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**NEW YORK'S PRIMARY.**

The state of New York has just passed through its first direct nominating primary, and many comments are made on the result. Two facts stand out prominently. One is that of the entire number of voters registered in the republican and democratic parties, less than one-half attended the polls. The other is that of the candidates for the most important nominations within those two parties, the candidates supported by the party organizations—that is, the machine candidates—won.

From these facts the conclusion is reached by not a few writers that New York's primary law has proven a failure. There are other facts, however, to be considered. While it is true that less than half the voters participated in the selection of their party candidates, it is also true that a far greater number participated in this work than could have been induced to participate in it, even indirectly, under the conventional system, for it is said to be a matter of record that the number participating in the primary was far greater than the number ever participating in party caucuses. Hence, on this showing, the new system is an improvement over the old one in the matter of arousing the interest of the voters.

Any candidate who has the support of his party organization is dubbed a machine candidate by those who are not in harmony with the organization, or who are interested in the success of another candidate. And there is quite a widespread belief that no machine man can be a worthy candidate or a good citizen. But, if the subject be inspected a little more closely, it will be found that the major candidates supported by the two great party organizations in New York are really strong men with excellent records. So far as the outside public is concerned, the best known of these are the republican candidate for governor and the democratic candidate for United States senator, Whitman, the former, has won public regard by his work as prosecuting attorney, and is generally regarded as a clean, strong and competent man. Ambassador Gerard, who has been nominated by the democrats for senator, has, during the trying days of this war, performed with diligence, skill and tact, the enormous amount of work that has been thrust upon him in Germany.

Whether by accident or design the heads of the two party organizations appear to have given their support to exceedingly strong men, and there is reason for the belief that to some extent, at least, they were influenced in doing so by the fact that the nominations were to be made, not by a small body of delegates in a convention, but by the great mass of voters, who might, perhaps, be stamped, but who could not be bribed, or manipulated or controlled. If the party leaders, or bosses, the term is a matter of choice, had given their support to men recognized as unfit, with the choice to be made in an open primary, they would have been counting defeat, loss of prestige, and political oblivion. They were too shrewd to take the risk, even had they desired to do so.

Even if the primary law has not yet worked any startling change in New York, it is too early to condemn it. Under it there has been participation by a larger number of voters than formerly in the nomination of candidates, and, according to what is generally known of men, the strongest and most capable candidates have been selected. That the organization men in the two parties supported these particular candidates is at least some indication that these men recognized in the direct primary an instrument whose possession by the people made it wise for them to be on their good behavior.

As to the application of the direct primary to the choice of such a swarm of minor candidates as have to be chosen under the New York law, that is a farce, but not a greater farce than is the election of these men by popular vote. The reform needed in that case is not the multiplication of elections, but the shortening of the ballot so that the names on it will convey to the voter some real meaning.

**FRUIT THAT MISSES ITS MARKET.**

For years the apples of New England have been largely bought for export, says the Christian Monitor. The orchard's owner has been approached early by the buyer's agent with an offer for his crop and the familiar situation as to agricultural trading has developed, the producer takes the offer or keeps the product, with almost no prospect of another way to dispose of it. Even under this restriction of outlet the increase in apple production has been great, orchards have expanded and multiplied, the quality of the fruit has improved through skillful dealing with the trees and the packing has been bettered, with the result that the fruit reaches the consumer in as good condition as it leaves the orchard. Apple raising has become a source of profit.

under the finest and largest yield the apple country ever beheld, there is a change in the situation. The buyer reports to the grower that the export trade has no promise. The one familiar outlet is closed. The maximum offer for the best fruit is \$1.50 a barrel. Even so, the farmer figures out a profit, but with a failure to include some items of cost, perhaps, that the manufacturer would include, the farmer not being an adept as to overhead charges and the division of interest and taxes to the apples on the tree. Actually, however, quantities of apples will be unharvested, because Europe does not call for them. And very likely apples of inferior grades will presently be sold in Boston at prices that, carried into barrels, reach \$5 or \$6.

