

The Freeman.

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A man may see how this world goes with no eyes. Look with thine eyes, see how yond justice ralls upon yond simple thief. Hark, in thine ear; change places; and, handy-dandy, which is the justice, which is the thief?—Shakespeare in "King Lear."

The primary has its weak points but in comparison with the caucus it is spotless.

The Dubuque Telegraph-Herald, democratic, hopes President Taft will be re-nominated, in the interest of the democratic party.

The Des Moines Capital truthfully remarks that Dr. Wiley's vindication is good for the digestion of the entire nation.

Dr. Wiley has started the query, "What are soft drinks." The corner grocer who is allowed to have a barrel of hard cider on tap thinks that's a "soft snap."

If it comes to a showdown in Iowa Taft will get some progressive support and a few standpatters will vote for LaFollette. It will not be a test of "factional fealty."

Of course it is all right for President Taft to swing around the circle, even when the government pays the freight, but it was wrong for Gov. Cummins to do some "ewing-ing," though he paid his own way.

The Sioux City Journal says the population of Canada is 7,981,868. But it is surely more than that. Seems to us that the majority against reciprocity in the dominion was about 'steen million, and then some.

A score of girls in Roswell, N. M., object to the teaching of cookery in the high school at that place and plead that they do not have to cook, do not expect ever to have to cook, and do not want to know how. Fortunately for mankind no one will have to eat their cooking.

The Davenport Democrat says that the country would not suffer seriously if more people would follow Mr. Roosevelt's example and refuse to throw fuel on the political fire. And yet the Democrat is busy every day of its life carrying faggots to the flames.

Judge Helsell of Sioux Rapids, announces that he is going to remove to Fort Dodge for the practice of his profession. It is intimated that the judge wants to be a candidate for something. If this be true, it must be admitted that he knows how to get the office he prefers.

The action of the progressive republican conference in Chicago in endorsing LaFollette for the presidency is not expected to injure the circulation department of LaFollette's Magazine. And, by the way, LaFollette's Magazine is a publication that supplies the facts regardless of consequences.

The Odeboldt Chronicle says that Senator Kenyon has made good and some of his opponents before the legislature last winter are now his warmest admirers and supporters. "He will draw the support of 75 per cent of the republican voters in the primary," the Chronicle predicts, "despite the fool statements of some of his friends."

The democrats are not so selfish as to expect the people of the state to pay for a primary election that they might fight out their differences and save the necks of some of the politicians.—Waterloo Times-Tribune.

That is a smooth way to put it if you do not like to "leave it to the people."

The Freeman-Tribune need not say that it was somewhat startled when one of its esteemed contemporaries said a day or two ago that R. G. Clark was to resign as postmaster and that W. F. Hunter was going to be compelled to take the job. However, upon a careful perusal of the

"rumor" it becomes painfully evident that the editor of the aforesaid esteemed contemporary was suffering from nightmare or an abbreviation or aberration of the mind—or something equally as bad—temporary or otherwise.

The progressive conference at Chicago started something that will gather force each day until the work of the next republican national convention shall convene. If it succeeds in defeating the re-nomination of President Taft a candidate may be nominated who will enter the campaign with at least some prospect of winning at the polls.

The New York Herald avers that a certain former secretary of the treasury declares a man can make \$1,000,000 honestly if he tries and has the aptitude. That sounds like our own Leslie M. Shaw. Leslie has the aptitude all right, but nobody ever accused him of trying to make \$1,000,000 in the manner referred to by this former treasury official.

All there is back of the talk of a voluntary presidential primary is what a few men see of political opportunity. In the matter of principle, there is none; no more than there was last winter in shelving all suggestion of a senatorial primary. Nothing is involved apart from personal politics.—Sioux City Journal.

This is respectfully referred to Col. Lafayette Young and the Hon. David Brant.

When the federal office holders of the south got scared there is something more in the wind than scarecrows and hobgoblins. The federal officeholders of the south know which side their bread is buttered on and they are in politics to see that the buttered side stays on top. It would be well for the entire republican party to take a hint from the consternation of these political hangers-on.

The Des Moines Capital says there ought to be honesty enough left in the republican party to hold a clean, unbought, unbulldozed primary. "If there is not that much honesty in the party," the Capital adds, "the party has no excuse for longer life."—Sioux City Journal.

