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EASTERN REPRESENTATIVE. W. J. MORTON.

150 Nassau St., New York City. 87 Washington St., Chicago.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1904.

LEARNING SOMETHING.

The admitted anxiety of Russia to placate public opinion in this country and elsewhere is a good sign.

The position of Russia has been one of proud isolation. Her institutions are peculiar in Europe and her system of government extremely little understood in any part of the world.

There is nothing like the stress of misfortune to teach the value of sympathy. A reverse at arms is scarcely more irritating to one of the great powers than to find itself without an adherent or a friend when it is engaged in a struggle for life and death.

Her trials and her possible misfortunes will bring her into closer relation in this respect to the family of nations. She will learn that there is an actual, as well as a sentimental, value to human good-will; and it is likely that, in conformity with her novel experience and her new need, she will insensibly but materially modify those social and political traits which are responsible for her low standing in public estimation almost everywhere.

The Hon. Leslie M. Shaw calls for thirty millions from the national depositories with the gay insouciance that characterizes the average man who draws a check for thirty cents.

AN IMPORTANT GATHERING.

The fourth annual convention and exhibition of the Dressmakers' Protective association is now in session in New York city.

But the dressmakers' convention will busy itself with even more serious matters than the fashions. The questions that are to be come up for discussion at this convention would lead a mere man to infer that the dressmakers are not without their grievances and that the privilege of fashioning airy materials into perfect dreams of gowns does not compensate entirely for many disadvantages.

For instance, the dressmakers will try to discuss impartially at this convention such sort matters as "Deposits on Orders," "Is Not the Dressmaker Entitled to Order Dress Materials, or Should It Be Left Entirely to the Customer?"

"How Best to Collect Outstanding Bills?" and "The Moral Responsibility a Woman Owes Her Dressmaker."

We confess the last topic is puzzling. Is this moral responsibility a mere matter of paying the bills promptly or is it something entirely separate from the money consideration? A man owes much to his tailor, but it is probable that he would disclaim the moral responsibility indebtedness. Perhaps it means living up to the dressmakers' art. Perhaps it means the refraining from copying one's best

friend's gown. Perhaps—but we might fill a column with speculations and still not arrive anywhere. Moreover, all will be known within the week, since the sessions are closed only to men.

Meanwhile it is interesting to note that this national association boasts nine thousand members, that at least a thousand of them will attend the convention, and that every state is to be represented. This last statement is by far the most important. Every one knows what it is to be out of the fashion. Should Kansas or Texas or any one of the states not be represented in the convention it would mean practically that that state would wear this summer its last year's shirt waists and its last year's duck skirts.

There is no reason for prophesying such a calamity, however, for we have the word of President White that the convention will be "fuller" than ever before and that every part of the country is to be represented.

When you feel disposed to go out and imbue your hands in the blood of a spring poet, pause and remember that one poet does not make a spring nor prolong a winter.

IT IS ALL AN ABUSE.

The debate in the house over an alleged abuse of the franking privilege, and the virtuous indignation displayed by a member when envelopes bearing his frank were caught in the act of carrying matter not entitled to free distribution through the mails, raises a cynical smile wherever the actual facts are known. The truth of it is that the entire franking privilege has grown into an abuse of colossal proportions, that there is no sound or honest spot in it and that it ought to be swept away by an impulse of honesty and reform.

Since the franking privilege was established it has been totally perverted from its original purpose. The first idea was simply that the servants of the public should be entitled to transmit their correspondence on public affairs at the government's expense. It was simply to do this by carrying free packages duly stamped by a person entitled to such favor, and to pay him for postage stamps purchased and used.

From the first moment, however, the congressional frank began to cover a multitude of sins, until now its improper and illegal use costs the government great sums of money annually. There is nothing, from laundry packages to household furniture, which is not now transmitted at the public charge by authorization of some of the most reckless and conscienceless members, while the use of the frank to carry campaign documents and to scatter arguments in favor of particular individuals or measures has become habitual. Today the franking privilege is all evil and ought to be swept away.

