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VAN DEUSEN'S REPORT.

The report of Clarence Van Deussen has been made public. It is a keen disappointment to everybody and especially the Democratic politicians. The people were led to believe that some startling disclosures would be divulged by the report. The facts are that aside from the discovery of what may be mere clerical errors, and the gratuitous comments of the expert, there is nothing to the report of more than passing interest.

In view of the fact that Van Deussen was employed for the purpose of showing up Republicans who had held office in Canyon county during the past eight years the report is a fizzle. It cost upwards of \$2500.00 and the total achievement was the conclusion that O. V. Badley was careless in performing the duties of his office. A year's time has been taken up with the result that a difference of interpretation in the law has been shown to exist between such eminent lawyers as George W. Stovel and Clarence Van Deussen. The discovery was made that the expert cannot understand why the travel expenses of the sheriff of the county were so much at particular times. The discovery of this ignorance may be interesting but it can hardly be said to be valuable. The report on the whole is a lot of drivel. It is likely that Van Deussen has made as many mistakes in compiling his report as all the officials of the county made in their eight years of office. Mistakes have happened and will continue to occur. Nobody ever held that they had not nor that they could not.

The report, if anything, which we gravely doubt, is a vindication of the officeholders of Canyon county during the past eight years. It has been shown that they were not grafters nor dishonest in any sense of the word. It has been shown that they were as competent as can reasonably be expected. Canyon county is not hiring expert accountants who are not liable to error but average men of sound common sense. During the past few years the county has been served by such men. We doubt that the report is anything for the simple reason that errors can be shown in the report itself. As the report is checked up by those immediately concerned these errors will be pointed out.

HUGHES AND ONLY HUGHES CAN WIN.

Every expression of public opinion that has been taken indicates beyond doubt that Mr. Justice Charles E. Hughes is the choice of the Republicans as their nominee for the presidency. The conviction is gaining ground throughout the country that Mr. Hughes is the only man who can be elected. He is the one available candidate. The Chicago convention will make a grave mistake if any one else is nominated.

The Tribune has no objection to any other Republican candidate for the nomination. We would be satisfied with Mr. Root, Mr. Weeks or Mr. Lodge. Success at the general election is not all. We would rather go down to defeat with a Republican candidate than follow Col. Roosevelt to success. Such success would be the most costly success that this people ever experienced. The Tribune would rather see President Wilson, with all his faults, re-elected than see the Republican party subverted to the ambitions of a not too scrupulous politician of the Roosevelt type.

WHY A NATIONAL PARK.

A number of the public spirited citizens of Hailey, notably Mr. E. P. Armstrong, are trying to have the Sawtooth National Park created. These citizens have interested the Idaho delegation in Congress and are now trying to arouse the public sentiment of the state to the support of the Idaho delegation.

The land to be included in the Sawtooth National Park is said to be a natural playground. It has many scenic attractions and would undoubtedly attract visitors to Idaho as well give the inhabitants of the state a place dedicated to recreation and amusement. We deeply sympathize with the idea of converting this wild, wonderful and scenic playground into a park, by why a national park? Why place it under the care and control of the federal government? Why not a park owned and controlled by the state of Idaho?

It seems to The Tribune that when nature has provided the park and all that is needed is a little regulation and less legislation than the sovereign commonwealth of Idaho might be equal to the burden. It would seem that a sovereign state of the Union ought to be able to handle a natural park. In view of the dismal failure of the United States government to do anything for or with the parks already nationalized it seems to us that Idaho alone and unaided might safely undertake to create a park out of some few thousand acres of mountains, streams and scenery. How would it be for Idaho to undertake the task?

ROOSEVELT AT TWIN FALLS.

The applause that greeted the mention of the name of Col. Roosevelt at Twin Falls should not be misinterpreted. The applause was more in the nature of a welcome back to the Republican party than as the manifestation that the convention wanted Mr. Roosevelt as the presidential nominee of the party.

The vote on the Peterson motion instructing the delegates to the national convention to lend their support only to candidates who are Republicans is subject to misinterpretation too. This vote indicated that the convention deemed it unnecessary to give the delegation any such instructions. The vote did not indicate that support of Col. Roosevelt or any other man without the party would meet with the approval of the delegates.

The delegates to the Twin Falls convention were in favor of Mr. Hughes for the nomination. At least four of the delegates are known to be for Mr. Hughes and the other four are not opposed to him. The delegation was left free of all instructions in order that it might support Mr. Hughes, Mr. Root, Mr. Borah or any other Republican whom the entire national convention might deem available at this time.

STATE LOANS TO POLITICIANS.

