

The River Press

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THE REAL WOODROW WILSON

President Wilson's remarkable protest against the conception of his personal character which the public has generally accepted will make a vivid impression on the country. It could not be otherwise, since his comments at the Press Club in Washington on his own attitude and point of view were delightfully unaffected and human. What he said was both candid and modest. He analyzed himself with all the grace and sureness which we have come to expect from urbane psychologists like Henri Bergson. Any suggestion of egotism was dispelled by the humor with which the president lifted the official mask and tried to appraise himself merely as the man who can still "at blessed intervals" hold the cares and burdens of the presidency at arm's length.

The presidency is a lonely office. General Harrison suffered acutely in it because the people with whom he came in contact—most of them necessarily with axes to grind—considered him reserved and unsympathetic. He complained bitterly to his fellow intimates of the judgment which the world had formed of him, but he lacked the initiative and boldness to fight such an impression as Mr. Wilson is now fighting it. No president would be worth his salt if he did not take the responsibilities of his office seriously enough to guard his confidence and to be on the alert to head off politicians anxious to use him for their selfish purposes and often act abruptly if he wants to discharge the obligations imposed upon him as a distributor of patronage and as a party leader.

Too great a friendliness to those who imposed on his good nature was Mr. Taft's chief fault in the presidency. The country would gladly have seen him more unapproachable and suspicious and bouhomie in non-official relations. Colonel Roosevelt struck the happier men, for although he gave unhampered expression to all his varied interests in men and things and was by nature and habit companionable and expansive, he also knew when to freeze up and to fight. In our time the presidents who have not been afraid to fight and to hold of the office seekers and politicians in Washington have been those who have made the greatest impression on history.—N. Y. Tribune.

INDIFFERENCE IN POLITICS

When the cities and counties have inferior government it is largely due to the indifference of citizens who, as a general thing, cannot be persuaded to take the same interest in the conduct of their local government that they take in the conduct of their business or in their family affairs, says the Anaconda Standard. Every citizen should be interested in the government of the community in which he lives, for good government is essential to the well being of the citizens and has much to do with the prosperity of the community.

All citizens are interested of course in the government of the community where are their interests. But as a general thing their interest is of a passive character. They want good government, but they don't take any interest in politics, they don't like politics and they leave political affairs to the other fellows. The results are seldom satisfactory and often they are calamitous. It often happens that inferior or dangerous men are elected to fill positions of great responsibility.

Often heretofore citizens have explained their indifference to political affairs by the complaint that the parties are run by cliques or politicians and that they couldn't accomplish anything if they really tried. They may have tried politics once or twice and run up against the machine with the result that they got reluctant ever to take a hand in politics again. But the politicians are out of it now. The nominations are in the hands of the people themselves. Conventions for the nomination of candidates have been eliminated and the candidates are placed before the primaries by petition. Each citizen has the same opportunity as every other citizen to make his vote count in the expression of his choice at the direct primaries as to who shall be the party's candidate in his ward.

It is hoped that this revolutionary change in the method of conducting political affairs will result in greater interest being taken by citizens generally in the nominations, the primaries and the election. If it does so result, the change will prove a good thing. But if the citizens do not take greater interest than they have heretofore, then the new system will show no improvement over the old system and it may even prove to be not so good.

AS OTHERS SEE US

In a recent issue of Financial America, a New York publication, publicity is given to the advantages offered by Montana to settlers and the investment of capital. The article is based upon statements made by Governor Stewart in a contribution to the Western Magazine, and says in part:

The importance of Montana does not depend, it appears, upon its mining wealth, extensive though this is; but Montana has developed so many other resources of a different nature in the article published by us elsewhere on this page, "it stands forth an

empire pregnant with possibilities in agriculture, which may put it in the front rank of commonwealths and with a hydro-electric development highly promising to manufacturing growth." The eastern business man, his attention limited to the crowning activities of his own environment, is apt to fail to heed the march of progress in parts of the country one or two thousand miles away. Yet the fact and the evidences of this progress are something not only to stir his pride, but possibly to have much to do with his personal welfare in the future.

How many of us here in the East have realized that more railroad construction is now under way in Montana and that more miles of surveys and definite locations have been made for new lines than in any similar area on the continent? The Northern Pacific is building branch lines in many of the newer agricultural portions of the state. The Great Northern is pushing work at both ends of what virtually will be a new line from the eastern to the western border. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul is building upward of 500 miles of new road through a rich wheat section, and the "Soo" announces its intention of building a line across the northern part of the state.

Governor Stewart points out that in its vast domain of more than 146,000 square miles, Montana has resources which are capable of supporting millions of people. That, certainly, is something worth knowing. These resources, many of them, have awaited for years the coming of brains and brawn. The state is now receiving men and capital necessary for the proper development of its resources. "With the assistance," says Governor Stewart, "of all the aids and appliances of a modern age, we propose to make use of our great heritage in the building here of an empire which will rank among the really great achievements of mankind."