The best of fruits ungrated from the trees or turned to some other use, the people of the cities denied them, or securing them only at a price that makes them a luxury—this is the situation that argues itself as an instance of marketing processes that have failed to serve the only purpose for which markets exist, the fair service of both producer and consumer. In New York city, the new free markets are meeting the situation by bringing the apples from the orchards within wagon distance to the household at prices that make them buyable, and the fruit that is fit to sell is being gathered to the last apple. But this accommodation does not extend to the more distant orchard. It has no emissary like the buyer for export. And therein two parties to benefit in a good trade are defeated of their rights. Is not here a real opportunity for the organizations that assume to promote good business relations to open ways for trade and to help in the problem of providing the household?

**THE BETTER FARMING STATEMENT.**

The statement issued by the directors of the Better Farming association for this state is a complete and conclusive answer to the charges that have been made that the association unloaded a debt upon the state of North Dakota. The statement is signed by men who are thoroughly familiar with the work, who are representative and well known men, and who cannot be said to represent any particular shade of political or factional belief.

It would be too much to expect that this statement, or any statement, will stop the mouths of those who have been making wild and loose charges. There are persons to whom a charge of any kind, against any person, is a sweet morsel, to be rolled under the tongue, and those so constituted will not relinquish a delicacy of this kind under any conceivable conditions. The men who originated these stories knew at the beginning that they were false, and, naturally, they will continue to repeat them whenever they can get a hearing.

It is well, however, that the statement has been made. It gives to those who are really in search of the facts, and who are not merely seeking an opportunity to slander, both a straightforward narrative, but a chance to obtain more information if it is desired.

It is unfortunate that a work so well planned, so well executed up to the present time, and so fraught with good to the entire state, should have been made the subject of controversy, with the sole purpose on the part of one group to damage and destroy. In spite of all that can be said or done, those things have some injurious effect. There is no exception. It is to be hoped that the effect of this controversy will be slight, for whatever injury there is will fall, not upon the individuals who have been the targets for a mean and malicious attack, but on the state at large, in the retardation of work which, if properly prosecuted, will do more than any other single thing to aid in the highest development of North Dakota.

**AIRCRAFT DANGER OVERESTIMATED.**

In spite of what has happened up to the present time, there is every reason to believe that the danger to cities in belligerent countries from aircraft has been greatly overestimated. It is true that bombs from Zeppelins or aeroplanes have been dropped in Antwerp and Paris, and that in this manner some lives have been sacrificed and some property damage has been done. But that there is to be an organized attempt to destroy or damage in this manner cities far from the battle line is scarcely to be believed. London, Paris and other cities in the territory of the allies are taking measures to defend themselves against such attacks, and while the opportunities for obtaining news from Germany are poor, it is to be assumed that important German cities are on the defensive against hostile flyers.

But it is impossible to conceive of attacks of this kind being made a part of the regular program without first concluding that the war, instead of a struggle to the death between the armed and organized forces of the various nations, has become mere butchery for the sole sake of slaughter. That conclusion is not a reasonable one.

Charges are bandied back and forth that this or that force has maltreated the unarmed inhabitants of the territory through which it marched. The fact that each government denies that its own soldiers have done anything of the kind indicates at least a desire to stand well in the eyes of the neutral world. In the face of these denials, and of this desire so plainly shown in a variety of ways, it is not to be expected that any government will bring upon itself general condemnation by engaging deliberately, systematically and publicly, in a method of warfare which would be both horrible and useless.

spite of all the searchlights and aeroplanes which are being used in a defensive way. But what would it avail? If Germany were to blot the entire city of London off the map, the success of her armies would not be appreciably advanced. France has a number of dirigibles, and more aeroplanes than any other nation. She could undoubtedly send a fleet of these flyers to drop explosives upon Berlin, and could destroy much valuable property, and many lives, but she would still have to press her great flanking movement and resist the German attempt to pierce her lines.