There has come to the attention of The Tribune a list of state loans which have been made to present and past officeholders. Officeholders, ex-officeholders and their relatives are entitled to borrow money from the state provided they are not favored over others, give ample security and pay their interest promptly. If they secure loans

in any other way or under other conditions they are guilty of the most insidious and most reprehensible graft.

The list of which we spoke contains the names of Republican, Democratic, Progressive and Socialist politicians. This would indicate beyond a doubt that no political party is more guilty than the others. The fact that interest is long past due might indicate simply an unfortunate state of affairs. We dare say that a great many private individuals and companies engaged in the business of loaning money can show that they too are confronted with the same problem. Mortgages might be foreclosed but this is not always in the interests of the public, and sometimes it is neither to the interest of the debtor nor the creditor. The matter must be considered aside from politics.

The Tribune is firmly convinced that men have used their official positions to secure accommodations from the state for themselves or their relatives. Such favors are likely to happen at times under any conditions and even in private business concerns. We do not pretend to defend such practices neither do we go wild because they have occurred. We long ago abandoned hope of securing perfect men for public stations.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE PRINCIPLE OF RECALL.

Some of the citizens of Boise are very finicky in some things. For instance they will not assist at the recall election to be held at an early date because such participation is in a sense an endorsement of the principle of the recall. At the same time these people sincerely believe that the present administration is injuring the city of Boise.

We wonder if the same people refuse to participate in primary elections because they do not believe in the direct primary system? Or, if they would refuse to patronize a city owned power plant because they do not believe in municipal ownership of public utilities?

The people of a city have to work under the laws in force. To use the laws to the best advantage of the city is the highest public duty regardless of what they may think of them. A man need not believe in the recall and yet resort to it in an emergency. Every one of us do things every day in a manner of which we do not approve because that manner is the only practical one available.

Every new system introduced is entitled to a fair trial. The recall may not be so bad as it seems. At any rate there never was much gain in cutting off the nose to spite the face. Boise has the recall at hand. Those who will not try to use it should cease criticizing it. This applies to friends and foes alike of the present city administration.

SOME VAN DEUSEN GEMS.

The Van Deussen report says. "Covering a period from the second Monday in January, 1907, to the second Monday in January, 1909, C. W. Geisler, County Treasurer.

"The result of our audit shows that there is a balance due the county of \$10.09, which can be taken care of by charging the same up against the Geisler Trust Fund of \$50.66."

The "Geisler Trust Fund" brought in so nonchalantly in Mr. Van Deussen's report is something new to the finances of Canyon county. Investigation shows that this fund was created by Certificate No. 2287, dated April 11, 1916 and in the sum of \$50.66. This fund was created just 10 days before the publication of the report. The report itself would indicate that this fund was in existence all the time. You find nothing in the Van Deussen report to indicate that County Treasurer Geisler was short at any time except in the sum of \$10.09. Why then was \$50.66 deposited to the credit of the Geisler Trust Fund?

The report says: "We wish to state that the County Superintendent's books have been well kept the past two years, and that at the present time they are in balance with the books of the county treasurer."

Were the books not well kept for the three years previous to the last two years? And, were they not in balance with the books of the county treasurer during those years?

The report all the way through is an attempt to shield the present Democratic county officials and to discredit Republicans who have held county offices. As a political document the report may be valuable. As an audit it is not.

ROOSEVELT'S PROCESS OF ELIMINATION.

Col. Roosevelt has let it be known that he cannot support Elihu Root for president of the United States. Preparedness, national honor and the soul of the nation had better suffer than to be saved by Elihu Root. Col. Roosevelt would insure if possible the re-election of President Wilson rather than elect a Republican. There is high public spirit and patriotism for you.

Col. Roosevelt has undertaken in one way or another to eliminate every Republican who stands a chance of being the nominee. Any man who is impossible is acceptable to Col. Roosevelt, for talking purposes.

We know of no man in history who showed a meaner or more despicable spirit than Col. Roosevelt is showing today. He pretends to believe that the honor of the country is at stake and that this campaign must appeal to the soul of the nation, and yet he would deliberately destroy the honor of the country unless he, himself, can save it by being elected president. Can you imagine Washington, or Lincoln, or any other patriot whom you revere occupying the position Theodore Roosevelt occupies today? Can you think of Washington refusing to sanction the Revolutionary War unless he could lead the armies? or Lincoln promoting the dissolution of the Union because he was not president?

If the Republican party takes Col. Roosevelt as its nominee it deserves to be defeated in every state in the Union and in every county in every state. It should be wiped off the earth having served its usefulness and become rotten to the core.

