

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

VOLUME VIII.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1915

NUMBER 33

A DOG FALL AND ITS SMELL MOUNTS UP TO HIGH HEAVEN

Stench of Dirty Linen Run Through the Judicial Wringer Pollutes Air.

Oh, What Campaign Material This Family Row Will Give the Democrats.

"If they had given Teddy a few minutes' whack at that holding-out jar, I'll bet the Noisy One would have had a verdict," said one good Republican yesterday afternoon when he found that the Syracuse jury had disagreed 11 to 1.

That is about all there is to that part of the story—it was a dog fall, the stench of the court smells to high heaven, and the dirty linen still hangs on the U. S. P. clothesline.

The closing scenes of the trial were of decided interest, as William M. Ivins, chief counsel for Barnes, disclosed the fact that he had no fear of the man whose favorite expression is "liar" when his word is questioned or doubted. He hurled defiance at the Noisy One in a way that caused Roosevelt to know that he was being talked about. In closing his address he asked the former president as being the real possessor of a "Jekyll-Hyde personality," instead of Mr. Barnes.

The whole trouble with the defendant in this case, and the reason he has gotten himself into this position is that he did not follow out the advice which Roosevelt gave to Cardinal Walsey. "Cast aside ambition, for this sin fell the angels."

Referring to Colonel Roosevelt's testimony referring to Mr. Barnes as having a "Jekyll-Hyde personality," Mr. Ivins continued:

Wanted to Do Up Hyde

Mr. Barnes didn't have that dual personality. It was this defendant who possessed it. He said he wanted to do up the Mr. Hyde in Mr. Barnes; so he appointed him to office twice, and when he wanted to defeat race track legislation, he called in this man, who was struggling between two personalities. The defense sets up that it was wrong for Mr. Barnes to invest himself in the defeat of that bill. And they overlook the fact that it was this defendant as president of the United States, who asked him to do it, and when this bill was written this defendant wanted to kill Mr. Barnes.

There are two main exhibits in this case. One of them is the defendant, the other is the plaintiff. If Mr. Barnes hesitated on the witness stand it was because he wanted to be sure about things that happened many, many years ago. Look at the defendant, what did he do? Why he sprang to the witness chair on one occasion as if it was about to get away from him. He put electricity out of business. He talked with his hands, his feet and his face. His personality was all over the jury box; it permeated the room.

Mr. Ivins painted a word picture of the defendant seeking the advice of and being controlled by the late Thomas C. Platt—the "easy boss." The attorney vigorously defended his own client, saying the defense had set up that he "must be undeniably crooked, simply because he was so straight."

The colonel sat almost motionless during the entire address.

Mr. Ivins began his address by defining his duty and criticizing Mr. Bowers for delving into politics.

"What," he asked, "has the future usefulness of this defendant or even of this plaintiff, got to do with this action at law?"

He urged the jury to remember that "this is not a political controversy."

Call it "Fairy Tale"

Mr. Ivins referred to a part of the story told by Colonel Roosevelt as a "fairy tale."

"The question in this case is," said the lawyer, "has any man the right to rob another of his honor?"

Mr. Ivins said the article alleged to be libelous charged Mr. Barnes as being a "political Benedict Arnold." Then he said:

"This defendant has charged so many men with being habitual falsifiers that it has long since become a national joke."

"What does the word 'boss' mean?" he continued. "I'll tell you; it implies a dishonorable occupation. In the article complained of, bipartisan boss rule is alleged. What does that mean? Simply that two bosses have come together to the detriment of the people."

The questions here are these: Has the existence of invisible government been proven? Has the existence of a bipartisan boss rule been proven?"

"Who is the censor of the morals of men in this country? Well, my friend Mr. Bowers during his address divided the history of the country into three parts. The colonel has had himself put in the class with George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. He has put behind him Messrs. Guggenheim, Penner, Barnes and many others whom he suffered for so many years. Mr. Roosevelt has changed his company. He has drawn new companions out of the dim past."

