

Times-Republican

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No. 110

THE PRESIDENT'S NEW LIGHT.

It is announced per correspondence from Washington that President Taft will keep out of state politics trusting that planks in different state platforms will endorse the administration, feeling that interference from the White House will scarcely help out matters whether or no. He does not feel called upon to write all the party platforms of the states and realizes that the presidential office is a big job of itself and one to keep him sufficiently busy.

President Taft is right about it. The platforms of republican states are to be and should be written by the majority sentiment of the republican voters of the state as represented by their delegates. It is the only way whereby the voters of the state can express themselves as to their convictions; and there is plenty in the executive office to keep one good man busy. He is right also in assuming that interference would not make for a more harmonious situation.

The president seems to be finding out a few things for himself. One of these appears to be that repudiated politicians from one state and another are not the best advisers or the most truthful reporters of political status and sentiment. His name has been used to conjure with by defeated and desperate political has-beens who had knives to flesh. This has been the case in Iowa where the two senators who have done the will of the majority of republicans and of all voters in the state have been stalked for assassination under the shadow of presidential approval. It is a pity he did not find out sooner, a pity for himself and for the party.

President Taft need not fear republican resolutions. They will commend every effort of the administration to keep the pledges of the party to the people. Here in Iowa they will as they should give ringing endorsement to Iowa's senators and reiterate the faith of Iowa in the Roosevelt policies which Taft inherited and craved as a legacy. They will not attack the president but they will not be written by Major Lacey, Pete Hepburn or "Col." Lafayette Young to be used as a weapon against the men who originated and passed the plank Candidate Taft forced into the Ohio platform and had adopted into the national platform.

MORE HOSPITALS, FEWER SALOONS.

"More schools and fewer Dreadnaughts" is a slogan raised by those who oppose a big and expensive navy. But those who build warships, supply them with the munitions of their calling and feed the crews are not joining in the protest.

The middle west is not enthusiastically calling for more battleships. It doesn't care to spend its money thus, and the slogan "more schools and fewer Dreadnaughts" appeals to this section.

But the cost to the nation of naval upbuilding is a dime to a million compared to the cost of the liquor traffic. A town the size of Marshalltown could build a big battleship in the money it pays to its saloon-owners. The saloonist is required to secure consent to run in Iowa. The greatest actual expense in actual cash borne by the people of the United States is not the upholding of government but of the saloon. In actual cash mind you, not taking into account the court expenses, the misery and broken lives which the saloon entails. But those who profit or imagine they profit by the saloon are not joining in a call for "more schools and fewer saloons."

The Drednaughts built, building or planned are a drop in the bucket compared to the cost of the saloon to the community. Why not demand more hospitals and fewer saloons, more schools and fewer saloons, fewer paupers and fewer saloons, less divorces and fewer saloons, more clothing, groceries and shoes, more coal, more bath tubs, more homes bought and paid for and fewer saloons? More happiness and less whisky? Why cry out at ten millions paid for a battleship when the booze account swells into billions? Honestly, now, why?

THE QUACK CONSUMPTION CURE.

"Skin for skin" said the devil dealing tortures for Job, "all that a man hath will be given for his life." The quack who advertises "a certain cure for consumption" works from the same axiom and is no better than the fiend who laid it down as a rule of action. "The state board has felt it necessary to warn invalids and sufferers against these quack vendors of a fake cure. It is stated that many of these so-called cures contain dangerous and habit forming narcotics. None of them are cures.

The man who deliberately builds up on the fear of death and the desire to live in order to cozen dollars away from the dying and divert the curable from the paths to health by holding out a false hope deserves to be in penitentiary. Let none afflicted with tuberculosis be fooled by them and their ghoulish graft. There is no cure for consumption save right living and the open air. Medicines may assist the cure but they should be prescribed by a competent physician. Shun the quacks unless you covet a coffin.

FOODSTUFFS AT LOW MARK.

The foreign commerce of the United States in the fiscal year ending June 30 amounted to \$4 billion dollars, speaking in very general terms, of which imports were valued at 1 1/2 billion and exports at 1 1/2 billion dollars. To be more accurate the figures just completed by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor show: Imports, \$1,557,854,854; exports, \$1,744,956,203; excess of exports over imports, \$187,101,349. The imports were larger than in any preceding year and the exports larger than in any former years except 1907 and 1908. The grand total of foreign commerce, including in this term all merchandise imported and exported except that included in the trade with the non-contiguous territories of the United States (Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Guam, Tutuila, and Alaska) amounted to \$3,302,811,057 and is greater than that of any preceding year except 1907, when the total was \$3,215,272,503.

