed, and the ships equipped with automatically closing bulkheads, that will close and that are certified to as being safe by the same government expert, just when the hatches have been closed, we shall have equal protection with passengers on the Atlantic coast—and the people have a right to demand such.

Liability in such cases is so shrouded in maritime law that none but an expert can tell what it may give to the stricken passengers, whose only recourse seems to be the aforesaid query.

FREE SPEECH

THE Sacramento Bee, in commenting on the unwarranted arrest of a street preacher in that city, and in defense of its support of the man against the authorities, says: "Now, the Bee does not know anything about this man Milligan, and cares less. It does not know whether he is a Holy Jumper, a Holy Roller, or a holy fraud—nor does it care the ultimate straw from a last year's bird's nest.

"All it knows is that he was virtually throttled in his prerogative of free speech, and it did not propose to stand silently by and not fight for the right of every man to be heard."

The Herald indorses this sentiment as being both timely and manly, and, incidentally, just what "Jim" McClatchy would indorse were he in evidence today.

nature, and because of popular clamor from other religionists who differed from his views he was made to lose that which only due process of law could rightfully take from him.

THE "SURPLUS" SLOGAN

THE income of the federal government from all sources for the fiscal year just closed was \$36,929,425 more than the outgo, and yet the standpatters of the house and senate continue the excessive duties on imported metals and make the iniquitous steel trust and cognate burdens possible, brushing aside the monitorial complaints of oppressed business; all apparently for the solidifying of partisan power through the medium of financial exhibits.

"Better a surplus than a deficit!" cries the partisan zealot, blind to the devious, hurtful, almost criminal ways in which the surplus has been created, and his allegiance, money and business prospects are tied to the tail of the partisan kite called "progress." The wily manipulators of the party in power must have campaign material, and what is so excellent as a surplus of \$36,000,000?

This great mass of idle wealth comes direct from the earnings of the laborer and artisan, and the shame of it all is that its only excuse for being is that it shall fortify the forces that made it for another lease of political power. No sane man will claim such a surplus is right or necessary. No business man, with the knowledge that two more years must elapse before a partisan congress committed to the continuance of this baneful policy will change the order, can view the current stringency of money, knowing this surplus to be its prime cause, without serious misgivings. There is evidence that no change in tariff laws will be attempted until after the next presidential election, in order that this boast of a great surplus shall be borne aloft in the name of progress; and so, for political reasons of a purely partisan nature, the business and commercial worlds are burdened with unnecessary taxation as exacting as rapacious.

This burden can be lifted from the people is amply proved in the following extract from an article on "The Wrong of the Great Surplus" in the current number of the North American Review by former Treasurer of the United States Ellis H. Roberts, than whom a more competent critic is not known:

"This—tariff revision—can be done by a flat reduction on all present rates of revenue. Agree on the abolition of the surplus as the first thing to do. Accept the mandate of common sense to collect what is needed and no more. Extend the free list by a score of millions. Some will insist that tobacco, beer and spirits can easily afford to pay the tax now levied, and that internal revenue should stand without change. Others will claim that the customs duties should not alone bear the whole reduction, which would take off 37 per cent from the schedules as they stand. Such diversities force practical legislation back to the plain plan of a uniform discount from all the present charges to an amount equal to the surplus of 1907. Under the general discount the principle of protection (sic) would not be challenged."

This from one who has handled the finances of the nation under the control of the reigning political power assuredly must convince that not only is the present tariff law a burden and a menace to the people, but that it is competent to adjust the law to righteous conditions, carefully protecting legitimate enterprises, and by easy and natural steps, if only the power of the great protected trusts may be placated and overcome in the senate of the United States.

A horizontal reduction equal to the surplus of the past year would be 13 per cent of the total revenue, one-half of which, taken from customs revenues, would, if judiciously placed, free iron and steel and their products from the grasp of monopoly, open up healthy competition and provide an entering wedge for the final disruption of rapacious trusts.

The telegraph trust, or at least the Postal wing of that monopoly, is busily engaged in a widespread press agent campaign undertaking to show that there is no such thing as a telegraph trust. That their rates are identically the same, they declare, is no indication of an agreement. The reasoning is excellent: "If one company charges a higher rate it would get no business at all. A cut by one would be followed by a cut from the other, and there would be a war of rates and finally rates would be the same."

