

Times-Republican

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AS TO POLITICS. The political situation this year presents a few phases seldom seen in a campaign. The republican speakers report that their greatest difficulty is to find something to talk about.

The republican editors are troubled in the same way. Both are compelled to talk that is their business, but the dearth of debatable material is distressing to an extreme. The size of the matter is that there is no issue. Men will go to the polls to register their approval of republican achievements as a mere matter of habit.

Furthermore the one essential feature to perfect foot ball is the great self-control demanded of the player. This one feature alone raises the game above all comparison with a prize fight. Men must not lose their temper under any provocation.

Certain unscrupulous politicians who aspire to office have resorted to deliberate falsehoods in charging the present administration with trying to form secret foreign alliances, but the falsehood was too apparent. The attempt to cajole a foreign-born class fell flat and will even work an injury to the falsifiers.

State issues—there are none. The foolishness of the republican opposition has not even attempted to trump up any. The interest in political meetings is slack. Popocratic candidates can draw scarcely two hundred listeners to their tales of woe, while it is an effort for republican speakers to attract over a thousand at a time.

A FIGHT VS. A GAME. In New York last evening occurred one of those fistic encounters which we are wont to call a prize fight. The eyes of millions of people were centered upon the affair. It was a leading subject of conversation for many days previous.

In the first place let us look at the occasion that gives rise to each of the two performances. In the one case young people are engaged in a game played by gentlemen under the strictest rules to preserve its gentlemanly character. It is played for the amusement of gentlemen and is enjoyed by

refined and cultured ladies as well. It is primarily a school sport, a game, with all the elements of usefulness that games have always had since the birth of man. On the other hand how is it there for its existence? Why, two men, invariably of the lowest order of humanity, are groomed for a fight for the sole purpose of furnishing a betting contest. The affair is in charge of the professional gambler, is conducted by the vicious and debauching elements of society, participated in by two individuals little more than brutes.

Now as to the character of the two performances. It is true that American foot ball is a rough game. It is played only by physical giants, whose development is of course beneficial, but is no more than can be said of a prize fighter, but foot ball is essentially a game of brains. To one who understands the game a battle between contending eleven discloses a hundred points of headwork to one of muscle. A degree of generalship and discipline is required in a good game of foot ball never surpassed on a battlefield of contending armies. In every college in this land you will meet with the situation thus expressed: "What is the matter with 'Big Jones'? I should think he'd make an ideal player?" "Oh! 'Big's' got the weight all right and he's speedy, but he hasn't the head for foot ball."

So it is everywhere. Foot ball is a game of discipline and generalship as well as endurance. The brutal tendencies are the very ones that a foot ball player must learn to suppress. In every play in a foot ball game every one of the eleven men has a place. He must get into every play and the failure of a single man to do his duty will often lose the game. The plays must be developed and the players drilled into them by constant and laborious practice. So perfectly must this be done that on the teams of the great eastern universities it takes from two to three years to develop a foot ball player. These plays once developed and learned must be used with reference to the strength and weaknesses and the plays of the opposing team. An entirely different game will be used against one team than against another. Everywhere it is recognized that team work is what wins.

Furthermore the one essential feature to perfect foot ball is the great self-control demanded of the player. This one feature alone raises the game above all comparison with a prize fight. Men must not lose their temper under any provocation. A man who can not control himself fails to make the team. If his opponent foolishly strikes him in the face he must not, dare not, strike back for fear of being seen by the umpire and disqualified, thus crippling his team by his enforced absence to such an extent, perhaps, as to lose the game. The first lesson the individual learns is to sacrifice himself for the good of the team and many are the heroic deeds that have been performed on the gridiron, deeds of heroic sacrifice equal to any ever performed in love of country. The virtues, qualities that go to make a pugilist are the very qualities that bar a man from modern foot ball.

The game of foot ball is of recent development. It is a rough game, many think, too rough. Accidents are numerous and there is undoubtedly need for further reform in eliminating the causes of these accidents so far as possible, but rough or not, it is a gentlemanly game, played only by gentlemen and by its very requirements develops gentlemanly traits of character. There is no more ground for comparing it to a prize fight than to a bull fight, and when we consider all the debasing conditions surrounding the former the most of us would prefer a comparison to the latter.

IRE INSURANCE IN TEXAS. Iowa and Iowa insurance companies are not alone in their troubles. Down in Texas they are having a terrible time all because of a new anti-trust law. The eighty fire insurance companies doing business in that state must face a new condition there on Jan. 1. Under the new anti-trust law, that becomes effective on Jan. 31, the companies must withdraw from associations that have been formed for the purpose of making and maintaining rates or withdraw from the state. Their licenses expire on Dec. 31. They must be prepared to discontinue their business there or continue it with the expectation of signing the affidavit that is to be required. That affidavit must declare, over the signature of an officer of the company, that the company is not, and has not become, a member of any pool, trust, agreement, combination, confederation or understanding to regulate or fix the price or premium paid for insuring property against loss or damage by fire, lightning, storm, cyclone, tornado, or any other kind of policy."

