

## THE PASSING THROUG

The controversy between the contending factions in Alaska, which has been staged in Washington City makes interesting reading for the country by and large. The lie and the modified lie has been freely exchanged between the representatives of the two factions and may perhaps both sides are correct, but amid it all I have watched and waited to hear one or the other charge the other with representing the working people—the men and women, who form the bone and sinew of not only Alaska, but the entire United States, but neither side seems willing to assume the onerous task of representing the people, and thus does Alaska become but a fat and juicy bone, over which hungry dogs fight to death. The goods that the gods have given unto Alaska are to be gobbled up by a few highwaymen and in spite of the alleged greatness of Uncle Sam he is powerless to turn the whole over to the working people of his eminent domain, but is forced to sit as an arbitrator between two jarring factions each contending for the lion's share. You say there is unrest among the non-millionaires of this country and we quite agree, but the state of unrest is absolutely nothing to what it will be if the present powers that be continue to say, if not in so many words, by their actions, to hell with the poor man, but the rich are to be made richer." Alaska is a great store house and no specific class or selected few should be given control of those splendid store houses which have been provided by Mother Nature, but every citizen of this country should be given a chance to share in its vast natural resources.

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There came to my address one day this week a copy of a new-born publication in Tacoma, which is labeled Ryan's Weekly and I smiled as I opened it and said aloud, "It's almost as hard to break away from the newspaper game as it is for the proverbial camel to pass through the eye of a cambric needle. John H. Ryan seems to be in a manner born for newspaper work and though after first beginning he has repeatedly broken away from the game, yet he has just as often returned to it. I think it was in Spokane where he first developed the bug, but decided it too hard a graft to make it pay and he pulled away. He next joined hands with the editor hereof in the publication of the Seattle Republican, but getting a hunch that he could do better in Tacoma he began publishing The Forum, which he operated for sixteen years, but tiring of that he laid it aside and repeatedly declared he was through with the game, but, as said above, he is again at the wheel and promises to give us one of the most vigorous weekly publications in the state, and, judging from what I have already seen, it at times will be so red hot that it will scorch the hands of its readers while they are in the act of devouring its contents.

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I am not surprised at the Seattle police shakeup and from what I have heard from persons who frequent Seattle's underworld a great deal more than a shakeup might be staged, but evidence for such a proceeding is exceedingly hard to obtain. "I know," said a man who lives by his wits in that district, "that we get hold of a whole lot of money from suckers, who want to see the sights and see them, but believe me, a very little of it remains in our hands, simply because we are forced to give it up for protection. Mayor Caldwell is shaking up the gang now, but in less than a week the protection grafter will be on his job again and the fellow that fails to come through with the coin will go through the great doors of the bastille. If we squeal on one and he is discharged or transferred we get a double dose from his successor. Do not understand me to be complaining for I have chosen this life, but believe me

its not all that it is cracked up to be." This story is repeated not as an expose of the Seattle underworld, but as a mere matter of news, which self same mere matter of news has been going on for years and I am of the opinion it will continue to do so, though such notorious hell holes as that found by Mayor Caldwell and his party one day this week should in the future be impossible even in Seattle's underworld the protection grafter to the contrary notwithstanding.

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The blue hen's chicken has hit woman suffrage hard and thereby made it impossible for the women in eighteen states to participate in the next presidential election unless the Republicans can rally in Connecticut and ratify the amendment, thus making the thirty-sixth state. Delaware is controlled by the Democratic party and the state being closely identified with the sentiment of the ultra South it turned woman suffrage down on the grounds that the vote of the colored women would make of Delaware a fixed Republican state. The Republicans of the state, however, are not wholly blameless in the defeat of the amendment in the state as they were sufficiently strong to have joined issues with the commonsense Democrats and have passed the measure. Its an unfortunate, as well as regrettable situation and I trust Connecticut will rise equal to the occasion and do the nice thing for the women of our country.