Delightfully simple, isn't it? In the meantime New York authorities are investigating the lighting trust, and other states may follow the lead. California has the Cartwright law. Here is another opportunity for District Attorney Fredericks to start his probe.

Three-fourths of the stock in the newly formed ice trust is held by persons outside of Los Angeles. Not much of that 12 per cent melon remains here. This fact may aid in chilling former patrons who have discontinued refrigeration since the big advance in prices.

In making your will remember you may, according to law, give but one-third of your estate to charity. Keep within but well up to that figure.

Forty Koreans were killed in Japan's first skirmish for benevolent assimilation. Farewell, land of the morning calm!

Japan is for the open door in Korea, but thus far the door has been opened only enough to admit Japanese troops.

FUNNYGRAPHS

Squiggs—Poor old Jim seems to be very much cast down. I wonder what can be the matter with him? Squaggs—Mother-in-law. Squiggs—Well, a mother-in-law is enough to make a fellow get run down. Squaggs—Yes, she actually refused to keep him another week.—Toledo Blade.

First Ladybug—That man told me to fly away home, my house is on fire and my children will burn. Second Ladybug—Probably he was Roosevelt.—New York Sun.

The regular patron was indignant as the waiter spilled the soup. "You're tipsy!" he exclaimed. "Couldn't be on your tips. See?" responded the waiter, at least not so inebricated as to impede his mental processes.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Sweet Singer—DeHammer says he has a high place in the next show he goes out with. Comedian—Well, I should say it is high. He sits up in the fligs and tears up paper for the snowstorm scene.—Chicago News.

A committee of citizens presented General Putnam with a flag. "Wherever you plant this flag," said the spokesman, "we expect it to stay, Put."

To avoid any more of this brand the enemy offered to surrender.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"John," said a wife to her selfish husband, "I have just come from the doctor and he says I need a change of climate—something more bracing." "All right, dear," was the unfeeling rejoinder, "the weather forecast states it will be much colder tomorrow."—Tit-Bits.

"I can't understand Mabel." "Why not?" "She's always trying to get things to match her complexion." "That of it?" "Haven't you ever noticed her complexion?"—Milwaukee Sentinel.

"Why don't you explain your position on the tariff?" "Why should I?" asked the eminent statesman. "I once tried to explain it and the first thing I knew I got interested in trying to understand it myself and worried myself almost to death."—Washington Star.

"Well," demanded the stern visaged woman at the back door, "what do you want?" "Why," replied the tramp, "I see you advertised 'table board' in this morning's paper—"

"Well," "I thought maybe you was given out some samples."—Catholic Standard.

"That young lady and the gentleman at the next table appear to be getting quite thick." "They're in love with one another. If you mean that; but they could never get thick at this boarding house."—Houston Post.

"My dear, I have an order for a pathetic story." "And what shall you write about, Biudyard?" "About 75,000 words. I think they'll stand for that many."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Ever notice it?" queried the proponent of questions on the installment plan. "Did I ever notice what?" asked the party of the audience part. "That the man with the narrowest mind is prone to make the broadest assertions?" concluded the other.—Chicago News.

The Peer—Were any of your ancestors ever painted? The Laborer—Yes, my grandmother had her neck painted for the mumps. —Ally Sloper.

Mrs. Harker—My husband speaks German as well as he does English. Does your husband speak more than one language? Mrs. Parker—Oh, yes; he speaks three—English, baseball and horse.—Chicago News.

TIME TO BE CAREFUL

It is well, no doubt, that there should now arise a general tendency toward the preaching of industrial caution, such as several of our thoughtful contemporaries have already manifested. The recent "oscillations" of the price of securities—to quote an expression of Ambassador Bryce—have been treated all along as a matter quite apart from the fundamental business of the country, which is known to be prosperous; but it seems to be considered more and more in order to sound the warning note, lest this abounding confidence in the underlying actual prosperity of business be overcome and ultimately breed actual hardship, such as inevitably does come sooner or later.

In a word, there seems to be dawning a lucid interval on the public mind—an interval of common sense, in which it may be realized that our present well-being cannot endure uninterrupted forever, and that we may as well realize it now as the financiers have seemingly begun to realize it in pursuing their more mercurial business in the buying and selling of shares in the country's business. That the present year offers any really menacing outlook is not yet asserted, so far as we know. But that the machinery of trade cannot be driven too fast, and then too suddenly slowed down, is always true, and the prudent engineer will hardly dash at speed around a curve when it is possible for ordinary indications along the way that there may possibly be obstructions ahead. The world knows, in general, that the commercial activity these times precede leaner years—the leanness of which has almost invariably been increased in the past by the reckless intoxications of acute prosperity.—Lowell Courier-Citizen.