The political air will be wonderfully purified when congress shall finally conclude to take the step recommended by The Globe. This is to cut off and abolish absolutely and forever every kind of sinecure and perquisite connected with the congressional office. Let senators and representatives receive a salary proportionate to the importance and value of their work, and let that cover everything. The country would be no loser financially if existing salaries were made \$10,000 each per annum, instead of \$5,000, and all the little grafts were at the same time destroyed. Abolish that ancient iniquity known as mileage, cut off the nasty little stationery and supply steals, do away with the franking privilege, repeal the law authorizing the employment of clerks at the public expense by members of the two houses, and let each man's salary be his own, to live upon as best he may and to save what he can without being tempted for the sake of economy into a thousand dirty little meannesses that are in some respects worse than actual stealing. It is almost a miracle that senators and representatives can have the example that they have and the persuasive opportunities permitted them by legalized grafting privileges and still attain as high a standard of personal honor as they do. Why cannot we get rid of all these privileges that have been abused, pay proper living salaries to public servants, and then cut off every outside perquisite?

While you are kicking about the climate, consider the lot of the Vladivostok person.

THE SMOOT INQUIRY.

The investigation into the charges made against Reed Smoot affecting his right to sit in the senate of the United States has been so diverged from its original object that it is now simply an inquiry into the secrets of the Mormon church. It would appear that the reverend senators having the matter in charge were inspired by the idea that the Mormon church was applying for a seat in the senate.

So far not a thing has been done during the progress of the investigation to indicate that the committee desires information in the matter of Mr. Smoot's eligibility. Nothing has transpired to show that he is in theory or practice a polygamist. It has been proved, upon his own admission, that Joseph Smith believes in and practices polygamy. But Smith is not on trial.

We have been told all about the revelations upon which Mormonism is based; we have been let into the secrets of the makeup of the angels which have taken on the work, from time to

HERE is the DAILY INCREASE for February in the number of copies of The St. Paul Daily Globe delivered by MAIL or by CARRIER for PAID IN ADVANCE SUBSCRIPTIONS. This exhibits the actual increase in circulation over all losses, and shows the NET GAIN in this branch of the circulation last month:

Table showing daily increase in circulation for February. Columns include date, gain, and cumulative total. Total net gain for February is 1783.

SUMMARY OF CIRCULATION INCREASE. City and country subscriptions: 1141. Counter sales: 100. City newsdealers: 417. Country newsdealers: 125. Total Net Gain in February: 1783.

time, of telling the prophets of Mormonism what to do. We have had the status of the Mormon woman explained. But we have not been enlightened at all as to the eligibility of Smoot—and this, we take it, was the real object of the investigation originally.

We have no care what shall become of the Mormon church so long as its members are law-abiding citizens. We have, however, some interest in the case of Mr. Smoot, and it appears to us that it is not fair to try him by putting the Mormon church on the stand. It is not fair to a man who has not been shown to have any disqualifications to parade an objectionable institution and make him responsible for it.

Hash is to be made a compulsory ration in the army. That comes pretty near making it unanimous.

CONDEMNATION NOT OBSTRUCTION.

The position of Democrats with reference to the Panama canal should now be the same as their position with reference to other obnoxious and improper policies carried out by this administration. It should firmly stand for principle and repudiate the wrongs that have been done without forever ringing changes upon facts accomplished or attempting to base a programme for the future upon events that now lie in the irrevocable past.

If the Democratic leadership in congress for some years past be open to criticism, it is that it was too obstructive and not sufficiently constructive. While the American people are, in the long run, sensitive to an appeal to moral ideas, they are not patient with a criticism that degenerates into mere scolding, and that offers them nothing positive for the future. That party will best succeed which, while pointing out the errors of the enemy and refusing to condone them, still lays down definite lines of its own without demanding that the country act in its behalf upon purely negative considerations.

There will, therefore, be no Democratic opposition to the carrying out of the Panama canal scheme. We hold and we shall say, and we shall appeal to the country on that as one of the planks in our platform, that the administration committed a crime against liberty and a crime against the honor of this country in its unprecedented and unpardonable course in Panama. For that it deserves to be punished and repudiated by all right-thinking men.

We shall not include in that, however, any attempt to set the hands of the clock backward. The Panama business, evil though it be, is done. The country has been committed to a course of action that cannot now be reversed. We may be able in the future to make some honorable reparation and some financial compensation to Colombia for the territory that we have reft from her in defiance of our promise. That is a matter for the future. For the present none will be more eager attendants or more helpful than Democrats to the completion of the great work itself.

