

## THE LEON REPORTER

O. E. MULL, Editor.  
LEON, IOWA

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Six months ..... .75  
Three months ..... .40  
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## WOODROW WILSON RINGS TRUE.

Woodrow Wilson, some clever commentator recently observed, has been under the limelight for some time, but he has yet to go under the X-ray. In other words we have seen what he looks like but we have not yet discovered what is in him.

But we are beginning to. His decision that he would call a special session of congress to fulfill platform pledges gave us an inkling of the stuff he is made of. On his return from Bermuda he talked very frankly and plainly about the gamblers who are hoping to step back into power in New Jersey when he steps out—and what he said rang true. It showed courage, fidelity and resolution. It showed that the same genuine—not sham—progressiveness that distinguished him during the campaign is still his after he is elected.

And his speech before the Southern Society in New York was such as to make democrats feel like jumping up and knocking their heels together three times before alighting. It showed the qualities of an Andrew Jackson democrat; it flavored strongly of the memory of the way "Old Hickory" talked when he talked to Nick Biddle. In his history of the United States Woodrow Wilson has shown that he thinks especially highly of two great democrats—Jackson, and Grover Cleveland. His Southern Society speech smacks quite as much of Cleveland's sturdy resolution as it does of Jackson's directness and democratic simplicity.

That the machinery for the creation of artificial panics exists Mr. Wilson admitted. It is conceivable that it may be used to intimidate the government and punish the people for moving against special privilege. What he has to say about it? Listen:

"Frankly, I don't think there is any man living who dares use the machinery for that purpose. If he does, I promise him, not for myself but for my fellow countrymen, a gibbet as high as Haman's." Mr. Wilson explained that he meant, not a literal gibbet, but a gibbet of public disgrace, "which will live as long as the members of that man's family survive."

A democratic congressional committee has been eliciting the information to justify the assumption on which Mr. Wilson flung down his defiance. The experience the republic was compelled to undergo during the Roosevelt administration has proved there are men ready to precipitate a panic to further their own ends. At that time they were not gibbeted. They were honored instead as public saviors, and given permission to violate the law and gratify their rapacity if only they would restore peace and confidence.

The progressiveness of Woodrow Wilson, we are emboldened to believe, will be of a different quality from that of Theodore Roosevelt. His courage will be of a finer texture. His Americanism will be more like that of Andrew Jackson. It is a long time until March 4, 1917, we know, and between now and then much water will flow under the bridge. But thus far, at least, Woodrow Wilson rings true.—St. Joe Observer.

## BILLIONS FOR PENSIONS.

Since June 30, 1902, when there were 999,446 pensioners, the largest number ever on the government rolls, there has been a steady decline. At the end of the last fiscal year, according to Secretary Fisher's report, there were 860,294, the smallest number in twenty-one years.

But while the pension figures have reached the lowest mark in two decades, the amount expended for pensions this year, owing to the general-service bill passed last spring, will be the largest in the history of this country. Last year the government paid out about \$155,000,000; for this year the appropriation is \$164,500,000, and Secretary Fisher asks \$20,500,000 more for 1914.

It is more than forty-seven years since the close of the civil war. Probably no soldier or sailor who served ninety days is now less than sixty-two or is barred by reason of age from receiving the minimum pension of \$13 a month. In those forty seven years the government has disbursed for pensions \$4,286,922,714.65, and of the 860,294 pensioners on the rolls last June, nearly 40 per cent were widows and dependents, the best possible answer to politicians who for campaign purposes pretend that the government has treated the veterans in a niggardly manner.

President Taft declares his order extending the civil service to fourth-class postmasterhips is not a political move. If that order stands 36,000 active republicans will have life jobs. It may not be a political move, but it assuredly is not a political remove.

The wife of the newly elected democratic governor of New York announced that there will be corned beef and cabbage on the table of the executive mansion at Albany, just as there has been at home. Thus are governments handed back to the people.

There is a difference of opinion as whether the republican party needs rejuvenation, reorganization or rehabilitation, but all are agreed that whatever it needs it needs it desperately.—Bethany Democrat.

## WHITELAY REID.

The death of Ambassador Whitelaw Reid removes one who in recent years was thought of as a man for the drawing-room and parlor, whose gracious manners and gift for after-dinner speaking gave him a value as the maintainer of friendly understanding with Great Britain.