Must Give Full Weight

Not all merchants in Montana are giving full weight, according to the monthly bulletin of the state board of health.

"We often found," states the board, "that a sample of butter or some other package goods is sold to an inspector as being a certain weight or measure when such package is plainly labeled by the manufacturer to be of a different capacity. For instance a package of butter is sold as 'one pound' when it is plainly labeled 'net wt. 15 ozs., or some similar legend. Doubtless, when butter is ordered by a customer a pound is asked for and 'a pound' sold in the same manner. It may not be out of place to quote from the dairy law and the food and drug act some sections bearing on this subject:

"Section 20 of the Montana dairy act reads as follows: 'Any person, persons, firm or corporation, selling or offering for sale any article of dairy products as a pound or multiple thereof, the net weight of which is less than sixteen ounces, or the proper multiple thereof, to represent the number of pounds sold or offered for sale, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.'

"Section 5 of the Montana food and drug act reads in part as follows: 'Any person, persons, firm or corporation selling or offering for sale any article of food as a pound, or any multiple thereof, except by actual weight, the net weight of which is less than sixteen ounces, or the proper multiple thereof to represent the number of pounds sold or offered for sale, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.'

"There are other laws dealing with weights and other sections of these same laws which deal with weights, etc., and labelling, but the above sections are cited to point out the fact that a merchant who retails an article in package form should sell it for the weight the manufacturer represents it to contain, otherwise, he himself is liable under the law.

Observations by Luke McLuke

When it comes to unpopularity the man who knows it all hasn't a thing on smallpox.

When a man gets through sowing his wild oats he often reaps a grass widow.

This is a big world. But somehow the fool and the slot machine always manage to meet up together.

Once in a while a woman thinks twice before marrying, but a lot of them marry twice before thinking.

Most husbands develop into pretty decent animals, considering the material upon which their wives have to work.

It often happens that a man who was born with a silver spoon in his mouth has to hustle to find something to eat with the spoon.

Opposites always attract. That is the reason why a woman who is a good talker usually cops out a man who is a good listener.

A man flagged a train with his shirt and saved the passengers. It was a good thing for the passengers that the man didn't happen to be a girl.

The law recognizes the man as the boss of the household. But a woman doesn't care two whoops in Halifax about the law.

Religion is the greatest thing on earth and helps make the world a better place in which to live. But the word "work" occurs in the Bible just four times as often as the word "worship."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE RIVER PRESS

Subscribe for the WEEKLY RIVER PRESS. Send it to "the old folks at home."

HOUSE SUPPORTS PRESIDENT

Repeal of Tolls Exemption Favored by Substantial Majority

Washington, March 31.—The house of representatives after one of the most spectacular legislative struggles in the history of the nation, voted tonight to repeal the provision of the Panama canal act exempting American vessels from the payment of tolls. The vote on the repeal bill was 247 to 161, a majority of 86 votes in support of the personal plea of President Wilson.

This verdict on the issue, which has absorbed congress for weeks, came at the close of a day made memorable in the annals of the house by a party division which found Speaker Clark Majority Leader Underwood and other democratic chieftains lined up in open opposition to the president on an issue which the latter has declared vital to his conduct of the nation's foreign policy.

On the final vote, 220 democrats in the house stood by the president, giving him in "ungrudging measure," what he had asked, "for the honor of the nation," in its foreign relations. Twenty-four republicans, two progressives, and one independent also voted to sustain the president. Fifty-two democrats followed Speaker Clark and Majority Leader Underwood to defeat in their steadfast determination that the president was wrong in his decision that toll exemption for American ships was a violation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty with Great Britain.

Nothing, it seemed, could stem the tide of administration success. Speaker Clark, for nearly 22 years a member of the house, made the speech of his life to forestall what he termed "unquestionable degradation," of the nation. In this he failed, but he did smooth over the party breach with kindly words for his adversaries, praise for President Wilson and an unqualified denial of any vaulting ambition on his own behalf.

When Speaker Clark had closed the debate for the opposition to the repeal, with an impassioned argument, he was triumphant in defeat, for the entire legislative assemblage, in which were many senators rose to cheer him.

Opposed Senator Myer's Bill

Washington, March 31.—One of the most vigorous opponents in the senate to the Myers bill providing for the sale to the Republic Coal company of Montana, a subsidiary of the Milwaukee railroad, is Senator Fall of New Mexico. Senator Fall fought the bill when it was before the senate last week, and if the Montana senators are successful in bringing it again before the senate he will fight it again.

As the bill was originally introduced, it provided for the sale or lease of the 2,000 acres of coal land to the coal company, and Secretary Lane did not oppose it. As it came from the committee it provided for the sale only of the land to the company, "at a price not less than the appraisement." Senator Walsh of Montana, offered a number of amendments to the bill, and they were as vigorously fought by the New Mexican senator as the original measure.

Senator Walsh is chairman of the senate committee on mines and mining, and during his speech Senator Fall criticized him severely on other bills which the Montana senator has reported from his committee.