This is a type of the policy that the country demands. A majority of the people are thoroughly dissatisfied with the policies of this administration and weary of the inefficiency or worse of Republican rule. They are turning about them to look for something better. What they want is a virile criticism, provided it be conjoined with ability to act. Let us devote no complicated sentences to denouncing our course in the Philippines. Let us rather, since the Philippines are and will remain under our power, be faithful to our institutions and ideals by pledging the faith of Democracy to an independent government like that of Cuba for them in the future.

Panama, through our unrighteous act, has become an independent state and canal rights have been acquired. Let us unsparingly censure those who planned and executed the deed, and promise such monetary restitution as alone remains possible, and then let us lend all our energies to the early completion of the canal.

This is practical working common sense; this is good Democracy, and this is the line of action most promising of success.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Gov. Van Sant left last evening for Chicago, accompanied by Mrs. Van Sant, and before his return home will pass some time in Iowa.

Ryan—H. M. Hess, Kansas City; T. S. Roberts, Mason City; W. L. Abbott, Oelwein, Iowa; M. Sparr, Billings, C. C. Miller, Mankato; J. C. Williams, Wm. J. R. Carpenter, Grand Rapids; W. R. F. Topping, Ashland; O. W. McCarty, Louisville.

Merchants—T. F. Norton, Mills Lacey; W. H. Wells and wife, Litchfield, N. D.; H. E. Frazee, Pelican Rapids; G. O. Ross, Hartwick, McKenzia, Lake Benton; J. B. Sullivan, Waseca; B. S. Townsend, Mandan; I. Bergman, Casselton; D. C. W. Young, Bradley; E. W. H. Morse, Crookston; G. H. Harrington, Fargo.

Windsor—D. H. Warren, Grand Forks; Helen Parks, Pine Point, A. Star; Windom; D. J. Cutter, Duluth; Robert Carr, Mason City; H. M. Curry, Staples; Peter J. Schwarz, Dodge Center; G. W. Smith, Amboy; Thomas M. Casey, Spring Valley; C. H. Stuck, Eau Claire.

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What the Editors Say

Tim Byrnes manages to get himself talked of in the newspapers about so often, and just now he is "mentioned" as a delegate at large to Chicago. When he returns from the convention, Republicans, wherever they are, in company with John Goodnow, he played the party in the state for suckers some years ago in the shape of the so-called Republican State League, which accomplished nothing whatever except to give the promoters a good fat office. John went to China and Tim has lived in Washington these many years, where it is said his principal avocation is playing a political and sending out an occasional scare about the horrible anti-Roosevelt conspiracy in Minnesota. Tim should go way back and sit down in Minnesota. Republicans can get along without him.—Freston Times.

At the editorial banquet last Thursday night Judge Collins spoke of many of the dead senators who he sold watermelons by the wagon load on the spot where the Nicollet house stands, and wound up in praise of J. J. Hill. The little speech was very pretty and somewhat witty, and the reference to J. J. Hill was ominous.—Windom Reporter.

We do consider it poor judgment on the part of our valued friend Huntington to criticize the judge for his reference to Hill. As one of the great factors to build up the Northwest and Minnesota especially, it would have been a mistake for Judge Collins not to mention Mr. Hill.—Sleepy Eye Herald.

It is really too bad that Messrs. Barry and Gunders, the expert accountants, who were the book keepers for Bob Dunn while he was state auditor should not have consulted Public Examiner Johnson before sending the result of their findings to Mr. Dunn, which by the way were very favorable, and reflected high credit upon the ex-auditor and the able manner in which he conducted his office. But Mr. Johnson might possibly have discovered some unfortunate errors in the typewritten manuscript.—Lake City Republican.

It is asserted on good authority that the Collins boomers have promised the present officeholders under Gov. Van Sant, a reappointment and have also gone out into the state and placed the same promises with people who are not now fortunate enough to be drawing a salary from the state treasury. Collins' remote chance of receiving the nomination relieves him from any embarrassment which might follow this double game, or "padding" with ends against the middle" as it is sometimes termed.—Brainerd Dispatch.

Loren Fletcher courting another contest for congress against John Lind, is a sight to make angels weep. Mr. Lind is not exactly a political favorite of ours, but he has brains and can use them, and the odds of us we can't see what Mr. Fletcher would find to offer in favor of his election with John Lind actively advocating the Republican doctrines of an isthmian canal, tariff revision and Canadian reciprocity.—Cannon Falls Beacon.