"Master Moulder of Libel"

Continuing, Mr. Ivins referred to the defendant as "this master moulder of libel," this master moulder of phrases with which to attack his enemies, and said there was "not one iota of evidence that showed a corrupt and machine-ruled government. The only example of control was the control Mr. Platt exercised over this defendant."

Mr. Ivins later said:

"The country hasn't gone to the devil because this defendant wasn't re-elected president; congress has not gone to the howlows; everything is going on as usual."

When Colonel Roosevelt published the alleged libelous statement "he meant to kill Barnes," Mr. Ivins declared:

"Nobody has a privilege to lie," he added. "A libel is based upon a lie. Unless a libel is the absolute truth it is not justified."

THE GAME OF GRAB

But There is No Hypocrisy in Italy's Present War Attitude

One thing that can be said in defense of Italy's attitude in the present situation—and that is that there is no hypocrisy about it. The government's position is frankly determined by self-interest. It isn't acting on behalf of suffering humanity. It is acting for the purpose of getting everything for Italy that this promising opportunity offers.

Now Japan has followed the bad precedent set up by most Western nations. It is taking charge of China for its own benefit and because it can. But it fears that such a bald statement would shock Western susceptibilities. So it announces that everything is being done from altruistic motives.

Why not be candid in all such matters? It's less trying on the patience of the rest of the world.

If you want to steal, why not say so and be honest about it? If you are going to steal, you know it and while you may hide it for a few days—yet the cold fact will soon show up and you will then be convicted of not only theft, but lying as well.

GOING AFTER D. WARD KING

An Iowa Man Claims He Used the Drag Two Years Previous

D. Ward King of Maitland, who for a number of years has claimed to be the originator and inventor of the road drag to which he has affixed his name, is now called upon to defend his plumes, for an Iowa farmer claims that he had the drag in successful operation two years before King promulgated its virtues. Read this from the Liberty Advance of Clay county:

"While on a business trip to Lamoni, Iowa, last week, E. E. Kirkland met Mr. Hart, a farmer of that section, who is said to have been the real discoverer of the split log road drag. His neighbors claim that he was using the drag two years before D. Ward King of Maitland, Mo., tried it. He is still a user, and Mr. Kirkland says that the roads in that section are in splendid shape. There is no agitation for rock or oiled roads there, but the dirt roads there are wide, well drained and are kept dragged. They are the very best possible roads for as much as ten months in the year, the people claim."

WILL NOT HURT JUDGE RUCKER

Judge W. W. Rucker, who has represented the Second Missouri district in congress for eighteen years, is facing the fight of his life. Numerous gentlemen in that neck of the political woods are saying that Rucker has had enough and at least four will be against him in the running for the nomination. These four are Ralph Lester of Carroll county, lawyer and politician; Ed C. Orr, several times a member of the Missouri general assembly from Livingston county and State Senator Frank W. McAllister and James P. Boyd, speaker of the house of the forty-eighth general assembly of Monroe county.

Judge Rucker and his friends are not at all worried over his prospects, for the people of his district have learned the lesson that when they get a good man in congress they should keep him there—and they have that sort of a man in Rucker, and are doing so.

Quick Work in Destroying

It took three years and eight million dollars to build the Lusitania. It took fifteen minutes to sink her with a submarine torpedo.—Nodaway Democrat-Forum.

BANKING BY MAIL

Third Assistant Postmaster-General Alexander Monroe Dockery Solves Another Problem.

Banking by mail with the United States government will be possible after July 1, according to notice received Monday by Frank Freitag, postmaster, from Postmaster-General Burleson. Every person 18 years old or more will be permitted to open accounts. This will open the bank to thousands of residents of thinly settled communities which are now without postal savings banks.

