

Taft's Veto Rebukes Military Intrigue and 'Pork Barrel' Tactics

BEYOND doubt it is vicious legislation to include in an appropriation measure general provisions of law. President Taft's veto of the army bill is directly aimed at this disingenuous and tricky practice.

This obnoxious feature of the bill was the result of a military intrigue that is supposed to have taken its rise in the political feeling aroused by the retirement of Adjutant General Ainsworth, who was forced out of the service by Secretary Stimson.

Senator Warren nurses a grievance against Secretary Stimson because the latter included Fort Russell, Wyoming, in the list of army posts that should be abandoned and sold by the government for whatever they would bring.

Incidentally, it may be remarked that Senator Warren's son in law is Brigadier General Pershing, whose sudden promotion from the rank of captain to his present standing in the army has been the subject of much comment.

It should be clear that the legislation vetoed by Mr. Taft was inspired by military intrigues and a powerful attachment to the "pork barrel" working in congress. Stimson's project for the abandonment of useless or superfluous army posts has stirred up a hornets' nest in congress and there is a scheme afoot to kill it by similarly indirect and disingenuous tactics such as those which inspired the trick to oust General Wood by making the measure part of an appropriation bill.

SHALL San Francisco accept or finally refuse the offer of Andrew Carnegie to give the city \$750,000 for the building and equipping of a public library? Many—or at least some—labor leaders and organizations say "refuse it."

Concerning the Andrew Carnegie Library Fund

There are, on the other hand, worthy citizens not connected with organized labor who say "take it." The idea of these is, we may assume, that the "tainted money" notion is nonsense—that to accept the benefactions of a Stanford, for example, and spurn those of a Carnegie is foolish.

Among the latter class is Mr. John E. Quinn, who stated his views in a communication published on Monday. He holds that the Carnegie offer is merely "a business proposition," in the settlement of which no considerations of sentiment should be given weight.

It is true, as Mr. Quinn points out, that labor would be a considerable gainer by the expenditure of this money in San Francisco and, moreover, the families of laboring men would be largely benefited by the institution of a well equipped public library, but if the representatives of organized labor are ready to forego these advantages from conscientious motives, that is a weighty objection, but how much should it weigh against the needs of jobless men and hungry, needy families?

Objections to Bridge Across the Sacramento

RECENT resolutions adopted by the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce condemn the project of the Oakland, Antioch and Eastern railway to build a low bridge across the river at the head of Suisun bay. This project is virtually a renewal by another enterprise of the plan mooted some years ago by the Southern Pacific company to bridge the river near Benicia.

This objection was, of course, the reason that inspired the resolutions of the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce. The project had previously received indorsement from certain civic organizations, which appear to have acted hastily, but the chamber speaks with far greater authority and has reason behind its protest.

There is no objection to the construction of a bridge across the Sacramento river. On the contrary, the matter should be pushed, but any such bridge should be high enough to permit the passage of river craft without obstruction and it should be big enough to accommodate more than one railroad, as well as the wheeled traffic of the country.

Preliminary Tactics of the Baltimore Convention

WHILE Chicago is all torn up and uproarious over the republican unpleasantness the democrats are not neglecting their plans and controversies. Apart from the personal claims of candidates, the most important of these controversies concerns the two-thirds majority rule, which the followers of Champ Clark now regard as the most dangerous obstacle in the way of their candidate for the nomination.

It Won't Last Long



national conventions for nearly three-fourths of a century. He urges that the rule is unreasonable and was originally adopted to meet the exigencies of a special case.

All this may be true, but it takes no account of the powerful force of political traditions, always reinforced by the support of minority factions, which see their advantage in delay. The fact is that the majority of the Baltimore convention will be constituted of such minority factions.

Clark would poll the full party strength, but that is not enough to win. The supporters of Woodrow Wilson claim that he would do better at the polls, but political prophecy is an unsafe business, and the New Jersey governor has aroused powerful animosities in his own party.

But the political wisecracs are looking for a deadlock, from which ultimately Underwood, Harmon, Bryan or Foss may emerge as the winner.

Why City Should Reject Carnegie's Gift

By WALTER MACARTHUR

Editor Call: Your correspondent, in today's issue, makes but one statement bearing upon the real issue involved in the proposed Carnegie gift of \$750,000. He says: "This is a purely business proposition."

If this statement were correct nothing would remain to be said. But the statement is wrong. Hence the disagreement on the subject.

A "business proposition," in my understanding of the term, is a transaction involving the elements of barter and sale, an exchange of commodities or services upon terms mutually acceptable. The essential condition of a "business proposition" is that all the parties concerned shall profit by the transaction.