So it is with reference to the other countries. The dropping of bombs upon a fort which is being bombarded preparatory to storm, the shelling of the enemy's camps from the skies, the attack on war vessels by aircraft, all these are legitimate military operations because they have a bearing on the general military movement, and they may contribute materially to the success of an army or a navy. But the shelling of cities and villages which are outside the field of military operations, and which can by no chance be approached by an army, can have no real bearing on a campaign, and we do not believe that any government is going to launch into a campaign of indiscriminate slaughter for the mere sake of killing.

**PROPHECY GOES WRONG.**

New York Times: "What all the wise men prophesied has not happened, and what all the d—fools predicted has come to pass," remarked Lord Melbourne after the passage of the reform bills. Nothing has been so universally assumed in the discussions over woman suffrage as that women would vote as women and not for the same silly, centrifugal reasons that inspire men to cast their frivolous and contradictory votes. The suffragists have taken it as an article of faith; they have threatened obstinate politicians with what "the women" would do to them when they got the vote if these politicians opposed suffrage now. The anti-suffragists have accepted it as gospel, and painted dreadful pictures of the appearance in politics of a new lot of voters voting as a unit. Both parties have assumed that when "the women" got the vote the woman suffragists would control them in the exercise of it, despite the fact that when they get the vote the women will have it, and women not interested either way.

Acting on this general assumption, the Congressional union, a semi-militant faction of the suffragists, has announced its purpose to defeat the Democratic party for its obtuseness on the suffrage question and is sending out emissaries to the states where women vote to rally them round the flag. Two of them, Miss Whittenmore and Miss McCue, have invaded the state of Washington. What happens? Do the women voters welcome them with open arms and promptly proceed to bolt the Democratic ticket and vote in a body against the party which has been blackballed by the suffrage leaders?

The Women's Democratic club of King county, in which Seattle is situated, has been aroused to pass resolutions. These resolutions recite that the Democratic women of King county learn "through boastful declarations of two peripatetic suffragettes bearing the names of Whittenmore and McCue and the ear marks and characteristics of the militant stripe," that they represent a movement aimed at the defeat of the Democratic party. They then refer opprobriously to "the methods employed by these two women, unheard and unknown," as likely to "injure and to embarrass and to destroy the influence of the women of the west," they endorse the Democratic party, denounce the Republican party candidate for congress in that district, and declare it "a piece of shameless effrontery for these emissaries of a calamity howler for his party to attempt by subterfuge to

delude the women to vote against our candidate." And from that point they proceed to harsh words, even referring to the delegates of the Congressional union as "imposters."

**Laugh With Us.**

"This story of yours is all right," said the editor, "but your description of the hero's automobile is simply impossible. If there was an automobile made as perfect as the one you describe, I'd buy one tomorrow. Where in the world did you get your idea?"

"That was easy," replied the author. "I got my friend Brazley to describe his new car."—Magazine of Fun.

"A great many of the people out our way think that you ought to come out and say something," said the adviser.

"Yes," replied Senator Sorkum, "and if I do say something just as many people will say that I ought to have kept still."

O. Henry always retained the whimsical sense of humor which made him quickly famous. One time he called on the cashier of a New York publishing house, after vainly writing several times for a check which had been promised as an advance on his royalties.

"I'm sorry," explained the cashier, "but Mr. Blank, who signs the checks, is laid up with a sprained ankle."

"But, my dear sir," expostulated the author, "does he sign them with his feet?"

An Englishman, meeting an Irishman, greeted him thus: "Are you good at measurement?"

"I am that," said Pat. "And can you tell me how many sheets I can get out of a yard?"

"Well, replied Pat, "that depends on whose yard you get into."

**LUKE MLUKE SAYS.**

A girl may forget to wear an undershirt when she goes out on a cool day, but she never forgets to wear a tango hairpin.

The old-fashioned boy who used to hold his job on the strength of the recommendation of his Sunday school superintendent now has a son who has to get the goods.

If it costs her enough, a woman is prouder of her store hair than if she raised it herself.