We hardly think that the Republican party is lost to all sense of shame. We hardly think that Col. Roosevelt will be the nominee of the party.

CANDIDATE FOR STATE TREASURER.

It will afford the Republicans of Canyon county the greatest pleasure and the utmost satisfaction to support Mr. Fred E. Fiske for the Republican nomination for state treasurer. Mr. Fiske is one of the leading citizens of the county and one of our staunchest Republicans. He is a man of great energy, force of character and of splendid ability.

Canyon county is one of the leading counties of Idaho in wealth and population. Under normal conditions it is one of the strongest Republican counties. It has been many years since this county asked for representation on the state ticket. If there is such a thing as recognition of the claims of a county Canyon is entitled to recognition at this time.

The county is presenting a type of its best citizenship. It offers a man who will give the office close attention and bring to the affairs with which the office deals a broad experience and great ability. There is no man in Idaho who will reflect greater credit on the state in official position in case he is elected than Fred E. Fiske.

HAS FORD BEATEN TEDDY?

(New York World, Dem.)

Until the Nebraska primaries were held, The World believed that Roosevelt would be nominated for president by the Republican National Convention. We are not so sure now.

Henry Ford's victory in the Republican primaries in Nebraska, following his victory in the Michigan primaries in Michigan, is a body blow to the Roosevelt candidacy. It shows that, entirely apart from the regular Republican opposition to Roosevelt, there are tens of thousands of rank-and-file Republicans in the Middle West who are irrevocably opposed to his jingoism his militarism, his imperialism and his pinchbeck imitations of the Kaiser.

With this vote against him, Roosevelt is not worth much to the Republican managers. They would be willing enough to deal with him if they thought he could help the ticket, but they are decidedly averse to bargaining for additional political liabilities.

Roosevelt's part in the negotiations to prove that the Republicans want him. The Nebraska and Michigan primaries show that he has stubbed his toe again. Unless he can manage to recover the trenches that the Ford vote now occupies, we should not give much for his chances at Chicago.

Roosevelt seems to have made the same kind of mistake that the German government made when it invaded Belgium. Its theories may have been well considered, but, unfortunately, those theories failed to fit the subsequent facts.

Cassandra.

(Chicago Tribune)
There is no store of human wisdom richer than the myths of the Greeks, and no myth more significant for us at this time than the story of Cassandra. Ages have rolled by since it was first told, nations and civilizations have flourished and fallen, but the truth of Cassandra's fate is a truth today. The printing press and the X-ray, all the complicated paraphernalia of our modern life has left the deep springs of human nature what they were when the ill-fated prophetess prophesied in vain.

Men will not listen willingly to what displeases them. Too often they will not listen at all. The Trojans shut their ears to the warnings of Cassandra and Troy met its doom. There are times when it seems that a whole nation turns deaf and blind to a truth of fatal meaning. All England must have seen the onrushing tempest of the present war. One of her great men spent the last years of his life in passionate appeals. He was covered with ridicule. He won no better hearing in the enlightened twentieth century than Cassandra did in the shadowy days of primitive Greece.

What better hope have we in America? There is nowhere in the world today and never has been a people more impatient of evil tidings, more determined to be optimistic regardless of logic or fact, than our American people. Optimism is our shibboleth, our religion, and our vice; not the optimism of courage and determination, but the optimism which resents discomfort and pain, the optimism of the fool's paradise.

The European war, though it shakes the world, has hardly shaken this American optimism. We think we are immune to the misfortunes and perils which every other tribe and people have suffered since the world began. It is unpleasant to think of war. Let us not think of it. Many of us even cling to the belief that if we do not think of misfortune it will not come, as a superstitious man refused to make a will for fear it will bring his death. The worst enemy of defense is not aggressive pacifism, but this deep sloth of mind and will, this vague refusal to be disquieted. Our tale must have a happy ending. The inexorable laws of reality must break upon our unique destiny. Even our own past calls to us in vain and the fate of other people is meaningless to us even while their blood flows to our feet.

What hope is there that America will wake until it is too late? For months now we have been on the brink of war. The most terrible struggle of human history is going on before us. Treaties have disappeared like wisps of paper in the blast. Nations have been trampled down, people almost wiped out. The bitter lessons of endless centuries are being written again in blood and fire. The whole structure of national relations is wrecked and tottering. We balance on the rim of this unspeakable catastrophe and argue, quibble, and delay. The President leaves the capital and goes forth solemnly to the people, declaring that we are surrounded by dangers infinite and constant, and that we cannot know what a day or an hour may bring forth. We pass from one crisis to another in which war hangs on a thread of chance. Clouds darken on the West and men of knowledge and devotion throughout the country are putting every essential fact and aspect of our condition before the people.

