

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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Population of Los Angeles 327,685

CLEAR, CRISP AND CLEAN



AT THE THEATERS

AUDITORIUM—'Mlle. Mischief'. MASON—'A Gentleman from Minskopol'. BURBANK—'My Wife'. BELASCIO—'Old Heidelberg'. MAESTRO—'In Dreamland'. ORPHEUM—Vaudeville. GRAND—'The Yankee Consul'. LOS ANGELES—Vaudeville. UNIQUE—Vaudeville and comedy. FISCHER—Musical travesty. WALKER—Musical burlesque.

WATERWAYS

SENATOR NEWLANDS, in his letter on the waterways movement, reminds senators from interested states that the waterway question will come up for action during the next session. He points out nearly one-third of the membership of the senate represents states that would be helped by a scientific and businesslike solution of the waterway and water transportation service problem.

Therefore, if the senators act unitedly to shape action so as to benefit the region they represent, they will AID IN THE GREAT MOVEMENT FOR A SCIENTIFIC AND BUSINESSLIKE SOLUTION OF THE WATER TRANSPORTATION QUESTION.

Senator Newlands characterizes the reclamation act as the first piece of constructive legislation in the history of the country that was free from the evils of the spoils system that prevailed for years in legislation relating to rivers, harbors and public buildings.

Should the inland waterway service be organized and the \$50,000,000 fund annually be created, one-tenth of the sum would be used for Pacific coast rivers and one-twentieth for the headwaters and source streams of the Pacific coast rivers in the arid and semiarid regions. This would mean an expenditure for the benefit of the Pacific coast of \$7,500,000 per annum.

Waterways will play an important part in Pacific coast development, and in the general benefit Greater Los Angeles will be a sharer; while the completion of the Panama canal will be of immense advantage to our metropolis. The history of Greater Los Angeles has only been begun. Circumstances, as well as the initiative, enterprise and patriotism of its ever-increasing army of loyal and enthusiastic citizens, will make it the principal city not only of the Pacific coast but of all the west.

GOOD ENOUGH

'AN American is good enough for me,' writes Miss Marjorie Gould when asked by a friend if she intends to marry a man with a title. We do not deny that a foreigner with a title may honestly fall in love with an American millionaire's daughter and not with her fortune. We do not deny that an American millionaire's daughter may honestly fall in love with a foreigner and not with his title. But we do deny the right of any American millionaire's daughter to carry abroad for the benefit of alien nations the product of American labor.

We do not deny the right of any American millionaire to spend all his time in Europe. We do deny the right of any American millionaire to spend all his money in Europe. It disturbs the economical balance, and has the effect of making American workmen toil for foreigners. We congratulate Miss Marjorie Gould on her discovery that unlike many over-rich heiresses she is good enough for an American.

LONG LIFE

PROFESSOR IRVING FISHER of Yale says human existence is being lengthened by science, hygiene, sanitation and good nourishment. He believes the normal span of life is 150 years and it will not be long ere any man who falls to reach the century and a half mark will be looked on as a weakling.

Length of days without social order would be a curse instead of a blessing. If people are to get the habit of living for 150 years they must cultivate the habit of being kind to one another.

Under present conditions the more 'successful' a man is (in money making) the more he is open to the suspicion of having interfered with the happiness of his fellowmen. This is not right. We hope the day will dawn in the United States when the citizen who reaches old age will be able to look back and say: 'From first to last I have given and have had a square deal.'

GOOD MEN

GEORGE ALEXANDER'S record as mayor is one of which Los Angeles is proud. He has done credit to the city. He has added to its prestige. His 'way of doing business' has been highly unsatisfactory to machinists, pirates, leeches, toadies, S. P. bosses, bosslets and hangers-on. But it is the Los Angeles way, and it suits Los Angeles.

Citizens who understand good work and businesslike methods are highly appreciative of Mayor Alexander's services.

Those who have attempted to belittle him have belittled themselves. He represents an ideal type of public official, and since he is willing to be of further service to the people he should be nominated and elected by the people.

Judge Works is another citizen on whose willingness to enter the public service as a member of the city council the people of Los Angeles are to be congratulated. Citizens will show their appreciation of Judge Works by nominating him and electing him.

Council nominations that can also be recommended with clear conscience by friends of good government and well wishers of Greater Los Angeles are those of W. J. Washburn, Miles Gregory, J. J. Andrews, Martin Betkouski, George Williams and Richmond Plant.