## LOOKING FOR VOTES

The elephant and the ass called on Miss Eliza Glass, each had a bouquet and a note and hinted for Miss Liza's vote. She met them at the open door, with, my health is rather poor, a vote I have in eighteen states, but want the same in froty-eight. Now, its up to you and each of you, to take your voters to the pew, where equal justice is to preach upon the square and level beach, where each will learn what all must do to get me for your voting stew. I am for him who stands for right and for him I'll vote with all my might. Some Democrats are good and true, while others are just common glue. They turn me down in Southern states, and charge it to their Negro hates, but that's too thin to make it win and I intend to make them shin, in states and counteis where my vote stands on a par with men of note. When Democrats come through like men then I will say to them amen and divide my vote between you two and share the spoils as others do.

## AS YOU LIKE IT

"Why, in heaven's name, do you want to get married?" said Bob to Billy. "Because I can almost take care of myself and its a darn poor woman that can't help me a little bit," said Billy to Bob.

When the preacher visits the home of the average business man he should be guarded in the questions he discusses as the man of the house might become so interested in the subjects and discuss them with an office lingo.

A committee of wise men who had been investigating food cost said, "We find the cost of living very high." "Well, I found that out a year ago," said the cynic, "but I expect you to find some way to make the cost of living very low."

"Does a pianola make one hump shouldered from playing it," said a prospective buyer to a more or less submissive man. "Maybe it does, stranger, but my shoulders are bent trying to pay for one which my daughter ordered some months ago."

"Now, dear, we really must have a new car as this one is quite of style," said Mrs. Half Strainer to her husband. "Quite right, my dear," he replied, "if we go out in a car at all it will have to be a new one,

as the sheriff has taken the old one.

"No wonder there is so much unrest in this country just now, her spirits are all gone," said Johnsing to Bronsing. "I am sure glad to hear that all the spirits have left this country as I've always been expecting to meet one," soliloquised Bronsing.

"I say, Mr. Jones, I could make a fortune for both of us providing you will stake me to a car." "You, perhaps, are quite correct and I would jump at the opportunity, but my daughter has decided to marry Good Looks and I'll have to get behind him."

"Quite so, sir, prohibition does not prohibit," said Tom Teetotaler, "as I see by the papers a dozen or more bootleggers get in jail every day. I tell you when a fellow has made up his mind to break into jail it requires more than prohibition to prohibit him from doing so."

"In Black is White" runs a catch line. "Then if black is in white it is probably equally true that, in white is black," which could be construed to mean, white is black and black is white, and, if this be true, it would be hard to say which is which, in other words, a black man is a white man and vice versa.

## OUR COLORED CITIZENS

Memphis Tennessee colored citizens have united in an effort to build an immense hotel for the accommodation of the traveling public. It is claimed that at least 75,000 colored visitors go to that city each year.

The New World Movement in the Presbyterian Church will give Knoxville College (Tennessee) \$590,000. Of that sum \$90,000 will be used for new buildings and the balance will be set aside as a permanent endowment.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold their eleventh annual convention this year in Atlanta, Georgia, from May 30 to June 2nd. This is the first time in the history of the Association that it has held a convention in the South.

Dr. Bundy, the East St. Louis dentist, who was sent to prison for life on account of the riots in that city, has been released from prison on a \$25,000 bond. The court thinks that serious and prejudicial error in the record of the crime.

Jack Johnson still is said to be enroute to the U. S. A. While it is reported he is traveling in royal style, yet from the length of time he has been reported coming his whole retinue must be hoofing it home.

The distinguished Australian pianist, Percy Grainger, at his recital in Jordan Hall, Boston, scored in his playing of R. Nathaniel Dett's "Juba Dance," which had to be repeated. Mr. Dett was present and acknowledged the enthusiastic applause.

The Amphion Glee Club, of Washington, D. C., has celebrated its twenty-eighth anniversary by a song recital and dansante. Mme. Anna Hazelton Lee assisted as soprano. Mr. J. H. Washington is president of the club, and J. Henry Lewis, Director-Manager.

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