The Capital needn't flatter itself that it can drive all the honesty out of the republican party by insisting upon staying in itself. The party has survived as bad things as that. Hasn't it lived with Lorimer, Aldrich and Cannon all in it at the same time?

The Webster City Freeman-Tribune, referring to the report that Governor Carroll will become connected with some insurance company when he retires, says that up to Governor Cummins it was a practice of governors to organize an insurance company on retiring, and then gives Cummins credit for stopping the practice. It is easy to say such things but the Webster City paper would have a hard time proving the truth of its statement. First back of Cummins is Shaw. He organized no insurance company. Next is Drake, and he organized no insurance company. Then comes Jackson, who was president of an insurance company when nominated and elected, and he still holds the place.—Iowa City Republican.

The Republican misstates the claim of the Freeman-Tribune. It was not charged that former governors started insurance companies, but that former state officers did. If the Republican will look up the record it will find the Freeman-Tribune's statement substantially correct.

Robert M. LaFollette is a fighter who fights, a leader who leads. He always fights for the right things and invariably leads in the right direction. He will make, if elected, as popular a president as Roosevelt was in the hey-day of his popularity. The followers of LaFollette are not lukewarm. They believe in his sturdy manhood, ability and unselfish devotion to the interests of the people and whether they win or not they will have the satisfaction of serving their own conscience. When a man who has been in the limelight for twenty years and has been the target for the insulting shafts of enemies during all that time, can go before the people of his own state in a popular primary and get eighty per cent of all the votes cast, sweeping the booths by 100,000 majority, the faith of

the people cannot be shaken in him by the unjust accusations of the hirelings of special privilege.

One of the Texas land swindlers has finally got his just deserts, according to press dispatches. Charles J. Horn is his name and he is charged with fraudulent use of the United States mails, being indicted upon that charge. Horn is president of the Brazos Coast Investment company. The company has sold some 14,000 acres of land near the mouth of the Brazos river. Most of this land was sold to northerners, many of them Iowans. Half of the land is said to be a beach and the other half is swampy. The land is practically worthless, yet the easy marks from Iowa and other prosperous sections of the country, who have more money than sense, fell easy prey to the land grafters. The indictment follows a two years' campaign on the part of the government. The Freeman-Tribune hopes no Hamilton county investors have been "soaked," but it is a mere accident if they have escaped. Enough evidence of fraud on the part of Texas land boomers has been revealed during the past two years to warrant the conclusion that it is unsafe for the average stranger to conditions in that state to make investments in so-called agricultural lands.

PRIZE PUZZLES.
Prize puzzle.—Is the Register and Leader for Taft or not?—Webster City Herald.

Is the Herald for Kenyon or for Young for senator?

SOME DISADVANTAGES.
All is not roses for the women in states enjoying universal suffrage. Molly Elliott Seawell, resisting the extension of woman suffrage, reminds women that in gaining the right to vote they surrender certain other rights. She says:

In Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming a wife has no dower, she is jointly responsible for the support of the children and the homestead may be mortgaged or sold without her consent. In Utah, a wife is jointly liable for household expenses, and may, as in Colorado, under certain circumstances be forced to support her husband. . . . In no non-suffrage states is the wife called upon to support the husband, as in the suffrage states where nonsupport of a husband is a ground for divorce. In Utah, this is frankly enforced and the census of 1900 shows that six women in Utah were divorced by their husbands for non-support.

TAKING NOTICE.
The Wall Street Journal is badly "scared" over the LaFollette movement and is already admitting that the nomination of Taft is in doubt. This is a confession of weakness on the part of the president from an unexpected quarter. The Wall Street Journal is a very conservative paper, though not what its name might imply. It is not an organ of the wealthy classes, but rather a journal that seeks to get at the truth of public questions as the truth appears in Wall Street. Here is a significant paragraph from a recent issue of the Journal: The present feeling is one of disheartened disgust, but the smouldering discontent can easily be fanned into a hot flame before the presidential election. It is difficult to think of any other republican nomination than that of Mr. Taft, but such an event is now far from certain and has become steadily less probable with every speech delivered in an ill-advised and unnecessary speaking tour.