Members of the present board of education are willing to continue to give their valuable services to this community, and in this most laudable ambition they ought to be encouraged. All good citizens agree that the best educational interests of Los Angeles will be safeguarded and served by the renomination and re-election of Joseph Scott, Fielding J. Stilson, J. M. Guinn, Roger S. Page, H. W. Frank, Melville Dozier and F. W. Steddom.

WELFARE FUND

MR. YONKIN made a ludicrous mistake when he opposed the \$500,000 appropriation for the aqueduct welfare fund which the Y. M. C. A. will handle. Mr. Yonkin's idea of the helping-hand services of those who make life more tolerable for the aqueduct laborers is that they consist of teaching the men how to play games. It is more than likely the men are much better posted on the subject of games than are their friendly visitors. If the aqueduct camps are like other camps, there are 'games' of a variety and scope that would make old Hoyle a novice. As we understand it, the work of the Y. M. C. A. along the line of the aqueduct consists in 'humanizing' the laborers and keeping them humanized. When men are herded in camps, whether army or construction camps, the tendency is not elevating. It is rankly demoralizing.

The men of our aqueduct army need visitors; they need supplies of newspapers and books; they need medical attention that will be gracious and kindly and not perfunctory; they need to be made constantly to realize they are of more value than their mule teams. The Central Labor council, after thinking the matter over and making investigation, withdrew its protest against the Y. M. C. A. aqueduct appropriation. The welfare fund is another notable example of the higher civilization which distinguishes Los Angeles. Of course there are always to be found obstructionists who protest against the activities of higher civilization, because they don't understand them. Apparently the council might profitably vote a small sum to pay for the time and trouble of some Y. M. C. A. missionaries to city hall.

'BOTTOMLESS HOLE'

'WHY should we pour money into the same bottomless hole?' This was the question asked by W. C. Musher with regard to the school bond issue, a luckless question for a gentleman with aspirations for higher office. We believe heartily in prudence and economy of administration. We think public extravagance is not only wasteful but demoralizing, and is a menace to good government.

But we cannot agree with a false view of economy phrased in Musher's simile. To be niggardly or parsimonious in educational expenditures is the very poorest policy that can be adopted in a city the population of which is increasing at such a rate that constant and adequate school provision must be made ahead of time if accommodations are not to be overtaken and the educational record of the city interfered with.

If any gentleman should not have common sense enough to see that the educational expenditures of a city must be proportionate to the ratio of its increase in population, and therefore, if we apply logic to his point of view, should mistake the growth of Los Angeles for a 'bottomless hole,' it would seem to be waste of time and of space to enter into a lengthened discussion of his unfitness for the important office in connection with which his name has been mentioned.

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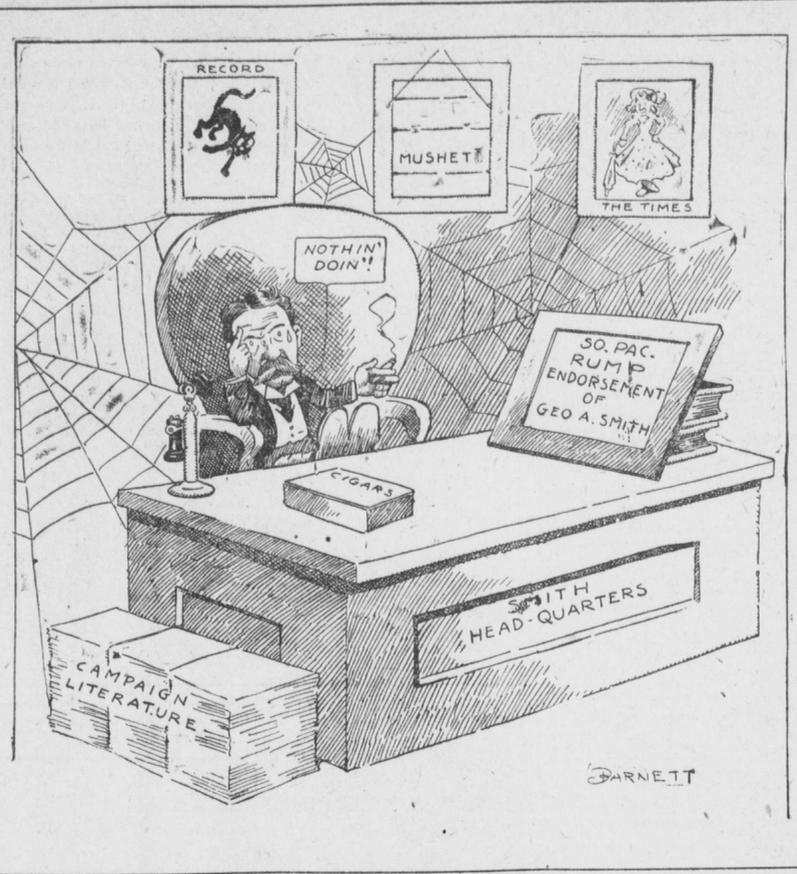
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Innocuous Desuetude