Frank Day in making his selection for delegates at large to the national Democratic convention modestly suggests Mayor Cullom of Duluth, T. D. O'Brien, John Lind and L. A. Rosing as the big four. The Herald amends by substituting the name of Frank A. Day for that of Cullom, who is the equal of any one of the proposed big four.—St. Peter Herald.

At the banquet in Minneapolis last week Judge Collins said: "J. J. Hill has done more for Minnesota and the Northwest than has any other man," which is true, but if Bob Dunn had said those same words the Collins faction would have said he was a "merger."—Heron Lake News.

The gall displayed in the invitation to Hill to subscribe to the Collins campaign fund was unapproached and unapproachable. This is one respect in which the Collins crowd can't be beat. They have really no competitors.—St. Paul Review.

John Lind, as usual, seems to bother several of our Republican exchanges. But Mr. Lind isn't worrying. It seems that he and Adam Bede have become national figures, but on very different ground.—Little Falls Herald.

We observe that the newspapers having the least regard for truth make the most ado about the immortal George on Feb. 2. Perhaps it is the annual penance.—St. Cloud Journal-Press.

When such men as "Doc" Ames get themselves enlisted under the Collins banner, a few respectable Democrats shouting for Dunn ought to be allowed to pass.—Appleton Tribune.

It seemed That Way.

Rev. Gasaway—Some of the congregation considered my sermon too long.

Mr. Sharpe—That wasn't really long, and that shows the truth of an old saying.

Rev. Gasaway—What's that?

Mr. Sharpe—Things are not always what they seem.—Philadelphia Ledger.

After the "Corner."

Gunner—What ever became of that young stock speculator who used to bet so many times?

Guy—Oh, he's getting more tips than ever.

Gunner—You don't say.

Guy—Yes; he's a waiter in a hotel now.—Chicago News.

Eclipse.

They were discussing bravery.

"Talk about risks," boasted the man in the red topped boots. "Why, I have been on a jury twelve times."

"That's nothing," replied the quiet man; "I have been on a jury that decided which was the prettiest baby at a baby show."—Chicago News.

Effective Damper.

Bunting—How did you hear they put out the fire at the stock exchange the other day?

At St. Paul Theaters

Miss Held will give her last two performances of "Mam'selle Napoleon" at the Metropolitan opera house this afternoon and tonight. Miss Held's performance in the advance production is the most pleasing she has ever presented in St. Paul. The scenic surroundings are most elaborate.

Next Thursday and Friday nights, March 10 and 11, Dick Ferris and Grace Hayward will appear at the Metropolitan opera house in Nat Goodnow's success, "When We Were Twenty-one."

Joseph Murphy will close his engagement at the Grand this week with a matinee today at 2:30 and the regular performance tonight.

Beginning tomorrow night the Grand will offer an old but ever-welcome attraction in "Von Yonson." This is the thirteenth year of this play. The title role will be played by a young Swede named Nelse Erickson.

The High Rollers company will end a successful engagement with two performances at the Star today. The vaudeville bill given by the company includes some clever turns and the burlesques are funny.

SENATORS GET LIGHT ON THE MORMON FAITH

Continued From First Page.

be destroyed by the Lord, but that he was not informed "just how the Lord would do it." "Then it does not mean that the husband could destroy her" Senator Pettus asked.

"No, never."

Senator Overman asked Mr. Smith if he knew whether any one of the six polygamist apostles had disobeyed the law in regard to polygamous cohabitation since the manifesto of 1890.

"I do not know," said Mr. Smith. "I only know that they were in the same status of polygamy at the time of the manifesto as I was myself. I do not know if they were or were not."

"I believe the practice of polygamy was general among the Jews at the time the Scriptures were written," said Mr. Smith. "I believe that it was commanded that a bishop should be a married man because his duties made it necessary that he should be an experienced man." (Here the chairman had to rapidly to restore order in the committee room.)

Senator McComas took the witness in hand to bring out whether, as the head of the church, Mr. Smith had ever rebuked the apostles of the church for teaching polygamy since the manifesto of 1890, and Mr. Smith declared:

"No member of the church has ever taught polygamy since that time."

"What would you do if the principle of plural marriages was publicly attacked?" Senator McComas asked.

"We would defend it," said Mr. Smith.

Questioned by the Defense.

Mr. Smith was taken in hand by the defense and questioned by Mr. Worthington, who called attention to "an apparent inconsistency" in the books of the church in regard to the authority of more than one person to receive revelations.