No concerted action has been determined, some of the companies preferring not to cross the bridge until they come to it, but the conditions to be met are under serious consideration in many offices. It is pretty certain that some of the companies will withdraw from the state. Under less stringent circum-

stances in Arkansas list spring most of the companies withdrew from that state, to return after a court decision on the effect of an anti-trust law. More than sixty of the companies are in court now on charges of violation of the Texas anti-trust law of 1895, the case having dragged along since 1897.

The new anti-trust law of Texas goes to an extreme greater than that of any other anti-trust law. An officer of each fire insurance company must sign an affidavit that it is not a member of any combination to regulate or fix the price or premium of an insurance policy. Refusal or failure to sign is to be considered prima facie proof that the company is in violation of the law. If the law be construed so that it will apply to a company that is connected with a rating bureau or tariff association anywhere, the company must withdraw from the bureau or stop doing business in the state. The status of a company in connection with a rating bureau in Texas at present is to be determined in the trial of the case in court now.

The suggestion has been submitted that the law is unconstitutional because of the requirement of the affidavit on the theory that it forces a party to testify against himself or itself, and a late decision by the supreme court of Missouri has been cited in support of the contention. Able attorneys have declared that there is some strength in that contention, and that possibly the portion of the law requiring the affidavit may be declared invalid. At any rate there is trouble enough ahead for the fire insurance companies of Texas.

DENIES CREDIT FOR IT. It is not without a certain sense of humor that the appended telegram from President George A. Gates, of Iowa College, will be read. Those of us acquainted only with worldly affairs are wont to believe that things are "brought about" by men of influence, and knowing that the storm of the Herron controversy has centered about one man of influence, not the gentleman who gives it his name, and knowing that a crisis month ago was projected only by his promise to adjust matters, it was quite natural for us to jump at the conclusion that his influence had been at work in the matter. However, this paper is willing to stand corrected as the president suggests. It is far from its purpose to deprive the good woman of any claims to independence in action, but our readers can hardly blame us if we still stick to the belief that an elderly lady of her retired ways would depend somewhat upon the wisdom of her advisers, especially when they were men of such lofty purposes and such apparent influence.

The telegram is as follows: Editor Times-Republican: Although it is my policy never to correct misapprehensions concerning my own life or work which appear in the newspapers, departure from that policy is really demanded when others are involved. More especially is this so when the good deeds of one are credited to another. In your editorial of yesterday concerning the resignation of Dr. George D. Herron from the professorship of applied Christianity in Iowa College credit is given me for "bringing about the resignation without the loss of the endowment." No credit is due to me. It ought to be rather blame than credit, if one should depend to attempt to work schemes to bring about events in the high realm of college administration. The thanks of the college belong to Mrs. Rand, who is quite capable of reaching her own conclusions and making her own plans. If any one is to share with her the credit of such magnanimity it is Mr. Herron himself, from whom nearly two years ago came the original proposition to resign. If you will give space to this correction in your columns it will be a courteous favor. GEORGE A. GATES.

CONGRESSIONAL READING ROOM. Mr. Putnam, the librarian of congress, proposes some time in the coming month to open a reading room for newspapers and periodicals, a new departure, and one that fills a long felt need. Heretofore it has been impossible to consult in one place the leading newspapers and periodicals in the world, so often essential for those following literary pursuits. To do this one has been compelled to run from one part of the town to the other, looking over the files of the American papers at the various offices and seeking foreign ones wherever they are to be had. Many foreign papers, and noted ones at that, are not to be found at all, as the clubs take only a few dailies from the other side, and the exchanges do not include many of them. Mr. Putnam's plans for the new reading room are not to be criticised. He has devoted one of the largest halls in the building to its use. The decorations are of a character consistent with the purpose to which the room is dedicated; the desks of polished oak are those technically known as "A" desks, and are so arranged that the reader cannot see his vis-a-vis. The attendants have been selected for their peculiar fitness for the work. There are already five hundred dailies and weeklies in the library list, and the domestic papers are sent free; but it has until now subscribed for few foreign dailies, although all the noted foreign weeklies are to be found on its shelves. While the library of congress has a larger number of newspapers and periodicals than any other library in town, all the leading libraries of the country have far larger lists, the Boston library devoting a sum of money which yields an income of \$2,000 a year to this purpose. Mr. Putnam hopes, however, to obtain an appropriation from congress that will enable him to place the library abreast of her sisters

that respect, and it is not to be doubted, the need once understood, money sufficient to allow the librarian to carry out his plans will be promptly voted.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES

By gloating over the reverses to the English, the French people may be able to forget some of the unpleasant features of their own army.