UTILITIES COMMISSION

BEYOND doubt the Municipal league's public utilities commission ordinance will go before the people at the election, December 7. The verification process will be completed next week, and the petition will be presented to the city council Tuesday, November 2. The council must accept the petition and place the Municipal league public utilities ordinance on the ballot.

Los Angeles is entitled to a decent utilities commission ordinance. And there is no doubt Los Angeles will have a decent public utilities ordinance and a decent and representative public utilities commission.

And so Los Angeles will live up to the old record of fighting through opposition to the results desired by good citizens who have a regard for the best interests of the city. It seems to be the fate of Los Angeles to encounter either furious machine opposition or tricky machine plot and conspiracy whenever any movement is undertaken or any measure proposed that will be distinctly for the public good and decidedly for the betterment of conditions. But to win every fight for decency, every struggle for good government, every battle for the right—is the Los Angeles way.

AS TO GHOSTS

A CONTRIBUTED article on the convention of the National Society of Spiritualists published in The Herald discussed the subject with considerable vigor and intelligence, but it left us completely at a loss for any good reason why psychic research should be encouraged unless it promise results that may be scientifically or socially of benefit to mankind. Let us grant that all the phenomena recorded are genuine. What, then?

What does it matter if (as has oft been related) the medium Home suddenly and rudely left the company of the earl of Crawford and Lord Adare, and flew out of one window and in at another? What does it prove? We don't know how many Scotch toddlers Crawford and Adare had imbibed before Mr. Home began to float before their astounded gaze. But, even if their vision was thoroughly normal, and not at all affected by spiritus frumenti, what does it matter that Mr. Home was apparently able to fly for a short distance without a flying machine?

If Broadway were filled with sheeted ghosts at midnight, if Main street were jammed with gibbering and squeaking sprites, and if the air of Spring street were blue with devils it really WOULD NOT MATTER. All it would show would be the fourth dimension of space had been reduced to a circus basis. Kind hearts that pulsate, and noble deeds that are done in the flesh are worth more to humanity and mean more to the world than spook exhibitions. If some of those that have been reported are true (and we don't deny their truth—we cannot), all they prove is that human beings of a certain type cannot stop making fools of themselves even after they are dead.

CALIFORNIA COTTON

COTTON 'grown in California' is in Los Angeles. The first bale to be gained in the Imperial valley reached the chamber of commerce. It was sent by James R. Loftus, who has a plantation near El Centro. California cotton will be as successful as other California crops. There is no reason why this should not be the case. And if the railroads will give the cotton industry 'a show for its life' by refraining from gobbling all the profits that should go to the growers as a reward for their toil and skill the day will come when ships will sail from San Pedro harbor via the Panama canal laden with the products of the cotton mills of Los Angeles.

PAPER TARIFF

HERMAN RIDDER'S prediction the publishing business of the United States will be driven into Canada by the results of the tariff rate on print paper is cheerful. We believe some of the big magazine plants are already seriously contemplating leaving the United States, printing in Canada, and sending the sheets into the United States to be bound and marketed. Looks as if Uncle Sam's share of North America would, ere long, become merely a distributing instead of a publishing center. As far as the sacrifice of 'copyright' is concerned, we think the difference in cost to the bigger magazines is much greater than the possible loss through failure to obtain an American copyright. That's the hard commonsense of it.

The flying age of the world is at hand. Orville Wright says flying machines are safer than automobiles. However, we have yet to find out what kind of record for safety airships will make when operated by irresponsible speed fiends like some of the fellows who have done their best to give automobile an 'undeserved' bad name. There is nothing safer than an automobile when in a safe and sane man's charge of it.