HARLAN'S SUCCESSOR.
In discussing the probable successor to the late Judge Harlan upon the supreme bench the Washington Star says:

Others urged that a lawyer of progressive tendencies might be selected, just as Justice Lamar was appointed at the request of southern democrats, who felt they should be given a larger representation on the bench. In this connection Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, and Senator Borah, of Idaho, were mentioned.

The Freeman-Tribune hopes Senator Kenyon will remain in the position he now occupies. Men of his character and independence are needed in the United States senate. Judge Kenyon has demonstrated his ability as a lawyer and needs but little time to prove to the satisfaction of every fair-minded man in Iowa that he possesses the qualifi-

cations to make a great law-maker. While the state would like to see the Fort Dodge man honored by a call to the supreme court, his real friends believe that his services as United States senator will be greater than they could be upon the bench.

INSURGING.
The Capital begs leave to state that it is engaged in a crusade for the reformation of school board administration—without regard to whose political fortunes may be benefited or damaged thereby.—Des Moines Capital.

Ho, ho. Gone into the "uplift business? Doing a little insurging right at home? As long as the light holds out to burn the vilest sinner, etc. Just hear the Capital sermonize:

"The Evening Tribune should imitate rather than find fault with a newspaper which can fight the battles of the people without having its ardor chilled by the loss of one subscriber or the withdrawal of a two-inch ad.

That has the flavor of "democracy," "populism," "demagoguism," "insurgency," etc. The Capital "fighting the battles of the people." Pass the smelling salts to Capital readers who are affected with heart trouble and be quick about it or it will be everlastingly too late.

Time will teach thee soon the truth, there are no birds in last years nest.—Longfellow.

DEFEAT NOT COURTED—BUT.

The Webster City Freeman-Tribune has announced that it will support the presidential aspirations of Senator Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin. It believes that he is the logical leader of progressive republicans who are opposed to the nomination of President Taft and believes that he can carry the state in a primary. The Freeman-Tribune is one of the most influential papers in the state and its decision to support LaFollette will add much strength to his campaign. The situation looks hopeless, however. Very few believe that LaFollette can be nominated. Taft seems to have the inside track and every move that tends to embarrass him will leave the party just that much worse off. The Record is willing to admit that the president is deserving of very little encouragement from the progressive wing of the party, but much may happen within the next year.—Cedar Falls Record.

The Freeman-Tribune is not courting defeat, but if it were absolutely certain that Robert M. LaFollette could not carry a state in the union for the nomination it would be for him just the same now that he is the recognized candidate of the progressive republicans of the nation. The Freeman-Tribune has been a part of the progressive movement ever since its inception and it believes the principles represented by such men as LaFollette, Cummins, Roosevelt and others of that character are right, and being right, are imperishable. It is not a question of the success of LaFollette in this campaign. It is a question of making a fight for the things in which we believe. The Freeman-Tribune is not inclined to question the motives of progressive republicans who feel that the LaFollette movement is ill-timed and perhaps a mistake, but for itself it can say that it is in hearty sympathy with the work of the recent Chicago conference and is ready to stand back of the great Wisconsin leader though it be the only paper in the state standing there.

PLANS FOR PRIMARY.

W. C. Hayward, secretary of state, has outlined a plan under which a presidential preference primary can be held in Iowa. Hayward is of the opinion that a collection could be taken of those who attend the primary and sufficient funds could thus be raised to bear the expense. Sentiment in the state seems to be crystallizing rapidly in favor of a primary, all factions and interests apparently wanting to settle the contest in this state in that manner. In the judgment of the Freeman-Tribune the paramount consideration in connection with a primary is the strengthening of the ticket. If Taft carries a primary all good republicans will rally to his support in the event of his nomination and if LaFollette gets the larger number of votes in the state that fact would help him wonder-

DON'T TAKE IT FOR GRANTED

that just because you are in business, everybody is aware of the fact. Your goods may be the finest in the market, but they are sure to remain on your shelves unless the people are told about them, and they become acquainted with the fact. You must

ADVERTISE

if you want to move your merchandise. Reach the buyers in their homes through the columns of THIS PAPER and on every dollar expended you'll reap a handsome dividend.

fully at the polls in the event of his selection as the standard bearer, and it looks now as though he has a fighting chance for the nomination. Mr. Hayward's plan contains the following articles:

Hold primary on same day in each voting precinct of the state.