Yet our great legislative body in the national capital plows heavily through its routine of politics, holding stupidly back, entangling itself in argument and compromise, grudging and postponing, shutting its eyes and ears to the roar of onswearing events, while millions of Americans doze and shirk and inanely wait for fortune to turn disaster away.

We have learned nothing from our own past. We have refused the wisdom of our great men. We have not roused ourselves to the great effort of will and brain necessary to face and deal with the staggering warnings of the present. What eloquence can hope to move us from our luxurious folly? What Cassandra can hope to reverse her fate in this land of fat content?

The role of Cassandra is neither happy nor profitable. It brings only hatred and contempt. But those who, loving this country of ours, yet see the truth which hangs like a naked sword above us, must play that role from conscience sake, if helplessly.

SIDLIGHTS AND SEARCH-LIGHTS ON PUBLIC MEN

Washington, April 25, "We'll be going to the Convention in six weeks and nobody on earth has any idea what is going to happen."

Thus spoke a veteran Washington newspaper correspondent, versed in the intricacies of the national political game.

Never before was there a similar situation so near a national convention. The "favorite sons" have, apparently, gone their limit and, so far as they are concerned, sentiment has set. Roosevelt and Hughes continue as the two most disturbing factors in the "favorite sons" dreams. Washington is talking about a dark horse, but the most diligent inquiry fails to reveal either his name or address. That the nominee must be a great big man, with well defined ideas, and not a "pussey-foot" politician, is admitted generally among unbiased observers in the national capital.

The abnormal situation may develop such a man, old Washington correspondents are saying, and many of them are looking for a big surprise. Two-thirds of the Republican delegates thus far selected are uncommitted. What they will do when brought together under conditions as serious as those which now confront the country and with a political situation as indefinite and uncertain as the one which prevails now, no man can tell. Which is the thing the veteran correspondents said in the beginning.

"The President is Never Late."

An almost classic display of tact on the part of Mrs. William Cumming Story, president general of the D. A. R., in the annual session here, last week, will go down in D. A. R. history.

It was 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Thousands of Daughters, assembled in the Continental Hall, were awaiting the President, who was expected to speak at that hour. The president did not appear. There was a tense situation, because, of course, nobody could properly speak before the President. Mrs. Story came to the rescue. "The President of the United States is never late," said she. "It is we who are too early."

A little later, the President, accompanied by his beautiful bride, made his appearance amid great applause. It was three o'clock, but the situation had been saved by a woman's tact.

HERD OF PURE BRED CATTLE FOR IDAHO

H. W. Dorman, president of the Caldwell Cattle company, returned from Succor creek, Oregon, at which place he purchased the Lloyd Harden herd of two hundred head of cattle.

This herd is known as the largest pure bred and high grade herd of Short-horn in eastern Oregon.

Five years ago Mr. Harden purchased of J. H. Courtner, Payette, Idaho, and Robert McGuire of lower Boise, breeders of registered Short-horn cattle, twenty-three head of cows, heifers and bull, and placed them upon his Succor Creek ranch, at which place they were run upon the ranch under fence for five years, having at all times, registered males in the herd and never having sold any of the females, the registered cows and their increase to date total one hundred and ten head of the stuff classed as pure bred.

Mr. Harden was partial to the reds and by careful breeding, he has built up practically a solid red herd, there being but two red and white spotted cows and one roan heifer in the 110 head. The balance of the herd Mr. Harden purchased last year with the view of increasing his herd to such size as would warrant turning them all out on the range, as the original herd was out-growing his home pasture.

Mr. Dorman says that his company realizing the great value of the valley ranchers growing better cattle than they have in past years, bought these cattle to distribute in small lots to the farmers of this vicinity, thereby assisting the farmer in getting a start in the pure bred Short-horn at a much less price than buying the same class from the eastern growers.

Little Tragedies.

Turned me down, but bought a car; Railroad crossing—gates ajar!

TOO MANY PROFITS

The high cost of living is not due to the high cost of production but to the high cost of handling. In almost every transaction there is a long line of jobbers, wholesalers, retailers and other middlemen, each of whom claim a share of every dollar you spend.

The fewer the middlemen the better for you and your pocketbook.

Deal with us direct and make your dollars do full duty.

Caused Thursday morning will sure result in a great fire sale conducted by the insurance company in order to move numerous articles slightly damaged, at their price, not ours.

Farmers Co-Op. Store



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