In an atmosphere pervaded by loneliness sits the Rump candidate for mayor, with his face somber and sad. Musher's portrait is turned toward the wall, but the other pictures in the little gallery don't seem to afford any cheer or inspiration to the lonesome one. Cheer up, brother Smith, cheer up. For thee, politically speaking, the worst is yet to come.

George B. Harrison of Los Angeles Herald staff will deliver an address at the City Club luncheon today on the subject 'Why San Pedro Harbor Should Have a Branch Hydrographic Office.' Mr. Harrison is the foremost newspaper harbor specialist of this city, and possesses a vast fund of information on every phase of the subject.

Alfonso, the erstwhile 'boy king,' is now the most unpopular sovereign and one of the most unpopular men in the world. In spite of his protestations to the contrary, everybody believes he could have saved Dr. Ferrer. Alfonso is a woeful weakling.

Hollywood is talking consolidation and a campaign committee will be appointed to put the talk into practice. The 'Greater Los Angeles' sentiment won't be satisfied with anything short of a complete realization of the Greater Los Angeles program.

Musher's definition of a school bond issue: 'A bottomless hole into which to throw the people's money.' Alas, poor Musher! How much easier it is to leave awkward sayings unsaid than say them and repent ever after.

Japanese commercial commissioners will reach Los Angeles November 20. They will receive a Los Angeles welcome and will be entertained in the Los Angeles way.

How about the depot the Southern Pacific road promised Los Angeles? What is the latest excuse for the failure of the railway corporation to make good?

It doesn't pay to oppose the cause of education in Los Angeles. This is a progressive city, as obstructionists who get in the way find out.

War is the greatest single item of expense in the state-keeping accounts of the nations. It is foolish, cruel, barbaric, unnecessary, unjust, unrighteous and always deplorable extravagance.

Arrangements for public concerts are being made by the municipal music commission. Three cheers for Orpheus!

Public Letter Box

TO CORRESPONDENTS—Letters intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The Herald gives the widest latitude to correspondents, but assumes no responsibility for their views.

SAYS USE OF TOBACCO IS RECOMMENDED BY QUACKS

CIMA, Cal., Oct. 16.—(Editor Herald): In the Letter Box of the 14th 'Maude' asks why women can't smoke on the street cars? She says her mother was advised years ago, by her physician, to smoke cigarettes—for her health, I suppose; though 'Maude' doesn't say. It might have been to relieve her of a worse habit—say of smoking an old clay pipe. Or it might have been the 'quack' get paid by the makers of the certain brand he advised her to smoke, for offering said advice to his suffering and badly deceived patients. Some 'quacks' would advise the use of cigarette made of dog-fennel if the makers of same paid him for it.

But let us consult such able practitioners as Dr. Pierce of the World's Dispensary, Buffalo, N. Y., a man whose reputation is known from Maine to California as an honest dispenser of sane information for the benefit of the human family. He tells us, in his common-sense medical advice, that no physician should guarantee a cure of any disease where the patient uses tobacco in any form; and goes on to tell why.

'Quack' advised me to use tobacco, and, fool-like, like 'Maude's' mother, I tried it, with the result that I soon found the 'remedy' worse than the disease; and after using the dirty stuff for 17 years I quit. I never had stomach trouble till after using tobacco; my nerves were strong before I began the tobacco habit, but not so now; my memory was as good as any living man before my system became filled with nicotine poison; and my disposition changed so I could hardly treat my own family with a fatherly kindness or with the respect that should be shown them by a father. I had never touched the stuff till I was 34 years old; then after using it for several years I could even realize that it was affecting me in the prosecution of my business; and the longer I used it the more apparent this became. If I had started the habit in my youth, as most all users of the stuff do, I would never have known that I was once a better man in many ways, than I was after having used the manhood-destroying weed for a time.

And this knowledge gave me the courage and will-power to cut it out, drink and wear, and to mothers, who never know what noble men they might have been had they never used the stuff. And in consequence have not the manhood or will-power to quit.

W. S. BURROUGHS.

ARRAIGNS WOMEN FOR CATERING TO FASHION

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 18.—(Editor Herald): In Juliana Stevens' letter of October 14, wherein she states that women dress in the absurd health-breaking, ever changing fads of fashion, even breaking over the bounds of modesty to please men and attract their attention. Yes, I will admit it is to attract men. But what class? Is it the pure father, son, brother and husband? Or the mother, daughter, sister and wife dress so at home? If they do, then I have been fortunate in traveling the length and breadth of the United States, and the thousands of homes I have been to, and home women to be different, 'with but few exceptions.'