FATE'S MOCKERIES

The unexpected happens daily, and unhappily it often assumes forms that are baneful to human enjoyment. As if in humorous mockery of the ordinary man's fate, we throw about us, fate often uses the smallest and meanest implements to overwhelm us. A Chicago man moved his head to look out of a car window and was dangerously wounded by a woman's hat pin; a wounded man had his skull cracked by the fall of a paper-weight from the top of a bookcase; a New York man tripped on his own shoestrings and fractured his collarbone. There are dozens of these unexpected mishaps, mishaps that can all be traced to petty causes. And perhaps one of the most singular of them all is that which happened to a Virginia woman a day or two ago. She is reported to have been hanging out her washing in the back yard, her mouth being filled with pins. Suddenly she sneezed and swallowed several of these implements, an accident that brought her attention. Unfortunately, the news item failed to state whether the pins were the ordinary clothes pins, or whether they were the smaller variety. The latter sort was the kind that made the trouble, no doubt, the Virginia mouth scarcely having sufficient capacity to store the former in any save the most limited quantities.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

QUITE A YOUNGSTER

Hefelinger, the famous "guard" at Yale in the '90s, now a prosperous business man of the west, recently told a story of a countryman who, with his wife, had come down to New Haven to see the "footballers." The rural one had walked around the stadium, Hefelinger with an air of critical curiosity, much as he might have surveyed a horse he was about to purchase. "Sary!" he called to his wife. "What is it?" "This feller's nigh on to seven feet, ain't he?" "Almost, Zachariah." "Welghs 'bout two hundred and twenty, don't he?" "I reckon he does." "Well, well, well!" ejaculated the countryman, "it do beat all how football do develop 'em!" "He certainly is a fine young man!" said the wife. "Man!" observed the countryman, "Sary, one of them professors told me hisself that this feller's in his fourth year. I wonder what they feed 'em on!" —Harper's Weekly.

AMUSEMENTS

ORPHEUM THEATER Spring St., bet. Second and Third. Both Phones 1447. MODERN VAUDEVILLE Mr. Benjamin Chapin as Abraham Lincoln—Willard Simms & Co.—Miller, Chunn and Muller—Jack Wilson & Co.—The Great Bernar—Rose and Jennette—Bert and Bertha Grant—Orpheum Motion Pictures—Antia Bartling. Matinees Daily Except Monday.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE Main St., bet. First and Second. Main 1967—Phones—Home A5137. THE FAMILY THEATER. THE ULRICH STOCK COMPANY present Lillian Mortimer's sensational drama, A MAN'S BROKEN PROMISE. Every member of this company of favorite actors in appropriate roles. Matinee Sunday, Tuesday, Saturday. Next week "EAST LYNN."

BELASCO THEATER The Big Hit of Midsummer Season. The Adventures of Lady Ursula. Next Week—The Charity Ball. Seats now on sale.

MASON OPERA HOUSE Week beginning MONDAY, AUGUST 5. Seats on sale. EZRA KENDALL SWELL ELEGANT JONES

MOROSCO'S BURBANK THEATER TONIGHT AND ALL THE WEEK: MATINEE SATURDAY. Mr. T. Daniel Frawley and the Burbank theater company in Dion Boucicault's world famous racing drama, THE JILT.

VENICE WHITE CITY FIREWORKS, Saturday, August 3, 8:00 p. m. sharp. Children's fireworks. The most unique, laughable and spectacular display yet given. There will be performing elephants and monkeys, BUSTER BROWN AND TIGER, swans and cygnets on the lake, beautiful set pieces, with grand finale "HOME, SWEET HOME," most beautiful thing in fireworks ever viewed. SPECIAL CARS from Fourth and Hill street station.

LOS ANGELES PACIFIC CO. ELECTRIC LINES VENICE OF AMERICA. Finest beach resort in the world. Indoor and outdoor plunge baths. Daily concerts. Dinner August 4, GRAND SILVER MEDAL SWIMMING CONTEST. The Hawaiian surf riders will defend local honors against all comers at 2:30 p. m. Villas and bungalows for rent at reasonable rates. Military camp grounds for use of lodges or other bodies.

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