Railroads Reduce Expenses

Pittsburg, Pa., March 31.—Retrenchment on the Pennsylvania lines west was extended today with the announcement that ten passenger trains were to be taken off the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago railroad next Sunday, six of them suburban trains. Shop forces are also being reduced.

New York, March 31.—The Erie railroad, through A. J. Stone, general manager, announced today the enforcement of a general reduction in the clerical force, wage cuts and lessening of working hours, to aid, according to the statement in offsetting declining revenues. About 6,000 men have been laid off since December.

Oklahoma Mob Lynched Woman

Muskogee, Okla., March 31.—Marie Scott, a negro woman, who killed Lemuel Peace, a youthful white man, Sunday night, by driving a knife into his heart, was taken from the Wagoner county jail early today and hanged to a telephone pole. The mob, which was masked, overpowered the jailer, a one-armed man, threw a rope over the woman's head and dragged her out of the jail.

A knock at the door aroused the sleeping jailer. A voice outside said an officer was there with prisoners. The jailer opened the door and faced twelve revolvers. He was bound quickly, his keys taken from him and he was then thrown into a corner.

The mob then pulled the screaming woman from her cell, tied a rope about her neck and dragged her to a telephone pole, a block from the jail. An hour later the sheriff cut down the body.

What's the Matter With Kansas?

Girard, Kan., gets its water from two wells, each 1,200 feet deep. It is good water, pure and cold. That is, it was cold up to about two months ago.

On Jan. 20, after gradually warming up for several days, the temperature of the water suddenly jumped from 80 to 120 degrees. It remained at this temperature for several days and then gradually cooled.

Naturally the citizens of Girard were somewhat worried by the vagaries of their water. They wanted to know whether it was still fit to use.



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And they very decidedly wanted to know what made it act so.

The job of explaining was turned over to C. A. Haskins, the state engineer. Mr. Haskins has just made a report to Girard. He says the water is pure. But he doesn't say why its temperature went up to 120 degrees. Nor does he explain why its temperature is still 90 degrees. In short, the explanation fails to explain.

When anyone is able to explain what is the matter with Kansas no doubt the same explanation will explain the vagaries of the water of Girard and other things that bob up every few days to puzzle the rest of the country.—Inter-Ocean.

Livestock Rates Suspended

Helena, Mont., April 1.—The state railroad commission has been advised by the interstate commerce commission that the increase in freight rates proposed by the Northern Pacific, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Oregon Short Line and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, from Montana to eastern points, amounting to \$2.40 per car for sheep and \$4.40 per car for cattle, have been suspended until July 30. This action follows a protest telegraphed by the state board to the federal commission when the roads recently filed their proposed increased tariffs.

The Great Northern is not included, as its rates were filed after the protest was made, but an amendment is expected to be made to the suspension order including that road.

Examinations for Postmasters

It is announced that examinations for the position of fourth class postmaster will be held in Great Falls, Helena, Butte, Havre, Lewistown and a number of other cities in Montana on May 16. An executive order issued by the president on May 7, 1913, requires competitive examinations for the position of postmaster at all fourth class postoffices at which the annual compensation is \$180 or more, and at which the present incumbent was not appointed under the civil service regulations.

From the examinations to be held May 16 the position of postmaster will be filled at these and a large number of postoffices in Montana: Armington, August, Belton, Benchland, Box Elder, Carter, Collins, Denton, Dupuyer, Farmington, Kendall, Nelhart, Monarch, Raynesford, Sun River Vaughan and many others.

Civil Cases Set for Trial

At the Wednesday morning session of the district court, the following civil cases were set for trial:

- George E. Barkley vs. H. H. Nelson, April 13.
- Fred Mitchell vs. Minneapolis Threshing Machine Co., April 13.
- Emma Flatness vs. Margaret Card and Geo. Card, April 14.
- J. J. Gehring vs. Chouteau county, April 14.
- Patrick J. McBride vs. Mary A. Smith, April 15.
- F. I. Long vs. Chas. & Geo. Ratliff, April 16.
- C. M. Watters vs. Brady-Collins Sheep Co., April 17.
- Jane Parrish vs. Joseph Parrish, April 18.
- I. M. Rogers vs. Eliza J. R. Rogers, April 18.

It is expected the trial of these cases will occupy about two weeks.

The Miles City Horse Sales Co.

MILES CITY, MONTANA

1600 HORSES 1600 AT AUCTION April 15, 16 and 17, 1914

The success of the February Sale of harness broken and grain-fed horses and the demand for this character of animals has decided the company to hold another sale of harness-broken horses on APRIL 15, 16 and 17. At this time there will be offered at least

1,000 HEAD OF HARNESS-BROKEN AND GRAIN-FED HORSES, READY FOR SPRING WORK

and every indication is that this sale will be as good as the February sale, when nearly 1,800 horses were disposed of. The horses that will be offered at the coming sale will be fully equal to those offered at the February Sale. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE HORSE DEAL and want to buy or sell, KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE MILES CITY HORSE SALES CO.

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