Nature is a mean cuss in some ways. A woman never gets any thinner porrying over how fat she is.

A man can have a fine frouch against his wife just because he discovers that some bartender handed him a Canadian in his change.

It always makes a girl feel better to realize that even if she is thin it is wonderfully becoming to her.

The reason why a girl has to have a \$10 exercising apparatus in her bedroom is because you can't get the dust under her bed because she is too tired to sweep under it.

A whole lot of premeditated oneriness is blamed on the philosophy once advanced by Old Man Plato.

Before you get them they are always chewing gum. After you get them they are always chewing the rag.

We are all more particular about a

**Shop Through Our Mail Order Department.**

**BENNER & BEGG**  
"The Store Accommodating"

# New Suit Arrivals



Another shipment of new fall and winter suits have just been received in our cloak department.

These are all of the latest New York models—correct in every detail, best materials and designed by the world's foremost fashion experts.

Materials include Gabardines, Wool Poptins, Broadcloths, Cheviots, Serges, etc.

Colors in Blues, Nigre Browns, Russian Green, Black, Wine and numerous others, dark colors prevailing.

Prices range from \$18.75 up to \$45.00.

We still have a few good numbers left in the ladies sample suits, sizes, 38, 40, 42 and 44. Your choice, while they last at.....\$15.00

## Petticoat Special

One special lot of high grade Messalines in a good variety of colors. All regular \$3.00 values, which we place on sale for one day only. Tomorrow, at each,

# \$=2.45

man's manners than we are about his morals.

Being a farmer may have its drawbacks. But nobody is trying to get his job away from him.

During the first year of married life she always sets his slippers out for him. But after the second year he hasn't any slippers to set out.

Beer is a good tonic unless you are trying to tone up the conversation.

If your girl is acting fresh, it is nerve. If some other girl is acting fresh, it is nerve.

You can imagine that you are an exception when you are visiting. But there never was a case in history where company didn't stay long enough.

A life insurance company is about the only thing a man wouldn't like to beat legitimately.

A lot of money is being made by pretending to show others how to make it.

When some women dress up in a lot of finery they remind you of a ten-cent dog wearing a \$100 collar.

**MRS. TWITTERS AND HER \$12 CORSETS.**

By E. K. Wooley.

(Copyright, 1914, by E. K. Wooley.)

What's eatin' Sophie Twitters?" in elegantly inquired Pa Jenkins, as he seated himself opposite Ma for the evening meal.

"I saw her coming away from our house as it came home. She looks as if she was worrying about her shape."

"It's her new corset maybe," opined Ma, as she dished out the creamed new peas. "She had it made to order and it cost \$12. Don't you think she looks perfectly elegant?"

"She looks mighty uncomfortable," announced Pa. "And what's the matter with her face? Looks as if she'd hit the flour barrel and then got paralyzed of the face when she saw herself in a looking glass. Sophie look right to him. And she's taken to tugging out in a lot of new clothes and sitting up straight and giving him queer talk that doesn't sound a bit like her. 'She must be sick,' he says to me the other day. 'She never seems

and you know it!"

"Oh, well," hedged Pa, who had forgotten himself, "I was just making a comparison. Of course you're not the same shape as Sophie—she'd say no! But what's Sophie fixin' up for?"

"Going to get a divorce from Bill?" "N-Not exactly," hesitated Ma. "She things she is losing her husband's love, now that she is getting along in years, and—er—plump, and she is grooming herself and paying more attention to her looks so he won't be attracted by some young girl and weaned away from her."

Pa leaned back in his chair and stared. Then he snickered. "Who'd a thought it of Sophie! Oh, and who'd think it of Bill! Oh, you Bill!"

"Say, Dye really mean that Sophie's serious when she thinks of Bill's bay window front and his tendency to shave only on Sundays, and the glistening bald spot he's developed, and that 40-horse-power pipe he smokes? Think any young girl is going to pass up a perfectly good young man for anything that hinks along like old Bill, who'd rather sit in a rocking chair on the front porch any old evening than he compelled to entertain a young lady who might aspire to break up his happy home? I gotta pain just thinking of it."