The Social Democratic Herald of Chicago referring to the recent transaction in Georgia where one contractor employing convict labor sold out his business and transferred his convicts to his successor, says that "They seem to be profitable as chattels. The convict market is quoted firm."

Col. R. Ross Appleton, a wealthy New York manufacturer, is one of the leaders of the Brooklyn Public Library Association. He says of it: "Our idea is rather novel; almost the opposite of that which underlies other great libraries. They want a magnificent building and a large number of valuable books. We divide a city into districts, based upon population. In each district we have a small building in a public park and stock it with from ten to twenty thousand books. Instead of making the man go for the books, we bring the books to the man's door. The chief objection raised to our system is that the dishonest will steal the books. To that our answer is: 'The dishonest are a small percentage in this world, and if they do steal books they will certainly read them, whereas otherwise they might remain in ignorance.'"

Many pious people are wondering why their favorite newspaper devotes so much space to the prize fight, but if they knew what it was that kept their husbands out so late last night and knew that more money was wasted on the outcome than will be put up on the coming election they would understand that the papers were only giving the news of those events in which the public is most interested.

The decision of the civil service commission that the sending of circulars asking for political contributions to federal employes at their official places of business is a violation of law must give satisfaction to every man regardless of party who believes in good and efficient government. The attempt to evade this law has been persistent and vicious. Recently there have been many signs that politicians were preparing for a general assault on the merit system, and there is need of just such firm resistance to every backward step.

A piece of work which ought to have been done by some person or persons has been done well by the American Protective Tariff League. That body has compiled a table showing the changes which have been brought about in the condition of the wage-earners of the country in the past few years. By a canvass which it has made among 1,957 business establishments of various sorts it has found that the number of workers employed by them in March, 1895, was 191,732, which has been increased to 267,486 by March, 1899. There was a gain of 39.56 per cent in the four years. The wages paid by these establishments in March, 1895, was \$6,398,044.53, which had grown to \$9,856,280.38 in March of this year. The increase in this case was 54.09 per cent. There was a gain in wages in March, 1899, as compared with that month in 1895, of 10.49 per cent per person.

Kipling has produced another wonderful poem, "The King," which is directed at Oom Paul and the Transvaal question. Like all of his poems it is vague and mysterious and might be taken to refer to the problem in government that England will have to solve upon Queen Victoria's death, but in the hands of the critics it will doubtless grow into a masterpiece.

The pious Minnesota woman on her way to church should take heed of what recently befell Miss Trask, of Benson, in that state, and avoid the endeavor to climb across a stock train, no matter how apparently secure its condition of Sabbath repose. No sooner had Miss Trask mounted the long-stretching barrier of wheels, platforms and horned cattle than it started off like the proverbial quarter horse and carried her thirty miles in fifty minutes, when it deposited her, Bible in hand, at another station. She was sent home safely by the "afternoon freight," none the worse for the incident, having learned, as well as the person could have taught it to her, the lesson that appearances are frequently deceitful, and that what seems stable is sometimes wildly and unexpectedly mutable.

LOOKER-ON IN IOWA

Iowa Falls, Nov. 3.—This town is doing much in the way of public improvements in the McKinley block. A contract has just been closed for a system of sewerage and the streets are "all torn up" while a public hot-water plant company is hurrying it to get the pipes underground before freezing occurs. This system of hot-water heating differs somewhat from steam heating. Two six-inch iron pipes are laid in the ditch side by side. These pipes are enclosed by a wooden box, made by nailing three boards together with strips of lath between each board, thus forming two air chambers under, over and on each side the pipes. No packing or asbestos paper is used, but the wooden trough enclosing the pipes is surrounded by tarred paper as a protection against dampness and consequent decay of the wood. Another peculiar arrangement is the putting in of an expansion pipe, say every 300 feet. This consists of a section of pipe made very much like the letter S, only it is so attached as to lie crosswise of the pipes, the water entering and then flowing almost at right angles to the main line,

then returning to the pipe from the other end of the S. The arrangement makes it possible for the pipes to expand between each S, otherwise there would be trouble the whole length of the line. The reader should understand this is a hot water, not a steam plant. Water heated to 200 degrees is pumped into these pipes. It is forced to travel through the entire system of pipes, and the patentees claim it will return to the boilers with only a loss of twenty degrees. They also claim (to stockholders in the company) that while the expense of putting in such a system is more than that of steam-heating, after once in operation the expense for fuel, labor, etc., is much less. These pipes are now being laid in the main business street, and many firms will be glad to heat their stores by so clean a system as that of hot water.