Where does fashion originate? Is it not in the most immoral city on the face of the globe? Is it not the highest fallen woman that has to have something different to attract the wealthy or royal 'liberal'?

Then honest women take up the fad (possibly not knowing its origin) and they are taking to attract men to their own personality, to see how many they can hold on the string, to play with the fire until it has devoured them.

Man does not kneel at the altar of pinched feet, deformed waist and immodestly exposed neck, then he is a groveler, and ostracized by what is called society. My heart goes out to the sentiments of Mary Magdalene, who seems to be pleading to redeem an error, 'possibly one that was not all her fault,' and Good mothers will not neglect their

The Art of Tax-dodging

By Frederic J. Haskin

HERE seems to be no form of dishonesty as widespread as that of the American citizen dodging the tax collector. The gentle art of tax-dodging appeals more to the rich than to the poor, to those who have money than to those who have none. The high class in New York is shown recently that 317 estates in New York city had aggregate holdings of \$315,000,000, and that they had been worth only \$27,000,000 when the assessors came around to assess the worst city in the United States for tax-dodging, but there are people in every country who make their contributions to the running expenses of the state as small as possible.

The favorite practice of the tax-dodger is to have as much of his property omitted from the tax-books as possible. Sometimes he converts his holdings into such shape as to be invisible to the assessor; sometimes he claims residence elsewhere. But whatever his methods, he finds one way or another to get around paying his just proportion of the operating expenses of the local, state and national governments in their work of protecting his life, his property and his liberty. Political economists universally regard tax-dodging as one of the worst offenses against the government, but the individual tax-dodger never seems oppressed by the fact that his action is criminal in the highest degree.

Some idea of the widespread practice of the tax-dodger's art may be gathered from the census report on the wealth of the United States. It shows that in 1904 the amount of property in this country not exempt from taxation aggregated slightly more than \$100,000,000,000. Yet when the assessor came around those values had shrunk to the amount of \$33,000,000,000, or less than 33 per cent of the original value. The shrinkage in real estate was bad enough. Deducting the value of exempt real estate from the value of such property, it will be found that such property was worth only half as much when the assessor came around as it was when the census enumerators called for his data.

But for shrinkage real estate is not at all comparable with personal property. Between the visit of the census enumerators and the arrival of the assessor personal property shrank in value from more than \$40,000,000,000 to less than \$9,000,000,000. In other words, the average American virtually dodged taxation on four-fifths of his personal property.

It is queer that tax-dodging in the country districts lies mainly in real estate, while in the cities it is mostly in personal property. For instance, in the state of Ohio there is real estate of a taxable nature valued at more than \$3,123,000,000, yet the assessor's visits reveal only \$1,451,000,000 worth of such property. On the other hand, New York city taxes about \$97 out of every \$100 of true value of real estate.

When it comes to personal property the conditions are exactly reversed. Taken as a whole, the people of Pennsylvania are the champion tax-dodgers of the United States. If assessed in the usual manner, the assessed value of their property is \$1,000,000,000. Yet they succeed in keeping back twenty-three dollars for every one dollar of their holdings other than realty. With property worth five billion dollars, they pay taxes on only two hundred million dollars worth of such property. Illinois ranks second as a delinquent in this respect. The assessed value of ten in personal property holdings still long enough for the assessor to get for being the least of all the states to avoid its taxes.

Tax-dodging is by no means limited to individuals. Often the citizens of a whole county or municipality are guilty of it. In the case of the state of Virginia, Alexandria county, which President Taft seeks to have made a part of the District of Columbia again, furnishes a notable instance. Not long ago a Washingtonian bought a piece of property there, and while investigating the title inquired of the county treasurer how much tax that property was usually assessed at twenty-five cents on the dollar. He explained that Alexandria was one of the counties which paid more money into the state treasury than it got in return, and that the basis of assessment was made as low as possible in order to reduce the county's net contribution to the state treasury. He said that county were under oath to return all property for taxation at a fair cash valuation. There are other counties where all property is assessed at about fifty cents on the dollar, and their people pay twice as much to the support of the state as those of Alexandria county.

new York city affords a most glaring

illustration of the tax-dodging spirit. There is no living man who can doubt that New York people own several times as much personal property today as they owned a quarter of a century ago. In that time the real values in the metropolis have increased two thousand million dollars, but personal property assessments have decreased forty million dollars. So notorious has the practice of tax-dodging in that city become that the report of a tax commission says that the personal property tax has degenerated into a tax on ignorance and honesty, because only the people of the most rigid sense of honesty do not dodge it.