No such element enters into the proposed transaction between Carnegie and the city. In fact, as your correspondent states, "it is a free offer of \$750,000 to San Francisco, with no strings attached."

Clearly the transaction can not rightly be called a "business proposition." What, then, is the true nature of the proposition?

It is a matter of morals, or to state it more concretely, of honor. Mr. Carnegie honors the city, let us say, by presenting a sum of money for a public purpose. The city, in turn, honors Mr. Carnegie by accepting his gift. The element of public honor is the question at issue in the case.

It is immaterial whether or not Mr. Carnegie wishes his name placed on the building. His name would of necessity be associated with the work, despite all efforts to hide it, whether by planting climbing vine or by any other means.

There is no difference in principle between a public building erected by money given by an individual and a building erected by the city and formally dedicated to an individual. In both cases the essence of the act is the acknowledgement of public obligation to the individual.

Disguise the fact as we may, the city can not absolve itself from obligation to the person from whom it receives money for any public purpose. Whether or not the city should obligate itself to Mr. Carnegie can only be determined by reference to the source of his wealth.

Money honorably come by may be just as honorably received. As to the manner in which Mr. Carnegie has come by his wealth, it is sufficient to point out that no one has yet ventured publicly to say a word in defense of Carnegie's business methods.

On the contrary, those who most strongly advocate the acceptance of the money are most insistent upon the point that nothing shall be said about the source from whence it comes!

The Senator Left Out Senator Vardaman, so the story goes, once rented a plot of several acres to one of his black neighbors. The land was to be planted in corn, and the senator, then former governor, was to receive one-fourth. The corn was duly harvested, but the senator did not receive his business methods.

Meeting the negro one day, he said: "Look here, Sam, have you harvested your corn?" "Yes, sah, boss long go."

"Well, wasn't I to get a fourth?" "Yes, sah, boss, dat de truf, but dar warn't no fo' th. Dar was jes' three loads, and dey was mine."—Judge.

Of course, to accept the gift and ignore the giver would be tacitly to confess ourselves ashamed of our own act. Note the dilemma: To accept the money is to ignore the methods by which it has been accumulated; to ignore the giver is to recognize these methods by acknowledging ourselves ashamed to recognize his name!

Either Mr. Carnegie is a person entitled to receive public honor or he is not. In either case he is entitled to know what San Francisco thinks of him, as well as what it thinks of his money.

The other statements of your correspondent are irrelevant. The present objection to the acceptance of the Carnegie gift comes not from members of the union labor party, but from the labor organizations—a very different thing. If names count for anything, it is just as well that we get the right names.

As to the assertion that the gift "would be spent for labor at good wages," it may be taken for granted that labor is quite willing to forego the gift in the case proposed. In this, as in other similar matters, the attitude of labor is determined by public opinion rather than by private considerations.

In the same connection it may be pointed out that the strike question is merely an incident, not a determining factor, in the attitude of labor.

It is said that Carnegie gave \$100,000 to the relief fund in 1904. For this he is entitled to credit. I should be pleased to join in a movement to insure that he shall receive credit in full measure, even though many other contributors to the same good cause may go without other reward than the thanks of the people. But a monument to Mr. Carnegie in commemoration of an act of simple humanity on his part that a public building commemorating the fact that he made \$400,000,000 by the process of "high finance."

Regardless of the action of other cities, it should be the ambition of San Francisco to be able to say, when she shall have been fully rehabilitated, that the work was done by the people themselves without aid from any questionable source.

Surely it were better that San Francisco should be known as the city that does not owe its public library, or anything else, to the philanthropy of Mr. Carnegie.

Surely, it were better that the people of San Francisco should be asked why they do not possess a public library than why they have accepted one at the hands of one of the world's greatest promoters and beneficiaries of corruption in commercial life.

San Francisco, June 17, 1912.

Testimonial for Hamlet The following is said to be about the choicest mot in the long W. S. Gilbert list: "After several days' absence from London, Gilbert walked into the Savoy club one day and somebody shouted a greeting: 'Hello, Gilbert, where have you been?'"

"'I've been up to Birmingham to see Wilson Barrett as Hamlet,'" Gilbert cried. "I'da' duced you say! How was it?" asked his friend. "Oh, very funny—and not at all vulgar," was the answer.—Exchange.