He was far more than that. Just out of school in 1856, he began his public career by making political speeches in favor of the election of John C. Fremont. He had intended to be a school-teacher, but feeling that his sphere lay in another quarter he took the step that made him a journalist by editing a paper in Xenia, Ohio. The civil war gave him his chance for national fame as a writer. His reports from the field were distinguished for the accuracy with which he told the stories of battles and sieges. He is declared by a biographer to have been the first man to perceive the ability of Gen. Grant, and his exploits in writing a correct and comprehensive account of the battle of Shiloh while under fire is famed in the annals of war correspondence. The blood of the Scotch Covenanters which he inherited from his father and of a long line of Highland chiefs upon his mother's side may account for the courage he displayed upon that occasion.

He acquired an interest in the Cincinnati Gazette, but upon repeated solicitations from Horace Greeley he allied himself with The New York Tribune. Greeley had selected Reid to succeed him as editor in chief and the change was made when Greeley became a candidate for the presidency. Reid inherited a great newspaper which was losing money, but soon had a great newspaper which was also profitable. His rise to fame and fortune was due to his great native ability and not to any place or inheritance his family could give him. His career in England has been one of almost uninterrupted good will, and where there has been friction it has not been his fault. His position was one of the most trying in all the list of presidential appointments, for the standard set by his predecessors represented the best America had to offer in grace of manner and power of mind. To maintain that standard as he did was a distinct achievement.

## WARNING THE PANIC MAKER.

President-elect Wilson's warning to makers of panics came at the right time and was delivered in the right tone—the tone of a man who has given thoughtful consideration to what he says, and means every word of it.

Mr. Wilson spoke of the frequent predictions of panic when the democratic administration attacks tariff graft and trust lawlessness. He stated—that what everyone knows—that a few financial kings have the machinery ready to start a panic at any moment. Then following his warning:

"I don't think there is any man living who dares use the machinery for that purpose. If he does, I promise him—not for myself, but for my fellow countrymen—a gibbet as high as Haman's. Not a literal gibbet, for that is not painful; but a gibbet of public disgrace which would last as long as the members of that man's family survive."

It will be a bold man who tries to start a panic with that warning before him. The days when Wall street can bully presidents and override the people are nearly done.—Chicago Journal.

## BRYAN'S POSITION.

Mr. Bryan in The Commoner expresses his opinion on four important issues as follows:

"First—Mr. Bryan does not advocate the retirement of outstanding national bank currency, but he opposes an enlargement of the privileges now enjoyed by national banks, and he believes that such emergency as may be necessary should be issued by the government, and not by the banks.

"Second—The conferring upon ex-presidents of the right to participate in debate in the senate and house need not be accompanied by compensation; in other words, the privilege may be conferred as an honor rather than as an office.

"Third—The democrats in the senate are right in insisting that important appointments should be reserved for the president-elect. This is especially true when the appointees are to hold office for life.

"Fourth—The democrats at Washington are justified in condemning the partisanship which leads the president to extend the civil service when the extension had no higher purpose than the retention of republican appointees."

"Oh, the joy of being a democrat—just a common democrat not having the 'endorsement' of the machine! Oh, common democrat, where is thy political pie; where is thy victory!" exclaims the Grundy Republican.

Perhaps it's fun to see the democrats scrambling for offices, but there isn't much except a chance for laughter in it for republicans and the new man who gets the postoffice at last always laughs best.

There is more of the fear of God and the love of man in present day politics than in the politics of any previous hour in the history of the republic.

We are eating eighty-seven pounds of sugar per capita a year, and the kids are crying for more.

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## HOW A MATCH WAS MADE

By EMMA R. SHORTALL

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Mme. Benardier was worried about her son, Gaston. He was thirty-five years old and not married. But one thing would comfort his mother, and that was to spend her last days lavishing upon a grandson the care she had long been denied the pleasure of expending upon her son.

But Gaston had an uncle, a crusty old bachelor, who had been jilted in his youth and who hated all women for what he had suffered from one. This uncle had poisoned his nephew's mind against the sex. Besides this, Gaston enjoyed his bachelorhood so well that he refused to marry.

One day the young man came home from Paris and went to bed with a serious illness. A doctor examined the patient and informed his mother that her son must have a trained nurse.

"But he won't let a woman, except me, come near him."