The excess of exports over imports in the fiscal year 1910 is smaller than in any other year since 1895, being \$187,101,349, against \$331,050,880 in the fiscal year 1909, \$666,431,554 in 1910, \$846,429,653 in 1907, \$517,302,054 in 1906, and \$401,048,595 in 1905. This marked reduction in the excess of exports over imports is due to a falling off in the exportation of foodstuffs and an increase in the importation of manufacturers' materials. The value of foodstuffs exported in the eleven months for which detailed figures are available was 346 million dollars, against 413 million in the corresponding months of the preceding year and 490 million in the corresponding months of 1908. On the import side manufacturers' materials show an equally striking increase, their value in the eleven months ending with May of the present year being 793 million dollars, against 608 million in the corresponding months of 1908 and 517 million in the corresponding months of 1909. The exports of foodstuffs show a decline of 39 per cent when compared with 1908, while imports of manufacturers' materials show an advance of over 50 per cent in the same time.

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"The objections to the primary law, based on two foundations," says the Madrid Register News. "One of them is an antipathy to the founders of the primary, and the other is that their cause met defeat at the primary where they believe they would possibly have been successful had the old and corrupt caucus or conventional system prevailed. The primary system of nominating candidates is growing in favor throughout the United States and will in time be adopted by every state in the union. The objection of the Iowa may shout until they are red in the face but that is all it will amount to."

MORE BALLINGER.

The letter printed below so completely tells its own story that we shall encumber it as little as possible with extraneous facts. It is necessary, however, to give this much of the contents. The letter was written by one of Secretary Ballinger's subordinates, an official of the interior department, who has charge of the land office at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. (Parenthetically, he is a nephew of United States Senator Heyburn.) As an incident of his office, he has the title of a certain amount of advertising patronage to the newspapers in his district. The letter is sent to an editor in the district who formerly received this patronage, but who ceased to receive it last November, about the time the Ballinger case became acute. The editor endured the loss of patronage until April, when he protested, and this letter is the official explanation why the interior department advertising was withdrawn from him.

TWO KINDS?

A Salvation Army young lady was in town two days of last week. We believe they are fully deserving of all the support they may get. They do work in this wicked old world of ours that the churches will not stoop to look after. The same day another lady was in town asking aid for, as she claimed, some home for old people. She may have been what she claimed but some of our citizens were prone to believe it was "dug up" accordingly. Certain it is there are a good many fakirs going thru the land and it is not always easy to distinguish the tares from the wheat.

THE FARMER'S ELEVATOR.

At industry some fifty farmers got together and organized a farmers' co-operative grain company. The idea of co-operation has long had a strong fascination for the farmers of Iowa. And where the right man is found, to whom the management of the association can be entrusted, such enterprises are always reasonably successful. Where the right man is not found the enterprise soon goes to the wall. It is claimed that but a small percentage of business men succeed. Perhaps the failure of the co-operative enterprises are not more numerous than those in other business undertakings, but they make a deeper impression upon the representative community. Where a business man fails, he smiles if he can, and gets busy at something else. Where a co-operative concern fails to make good, there is grumbling and soreness in a whole community for years upon years.

LET ROOSEVELT ALONE.

It's time to let the ex-president alone. He is wiser and more broadly patriotic now than he ever was before. Let him get his bearings on the situation. He'll know when the time comes when to do and how to do it. The hearts of the people have turned to him. He will not turn away. He will neither disappoint nor offend. It is clearly the enemies of Roosevelt political philosophy, of Roosevelt policies, who are iterating his name on all occasions and publishing every rumor that ingenuity or whim may conceive.

THE PERENNIAL THIRST.

Dubuque's brewers, wholesale liquor dealers and soft drink manufacturers have been desperately busy trying to get orders during the hot spell. A giant automobile piled high with beer kegs has been a familiar object on the streets and about the only teams on the trot with the thermometer showing ninety degrees in the shade, have been the sturdy ones attached to the beer wagons. They have had no outward and visible sign that the demand for alcoholic drinks falls off in extremely hot weather. On the contrary some of the saloonkeepers have extended their bars to accommodate the increasing traffic. Dubuque had 210 saloons in the days of prohibition and the number has since been reduced to 103 or 104, where the decline is due to the increased license, \$70 a year instead of \$75 to \$100. The saloons now close on Sundays and all other legal holidays and at 10:00 p. m. on secular days and the screens, tables and lunch counters have been removed. Liquor traffic has declined. Most of the saloonkeepers who served it were glad to get rid of the lunch and standing up at the bar instead of loitering about a table seems to be