Gratitude

By THE POET PHILOSOPHER

'M glad the people don't insist that I should for an office run; they've tumbled to the fact, I wist, that I don't like that sort of fun. No delegation seeks my door to tell me that the state demands my presence on the house's floor, the service of my brain and hands. No patriots come round to say that all is lost if I don't rise and knock the welkin loose today with facts, statistics, pipe dreams, lies. I do not list to Toms or Dicks unwind their campaign rignaroles; the stale old game of politics imparts the willies to my soul. I've seen the roorback pounded flat; I've seen the same old shrieking throng demanding this, rebuking that! And always when the noise is done, the chronic statesmen get the moon, the voters have to foot the bills. The statesmen know I do not care who wins or loses in the fight; they know I will not paw the air, or lug transparency by night; they know I will not toot a horn or waddle with the other geese, and so they pass me up with scorn, and I enjoy a splendid peace.

THEATRICAL OUTLOOK IN TEXAS The manager of a theatrical company playing a "one night stand" in Texas was talking to the hotel proprietor regarding the prospects for business and had been assured they were good.

Then he asked: "What was the last show you had here?" The landlord thought for a moment and, turning to the clerk, said: "Say, Fred, what's the name on those trunks upstairs?"—Kansas City Star.

Not Our Golden Gate A Philadelphia firm is making what is thought to be the largest gate in the world for J. P. Morgan. Probably for that fence he is building around the country.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

By GEORGE FITCH, Author of "At Good Old Swash"

A CORRESPONDENCE school is an educational institution with a long distance attachment which enables a man to stuff himself with knowledge at the rate of two cents an ounce, rural free delivery included.

It is very easy to attend a correspondence school. All that is necessary is to be a good correspondent. A man need not be a careful dresser, or a durable end runner, or a master with the banjo, or a swanlike dancer. He does not need possess a chilled steel voice box or a wagon load of sofa pillows, or talent for organizing under classes or an inordinate nocturnal appetite for pie. All he needs is a bushel of two cent stamps and a little spare time in the evening.

With this equipment he can in a few months familiarize himself with the principles of mechanical drawing, electricity, German, Spanish, shoulderless French, intensive farming, swimming under water, journalism, horse doctoring, ship building, Marathon running, cake designing, skydiver's planning, piano playing, preaching, law, scenario writing, auto driving, plain legislating, home plumbing, aviation, or hair cutting.

It will thus be seen that the correspondence school has a vast curriculum. Hundreds of thousands of Americans are attending these schools around the kitchen table at night, and the chauffeurs are sitting in motionless automobiles trying to find out from a fat book how to get home in time for supper.

The student of the correspondence (Copyright, 1912, by George Matthew Adams)

PERSONS IN THE NEWS

DR. GEORGE H. PHILLIPS, a dentist of Hartford; J. G. Galina, a dealer in vehicles and implements at Stockton; H. L. Plumbo, a railroad official of Washington, D. C., and J. D. Lawrence, a mining man of Carroll, Nev., make up a group of recent arrivals at the Argonaut.

J. D. FARRELL, president of the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation company, and R. B. Miller, traffic manager, are guests at the Palace, registered from Portland.

FRANK ROBERTS, P. J. Divin, J. J. Casey, W. J. Mellen and Mrs. Mellen and Mrs. J. R. Kreiger of Marysville make up a group of arrivals yesterday at the Max.

A. L. MOORE, president of the Union Pacific, is here for a conference with President Spruce of the Southern Pacific. He is at the Palace, registered from Omaha.

R. P. KENNEDY, an automobile manufacturer of Anderson, Ind., is at the Bellevue. He has just returned from a trip to the orient.

W. W. WILSON of the Fremo Firms and Lumber company is at the Palace, registered from Los Angeles.

W. H. MICHAEL, consul general of the United States at Calcutta, is registered at the Stewart with his family.

WILLARD E. BROWN, manager of the Halted Brokerage company of Honolulu, is staying at the Bellevue.

J. M. KROGER, general manager of the Cannon Iron works of Stockton, is at the Palace with Mrs. Kroger.

G. L. MANUELLEN of Madras, Cal., and Ralph A. Louis of Idaho Falls, Idaho, are guests at the Max.

D. G. LEWIS, a shipping agent of Portland, Ore., arrived yesterday at the Union Square.

JOHN FERRIS, a well known banker of Indianapolis, is registered at the St. Francis.

J. M. MOORE, an attorney of Oroville, is among the recent arrivals at the St. Francis.

J. B. KIMBLEY of Washington, D. C., is at the St. Francis with Mrs. Kimbley.

J. H. QUEAL, a lumberman of McCleod, Cal., is at the Palace with H. R. Cull.

H. J. AND W. J. CLARKSON of Philadelphia are stopping at the Columbia.

A. A. CRUICK of London, Wyo., and Mrs. Cunniff are at the Union Square.

W. E. SEVENSON, Monterey merchant, is registered at the Turpin.

JOHN GALL JR., a Stockton business man, is stopping at the Turpin.