Time to be fixed by the state central committee.

State central committee to first confer with county chairmen and endeavor to secure their willing cooperation.

Republican state central committee to act as board of state canvassers and announce result.

Republican county central committees to act as boards of county canvassers and report to the state central committee.

Precinct committeemen to have charge of precinct primaries and select men to act as tellers or clerks of election.

County central committees to fix hours for primary for each precinct or delegate that power to the precinct committeemen.

State central committee to select form of ballot.

SUGGESTIVE BALLOT FORM.

"Republican primary ballot for president of the United States."

First choice.....

Second choice.....

Third choice.....

County central committee in each county to take care of necessary expenses.

Endeavor to have services of clerks of election donated, same as at an ordinary caucus or old-fashioned primary before primary law was enacted.

A collection taken at a precinct primary, where attendants would chip in 10 cents to \$1 each, would raise money to cover all necessary expenses.

A REACTIONARY VIEW.

Cedar Rapids Republican: Senator Kenyon in a recent statement showed that President Taft had prosecuted more trusts than President Roosevelt. But to our mind that is no recommendation at all. It may be that the trust busters under Taft are overdoing the business, seeking thereby to win favor with the howling derisives of American politics. It is possible for the president and his legal aids to overdo even a good thing. Attorney General Wickersham, an ex-railroad lawyer and trust lawyer, is trying to prove that he is from under those old influences and he may be overdoing the business. To vindicate himself he may ruin the business of the country. The attorney general certainly has a long list of blunders to his discredit. What Senator Kenyon sets down as a mark of merit some may regard as a mark of demerit.

It has become the fashion and the habit to denounce the big corporations, but the big corporations, in our opinion, have helped to make this country big in the markets of the world. American oil and American steel have been sold in all parts of the world. We have become the great exporting nation of the world.

But we have accomplished all these great things, things of which we boast, through our great corporations. No man alone could undertake or accomplish such wonders in the markets of the world. It takes associated capital and associated energy. Our object should not be merely to break down these gigantic engines, but to regulate them, not to the end that they may be weaker for their great undertakings, but that they may be stronger.

We can learn from the Germans in this matter. In Germany the men who build up great industries are not maligned or persecuted or even prosecuted, but they are hailed as nation builders, as the men whose combined efforts are making possible the standing of Germany in the markets of the world.

The thing for which we least admire President Taft is the thing that Senator Kenyon sets forth in praise of him. Some day there will be many more of us to deplore the present governmental and political attitudes toward what has been derisively called "Big Business." When we are through with "Big Business" we shall find that we are not so big as an industrial nation and that our workmen are not so prosperous as they have been.

It may not be popular to say these things at the present time, but, believing them as we do, it is our duty to utter them.

MAKING A MONKEY OF US.

"The White Pass & Yukon railroad in Alaska was built," the Des Moines News says, "by private capitalists. They issued \$3,500,000 of 5 per cent bonds, which paid the entire cost. They then issued \$5,000,000 of preferred and \$20,000,000 of common stock—all water."

"During the first two years the road earned interest on its bonds, 7 per cent on preferred and 400 per cent on its common stock. That was during the enormous rush to the Klondike, when travel and traffic were immense and the railroad could charge anything it had the nerve to ask. More normal conditions succeeded; the watered stock now earns but 20 per cent.

"That's one way to build a railroad for the development of a new country. Here's another way:

"The government of Ontario wanted to open up the Cobalt mining district. It proceeded to build the Temiskaming, 3 per cent bonds. No stock—no water! It operated five trails for prospectors, wagon roads to mines, and leased diamond drills at moderate cost to miners who could not buy those expensive tools. The government did not, however, give its mines away. It retained title and leased the mines at a royalty of 25 per cent of the net profits.

"Do you wonder that Canada doesn't yearn to be annexed to the American railroad trust? Do you wonder that some discouraged Alaskans have dared to wish their country might be annexed to Canada? "Big business is making a monkey of Uncle Sam in the matter of his natural resources."