"He must."

The doctor and Mme. Benardier conferred for an hour, at the end of which time the doctor informed Gaston that he must have a nurse. The young man said no woman should enter his room. Whereupon the doctor told him that he would send a man nurse.

"Well upon my word!" exclaimed Gaston when he first saw his nurse. "You're nothing but a boy. What the dickens are you going to do for me?"

"Take your temperature and your pulse, give you your medicine and when you need amusement amuse you."

"Well, I don't see any objection to that. This is dull music lying here alone. Go and get a book. I wish you to read to me. What's your name?"

"Antoine, monsieur."

"Judging from your appearance, you had better have been christened Antoinette. Go to the library and bring 'The Count of Monte Cristo.' I've read it half a dozen times, but that doesn't matter."

Antoine got the book, placed a chair by a window, sat down and began to read.

"Bring your chair closer," said Gaston; "I can't hear you so far away. Where did you get that soft voice of yours? You'll never do to shout orders to soldiers."

The boy brought his chair nearer and commenced again. Gaston listened rather to the musical tones of his voice than to the story. It seemed to him that he was lulled by some one playing on a zither. The nurse read a couple of hours, when, looking up, he saw that the patient slept. Closing the book, he stole away and left the invalid to his repose.

When Gaston awakened he felt much refreshed. He called for his nurse and told him that he had heard all he had read for nearly two hours, then had fallen asleep, dreaming that there was a harp in the room upon which Antoine was playing, only Antoine was not a boy, but a charming girl.

"What are you blushing for?" Gaston asked.

"Why, monsieur, I have always suffered from being called effeminate. I'm very sensitive about it. I beg of you not to speak of it again."

"Well, then, you little fool, I won't do it again. I don't blame you for not wishing to be considered like a woman. I have no use for them myself."

"The Count of Monte Cristo" is a long book and a very entertaining one. Before Antoine had half finished reading it the doctor called one morning, told Gaston that he would not need a nurse any longer and that Antoine was to go to another patient.

"Not on your life," said Gaston, "till he has finished reading 'The Count of Monte Cristo' to me."

"This will put me to a serious inconvenience," protested the doctor.

"Can't help it. You must get some one else."

"Well, then, I will tell you something that will induce you to part with Antoine. You would not have a woman nurse, and I could not get you a man, so I got a girl and dressed her in man's clothes."

"Pshaw!"

"Now I suppose you give up."

"I don't care if she is a ghoul; she shall finish the book."

The doctor gave in and reported the matter to Mme. Benardier, who seemed delighted with what had taken place.

"I leave you, madame, to tell him the rest at the proper time."

When the nurse appeared again to her patient she was in the apparel of her sex. Gaston was enraptured. He told her to go on with "The Count of Monte Cristo," but to read only a chapter a day. What puzzled him was that she had the breeding of a lady and when not in nurse's uniform her costumes were of a fine texture.

"Mother," said Gaston one day, "I am in trouble. You know that our family has never made a misalliance. Well, you have done very wrong in introducing this girl as my nurse. I have fallen in love with her, and life would be a burden to me without her."

"Be comforted, my son. The doctor and I have conspired to win you from your contempt for women. The girl is Antoinette du Pierris, the daughter of our neighbor Count du Pierris. Wishing as well as I to make a match between you two, the count consented to our scheme. Antoinette is a lovely girl. I congratulate you if you have won her."

"I have, mother."

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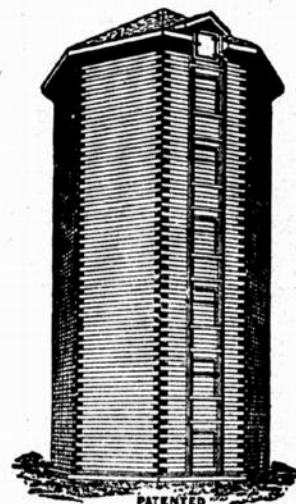
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at the close of business November 26th, 1912.  
State Auditor's Call.

## RESOURCES.

Loans ..... \$343,625.23  
Overdrafts. . . . 7,957.25  
Real estate. . . . 15,049.59  
Cash and Sight exchange. . . . 97,469.84

## LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock. \$ 50,000.00  
Profits. . . . . 28,652.50  
Deposits. . . . . 385,549.41

Total. . . . . \$464,201.91

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