The Colym

President Taft seems to be winning by the direct route.

THE CHAGRINED POLICEMAN "Policemen at every corner, at every door, and in every alley were the distinguishing feature of the scene at the Coliseum."—News Item.

Oh, see with caution he fills his new function, The copper who guards at Chicago today; He heard all the cries about "Stop thieves," and "Clare," He thought he was needed to hold them at bay!

He took Teddy's word for it, or what he heard for it, Truly he thought he was in a fine den Of very grand larcenists, pirates and arsonists, Ruffians and cut-throats and perch climbing men.

He thought when he went there he'd find an event there, A composite rabble of all of the crooks, From Cain to the James boys; yes, all of ill-famed boys, Whose names had been entered on all the bad books.

He thought he could find there and with handcuffs blind there, Every ex-con with a "price on his head"; He'd visions of bounty from every known county, For returning "this culprit, alive, str or dead!"

But all that he found there were men of renown there, Senators, congressmen; Let it be said They might all be tricky and quite politicians; But yet not a one had a "price on his head."

And filled with chagrin there, because he could win there, Not one single dollar of penal reward, He wept on the floor there, and then cried some more there, And those who were near him could hear him sob hard.

O. H. F. REPORTS: True to its location, the convention is productive of much windcity. THE HARDEST JOB we had yesterday was to finish reading the morning papers before the afternoon editions came in to upset a lot of the overnight stuff.

NAMES His Name Was Denis Denis Magee, who sent a threatening letter to an undesirable in an effort to have the man move didn't have to sign his name to the missive. In the police court cipher the dire epistle was signed "Dennis" plain enough.

Her Name Was Mary In a divorce complaint recently filed the husband alleged that his wife Mary worked against his candidacy when he wanted to become king of the Hayes Valley. When it was suggested to the conductor that the car should have stopped on the other side of the street, he said it would be against the rules to stop, as the rule could not be broken. Of course, the passenger's head might be broken by a pick, but that didn't disturb the conductor.

BREAKING RULES J. K. ADVISES us to start a campaign for the breaking of rules that should be broken: For instance, she says that a Sutter street car recently stopped at the corner of Larkin street so that the passengers had to dodge through a gang of ditch diggers and climb over piles of dirt to get on. When it was suggested to the conductor that the car should have stopped on the other side of the street, he said it would be against the rules to stop, as the rule could not be broken. Of course, the passenger's head might be broken by a pick, but that didn't disturb the conductor.

Also, Sunday night we traveled west on a California street car, to transfer at Presidio avenue to a Richmond District car. At the California street car reached the end of the line a Clement street car started off, although a number of the California street car passengers could have boarded it had it tarried a few moments. They had to wait 10 minutes for another car. Probably it was against the rule for the car to accommodate transfer passengers.

THE HONEY MONEY MOON THE NEW JUNE moon has appeared. Funny it doesn't look any more honey colored than any other of the twelve moons we see and during the year. Which leads us to exclaim in rhapsody: O, silvery moon, You should look more like honey. You know it is June, O, silvery moon, You have spent your gold soon! O, silvery moon, You should look like real honey. You should look more like honey.

THE DURBAR If we were a millionaire British republican (neither of which we are), we would buy up those kinemacolor pictures of the durbar, take them to England and show them to the people with some such statement as this: "See this splendid spectacle. It cost a prodigious number of millions of pounds. The money was acquired by taxing the people. The object of the celebration was to instill a love of imperial institutions, so that more taxes could be peacefully collected. These revenues will be spent in more lavish celebrations. If there were no monarch or imperial institutions, there would be no need of such a celebration as the durbar. Then the taxes, if levied at all, could go to the relief of India's famine sufferers, or less taxes would be exacted and there would be fewer famine sufferers. The world would miss a very gorgeous spectacle, but Barnum and Bailey, Sells-Floto and a few other enterprising Yankees could supply the need for such entertainment with a show at four bits (two shillings) a head and a free street parade."

AXIOMS The most conspicuous difference between a high priced and a cheap restaurant is the wait of 45 minutes for what you order. When a woman names her son Charles she does it with the ingenious hope that he will never be called "Charley."

Girls might not be able accurately to throw the ordinary projectile, but in the matter of throwing kisses none has ever been charged with a wild pitch.

Abe Martin



It pays to be honest, but it doesn't pay enough to suit some folks. Anybody that's ever tried to raise a little garden truck knows why a hen crosses the road.