But the thing which a visitor is called upon to admire is the new Ellsworth opera house. Mr. Ellsworth is now finishing up a \$40,000 opera house for the citizens of Iowa Falls. The best kind of fitting gives him a return money-wise for his investment. Situated on the main street, with a frontage of sixty-eight feet, with an entrance in the center, formed of arched Bedford stone (this alone costing \$2,500), it is all on the ground floor, so that little danger can ever come to a crowded gathering from fire. The stage is one that will be appreciated. It is sixty-eight feet wide, thirty-eight feet deep and forty-seven feet "to the gridiron." (That means forty-seven feet up. Councilman Shaw who gives the Looker-On these figures says put it that way, and then the writer will be supposed to belong to the "rough.") The seating capacity is 800, and the seats themselves are to be the latest and best styles known. Two hundred and fifty incandescent electric lights are arranged for the stage alone. The walls are to be frescoed, and at the entrance many figures in the Bedford stone will be carved by an artist from the east. It strikes the Looker-On after surveying this building that a rich man is a mighty handy thing to have in the community, especially if he uses some of his money in works of this kind.

If this should meet the eye of any one who attended a convention of the free democratic party in August, 1852, in Pittsburg, Pa., or if any reader knows of a delegate to that convention he will confer a favor by writing J. B. Cripps, of Albion, Iowa. This is inserted here by request of Mr. Cripps, who is a pretty good republican these days, and while the Looker-On asked no questions there is some good reason for Mr. Cripps' interest in this matter.

We are gradually getting to have a better feeling in Iowa between the railroads and the people. We have railway commissioners, and they have power and exercise it. But the people do not use them to redress fancied or real grievances as much as in the east. There is one case in Iowa at least where our commissioners performed an act similar to the one referred to in this clipping from the Hartford, Conn., Courant.

The New London Telegraph says there has been so much complaint from the people who reside in Massachusetts along the line of the Central Vermont railroad in regard to the removal of the early morning train, connecting with the "boat train," that the matter has been brought to the attention of the railroad commissioners of that state and as a result they have ordered the road to run the train again. The Telegraph says:

"Of course the Massachusetts commissioners have no power in Connecticut, but it is extremely probable that if the train has to be put on the road at all it will start as it always did, from New London. Should the road decide to run the train only from the state line it is likely the Connecticut commissioners will take a hand in the matter and order the train to be run from this city. The train is almost a necessity and since it has been taken off the road there are a large number of people living in eastern Connecticut who have been seriously inconvenienced by its discontinuance."

This is given here only for the purpose of showing the power of our railway commissioners now and at the same time to show that the railroads (the demagogue orator who claims the railroads do as they please to the contrary notwithstanding) recognize that power.

And while it is customary and general to "dismantle the railroads" by a certain class in each community, here is a true story concerning the C. R. I. & P. that shows somebody in that great system is trying to accommodate the public, or at least one of them. A traveling man in Iowa who lives in a small town where only a few trains stop, while in Chicago went into the general offices with his tale of woe. "He could neither get home Saturday night nor away Monday morning to suit him," and he was given permission to flag certain trains for that purpose and the agent of the company at that town was notified. And then as the traveling man was leaving the office he was laughingly notified to move out of that town. But he lives there yet.

A dollar draft in every box says that it must cure you. If you have kidney and bladder trouble, liver trouble and impure blood, stomach trouble and dyspepsia, rheumatism or female complaint, Dr. Mott's Pioneer Cure, choicest coated tablets. See that the name on the box fits your case, it's no cure-all, one remedy for one disease. Cash the draft if it doesn't help you; 25 cents and \$1. For sale by McBride & Will Drug Company.

George Noland, Rockland, O., says: "My wife had piles for forty years. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured her. It is the best salve in America. It heals everything and cures all skin diseases. All druggists."

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WINE OF CARDUI THE LINK THAT BINDS. I was subject to miscarriage for three years, and suffered constantly with backache. I wrote to you for advice, and after using three bottles of Wine of Cardui, according to your directions, I am strong and well, and the mother of a fine girl baby. Mrs. E. N. JOWERS. JACKSON, TENN., NOV. 28. There is no use talking—a baby in the house is the link that binds husband and wife together. Nothing is sadder than fruitless wedlock. The prattling and cooing of the little ones offset a thousand times the occasional worries and trials of life. When a wife is barren, there is a derangement somewhere in the genital organs, caused by one or more of those common disorders known as "female troubles." Wine of Cardui is the remedy. It puts the organs of generation in a strong and healthy condition, fitting the wife for the sacred duty of reproducing her kind. During the period of gestation the entire system of the expectant mother is built up to withstand the ordeal of labor, and when the little one makes its advent it is lustrous and strong, well-fitted to grow to maturity in perfect health. The mother, too, passes through the trial with little pain and no dread. Wine of Cardui is truly a wonderful medicine for women. Large Bottles for \$1.00 at Druggists.

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