"And, say! Bill just dotes on Sophie, even if he doesn't tell her so. You ought to hear him brag about the way she manages and her cooking, though I never thought she held a candle to you. These stuffed pork chops are simply grand, Ma."

"I thought you'd like them, Pa," beamed Ma. "Have another?"

"Thanks. Say—you tell Sophie to have some sense. Bill think she's sick. He told me she was acting sort of strange and he guessed he'd hurry up his vacation so they could go down to the country and give her a good rest."

"He says she's been getting thin lately and absent-minded, and he doesn't know what's happened to her hair—she didn't have much of it, but lately she looks all hair, and it doesn't look right to him. And she's taken to tugging out in a lot of new clothes and sitting up straight and giving him queer talk that doesn't sound a bit like her. 'She must be sick,' he says to me the other day. 'She never seems

to have a comfortable minute any more—she that was always such a rest to me when I got home. I feel as if I ought to pretend something now, but I don't know what."

"I'm going to tell Sophie," stated Ma. "She's been awfully unhappy. Pa had a sudden thought. He laid down his knife and fork and stared at Ma."

"Ma," he said, "you never thought that of me, did you? Because I think you're nicer and prettier and sweeter than you ever were—even if you'd get real fat."

"Big Goose!" laughed Ma, with a little tremble in the laugh. "Don you suppose I know you're different from all the other women's husbands?"

**MURDER SUSPECTED.**  
Bruised Body of Stranger Found in Aberdeen Business District.

Aberdeen, S. D., Oct. 7.—The dead body of Edward Ray, aged about forty, was found in the wholesale district here. A bruise on the forehead indicates he was murdered. He was a thrasher and came to Aberdeen from Forbes, N. D., last Friday, but nothing more is known concerning him.

**NO GENT.**



Servant—What was the name of the gentleman that had room 14 last week overcoat and booted. Landlady—Please do not refer to him as a gentleman, Janet. He was nothing but a trolley straphanger.

**IN OUR SCHOOL.**

(By Paul West.)  
(Illustrated by Moser.)

WEDNESDAY.  
School opened the same old way this morning, only we would like to see Miss Palmer wouldn't it be better to talk all the fellers in the dressing room first thing & let them all round, which would solve the trouble of role call & get a lot of littings out of the way so they wouldn't



She Couldn't Get It Through Torp Stebbins's Head.

brake into other things. We suppose she knows best, tho.

**TORP'S ANSWER.**  
Miss Palmer was learning us the meaning of Konshuns today, & she couldn't get it threw Torp Stebbins's head, he being very thick about sum things tho all rite on others. So she sed:

"Why, what are it when we do sum-thing we hadnt oughter, which tells rite away?"

would do it. So Bull is going to get a phatic fact in there barn for him after school & Torp is going to meek him over there when his muther malks him talk him out to play with him. It looks like a pretty fare swap, but we, only Bull's collection of sul-lerd glass is the best in the school.

**MUCH OBLIGED FOR THE NEWS.**  
While Ex. Brigham was going to the drug store this afternoon he met Davey Milliken, Short-Leg Milliken, our emshunt truant officers little boy, & Davey had a bottle of meddisin.

Davey sed, "If you have a promiss not to call me anny moar names because my father is the truant officer, which I am just as ashamed of as you are, I will tell you sumthing," so Ex sed he would, & Davey sed, "Wel, he had got the roomertissum so he cant



Ex Brigham Met Davey Milliken.

hardly walk, & if anny feller was happening to think about hooking Jack now is the time." We call that pritty, & we are much obliged for the news.

**GOSSIP.**  
Fatty Bellows & Steve Hardy aint speaking. Steve put bent stea on Fatty's este today & Fatty set down on it with his tin lunch box in his back pocket, ruining the pin.

Steve says Fatty has outter pay him for the pin, but Fatty says he cant see how, he not asking to have it put on his sete.