The New York tax laws afford a hundred ways to get around the tax. For instance, a man may buy United States bonds before the assessor comes around and his investment will not be taxed, though he may sell them the next day. A ship owner whose vessel is registered in that city need pay no tax in New York. An authority on tax laws has taken illustrations of the taxable and exempt forms of property in New York, marking them from A to Z. At the conclusion he states that if the alphabet had been longer the list would have been larger.

In one of his reports the West Virginia tax commission declares that the average citizen looks upon his obligation to pay a personal property tax as no more binding than his obligation to make a contribution to the neighborhood church or to the local school. The evil of tax-dodging became so widespread in Missouri that the legislature passed a bill a few years ago requiring that all bonds and notes should be listed for taxation and that the holders of such bonds and notes not so listed could not enforce their collection. The governor promptly vetoed this bill, saying that it would serve more to drive money out of the state than it would to increase taxes.

Corporations are the worst tax-dodgers. Their violation takes the form usually of undervaluation. In a case which came to light some time since the president of a certain railroad made out that the property was worth not more than so much per mile—when the question of valuation for taxation was pending. Not very long after that the state in which the road was situated passed a 2-cent passenger tax. The railroad company, in the case in the courts and won. Its contention was that the rate would not yield a reasonable return on the value of the property, which value was established by the question of the value for purposes of taxation—again upon the oath of this same railroad president.

It is said that the burden of taxation upon personal property usually falls upon those least able to pay it. The wealthy dodge, the poor pay. The widow and the orphan suffer most. A widow who has a mortgage on her property in a mortgage may have to pay 3 per cent tax, while a corporation may have to pay 4 per cent on its net income. Thus the widow has to give up 50 per cent of the income from her mortgage to the tax collector, while the corporation pays only 4 per cent. Seeing how imperfectly the burdens of taxation are distributed, it is not surprising that dodging lies so lightly upon the consciences of men?

Tax-dodging is a new thing. Rome went to pieces through its efforts to collect taxes from the personal property of its people. From the time when taxation was nothing more than a tribute demanded from the subject people to the present day when it is levied for the purposes of promoting the public welfare, there always have been tax-dodgers. In the case of the present day who they are and to what extent they are breaking the law until the probate court gets fine of an estate. Then there are fine pickings for the assessor. The probate court shows an estate to be worth twenty times as much as it was listed on the tax books.

Law has been passed in New Zealand which bids fair to solve the age-long evil of men evading their just contribution to the expense of government. This is so simple that it seems strange no one ever thought of it before. The government calls upon the citizen to make oath to the value of his possessions and reserves the right to take over at any time any property whatsoever at the valuation placed upon it by the owner. After a few great estates had been confiscated by the government the wholesale practice of swearing to false values came to an abrupt end.

Tomorrow—The Island of Porto Rico.

WONDERS WHY WILLIAM WANDERS IN WOOLLY WEST

OAKLAND, Oct. 16.—(Editor Herald): Poor Peter Pindar penned this pointed piece of pertinent, proverbial philosophy: 'When the cat's away the mice will play.'

There seems to be a commotion among the craft. Subordinates are recalcitrant and senescent are becoming contumacious. Knox says Crane talks too much to newspaper men and obstreperous Japan slams the Chinese door in the face of Ambassador Knox. Knox kicks Crane overboard. Pinchot tries to protect the people's rights, but bellicose Ballinger, 'but-tressed' by presidential power, pinches Pinchot, while smiling 'Willie' wanders through the wild and woolly west, officially promulgating transcendental empiricism, psychologically discussing esoteric speculations and sentimentally with platitudinous ponderosity. Oh, Willie, we have missed you; hasten, hasten home. J. W. DUTTON.

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE MANASSEH HALF TRIBE SOUGHT

ELLSBRORE, Oct. 21.—(Editor Herald): Will someone kindly tell me through the columns of this excellent Letter Box where the half tribe of Manasseh went? Are the English descendants of them? How long altogether was the Jews' pilgrimages? B. H.