Mr. Smith said that only the president could receive revelations "for the entire church," though every member of the church could receive revelations.

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eth the laws of God hath no need to break the law of the land."

Mr. Smith, in answer to Senator Beveridge, said that under the discipline that had been maintained for the last twenty years, the people in the Mormon church would obey the laws rather than any revelation which might be in conflict.

"Which would you do?" Senator Burrows asked.

"I would strive with all my might to obey the laws of the land," said Mr. Smith, and he added: "But I should not like to be put into a position where I would be compelled to abandon my children, a course not do what a revelation might require."

Mr. Smith said that he never had received any revelations direct from God, but that if any should come it might be by audible voice, inspiration known only by himself, or, as in the case of Joseph Smith Jr., who received the book of Mormon in writing.

Senator Bailey directed questions to ascertain whether or not the revelation was a revelation or a proclamation provoked by the knowledge that congress intended to interfere in the continuation of polygamous marriages. Mr. Smith said the manifesto was a revelation to President Woodruff.

Senator Dubois asked questions to determine the effect of the revelation on the law. The committee adjourned.

NAVAL TRAINING STATION IS AIRED

Senate Puts in the Whole Day on the Great Lakes Proposition.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—Practically the entire time of the senate today was given to consideration of the question of the selection of a site for a naval training station on the great lakes. Most of the senators from states bordering on the lakes participated in the discussion.

The committee amendment was so modified as to make it apply to all the great lakes, and not alone to Lake Michigan, but Mr. Quarles' amendment was not acted on, and will be considered tomorrow.

T. COLLIER PLATT CAN'T SAVE STODDARD

Latter Must Give Up His \$50,000 Job in Arizona.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—Isaac T. Stoddard, secretary of the treasury in Arizona, resigned, and his resignation has been accepted. Charges had been filed against Stoddard. He was charged with promoting the incorporation of companies in Arizona, a year. The fight against Secretary Stoddard became so spirited that he finally tendered his resignation to the president.

Today Senator Platt of New York, talked to the president on behalf of Mr. Stoddard, who is a son-in-law of Judge Martin, of the New York court of appeals. A decision had been reached, however, to accept the resignation.

Color Question Engages House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—In the house yesterday a letter was read from Grover Cleveland to Representative Webb, of North Carolina, denying that J. H. Taylor, a negro, had dined with him at the White house while he was president, as charged by Representative Scott, of Kansas, a few days ago.

Mr. Scott promptly offered his apology to the former president, saying he never before had heard his statement, which he had made denied. A discussion of the race question followed, during which Mr. Williams, the minority leader, criticized President Roosevelt for having invited Booker T. Washington to a seat at his table.

Representative Webb said Mr. Cleveland had been a friend of the negro, but never had held out to him the hope of social equality. Mr. Williams said that objection to the appointment of negroes to positions was met with the statement that there could be no discrimination, but asserted that a Chinaman would not be appointed postmaster on the Pacific coast.

Mr. McCleary (Minn.) cut short further discussion by a point of order against remarks not germane to the bill.

Mr. Lind (Minn.) complained of extravagance in District of Columbia affairs, asserting that it costs more to run the District of Columbia than the entire state of Minnesota.

The house passed the District of Columbia appropriation bill and took up the Indian appropriation bill.

For almost four hours the senate, while technically engaged on the naval appropriation bill, discussed a wide range of subjects, including the policy of the United States in the Philippine and Russo-Japanese war. The principal participants were Senators Hale, Bacon, Lodge, Depew, Patterson, Perkins and Money. Mr. Hale criticized the law of naval armaments as tending to an establishment beyond the needs of the country. Messrs. Lodge, Depew and Perkins defended the naval officers. Mr. Lodge declared a large navy the only way to secure peace. Mr. Money said he did not regard the total appropriation of \$97,000,000 carried by the bill as excessive under our present policy in the Orient.

Mr. Smith would do if the revelations conflicted with the law. "Which would you obey?" he asked.

"Which ever they pleased," said Mr. Smith, and he added: "But I should not like to be put into a position where I would be compelled to abandon my children, a course not do what a revelation might require."

Mr. Smith said that he never had received any revelations direct from God, but that if any should come it might be by audible voice, inspiration known only by himself, or, as in the case of Joseph Smith Jr., who received the book of Mormon in writing.

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