Alexander M. Dockery, former governor of Missouri, whose home is in Galatin, and who is now third assistant postmaster and has direct supervision of the postal savings bank, was so impressed by appeals from all over the country for the opening of more savings banks, that he has spent some weeks devising a safe and feasible method of taking care of those persons in the sparsely settled districts.

Under the plan adopted by the postmaster-general for opening accounts by mail an intending depositor residing where there is no regularly designated postal savings bank, will apply to his local postmaster who will see that necessary identification data is prepared and forwarded to a nearby postoffice authorized to accept deposits. The intending depositor will then be given permission to forward his first and subsequent deposits by money order or registered mail to the postmaster at the banking point for which receipts or certificates will be issued. He may withdraw all or any part of his postal savings by mail and on demand together with any interest that may be due him.

The new leaflet points out that any person 18 years old or over may open an account in his or her own name; that an account may be opened by a married woman free from any control or interference by her husband; that post office officials are forbidden to disclose to any person, except the depositor, the amount of any deposits; that withdrawals may be made with out previous notice, and that the government guarantees to repay all deposits on demand, with accrued interest.

The leaflet will soon be printed in twenty-two foreign languages for distribution through local post offices. The foreign-born citizen has taken every kind of postal savings, and the nature of his own language will be of great assistance to him. In a recent article, Postmaster-General Burleson commented on the foreign-born depositor as follows:

"Upwards of 500,000 depositors now have accounts in the postal savings system and they represent every nationality on the earth. They also represent almost every known occupation—professional men, theatrical people, mechanics, laborers, fishermen, pack peddlers, etc. But the majority are wage earners, and of this class the foreign-born largely predominate. A census of depositors taken by the post office department shows that approximately 40 per cent of the depositors are foreign-born citizens, and they own more than 50 per cent of the deposits—splendid evidence of the confidence of our newly acquired citizens in the ability and good faith of their adopted country to fulfill its obligations."

"There is another reason which led immigrants, unfamiliar with our laws and business methods, to turn to the government to safeguard their humble savings, and that reason is the disastrous experiences many of them have had by the failures of bogus 'private banks' offered by swindlers of their own tongue who have preyed mercilessly upon their loneliness and credulity."

Postal savings receipts have broken all records the past year. During the eight months prior to April 1, there was a net gain in deposits of \$15,000,000, as against a gain of \$19,000,000 for the same months the year before. Thousands of new accounts have been opened and the millions made up largely of hidden savings, have been turned back into the channels of trade, just at a time when there was pressing demand for every dollar.

Makes Work for the Doctors

Dr. W. J. Mayo, the medical expert of Rochester, Minn., is credited with the assertion that appendicitis has increased from 300 to 400 per cent because of the increased use of belts instead of suspenders. The "one gallon" fellows never have the fashionable ailment, according to Judge Jno. B. Murray of the Liberty Tribune, who is a regular Sherlock Holmes at the deduction game.—Macon Times Democrat.

Git—if You Don't Like Us

You fellows who are kicking about work, should buy tickets for England or Germany. Everybody has a job over there—most of them being last year. There are many worse places than the U. S. A., brother, but if you don't like it, buy a ticket, we can get along without you.—Miss Standard.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE OBSERVER.

The Observer is now in its new home in the board of trade building, Third and Edmond streets, St. Joseph, Mo. It is comfortably situated in the rooms formerly occupied by the Merchants Bank, and although the management has not as much money as had its predecessors in these quarters, it will still extend to you just as warm a welcome when you call—even if you want to lick the editor.

"FARMER" BILL STONE

He Will Now Be the Agricultural Act, According to Common Report

The Henry County Democrat is to be hailed as a great public benefactor, for it is the medium whereby William Joel Stone, Missouri's great senator, is to be transferred, transformed, transfigured, as it were—for he is to lose his appellation of Gum Shoe, and in future to be plain Farmer Stone. Here is how it is done:

"Nearly a quarter of a century ago the writer heard Senator Stone in the old Warder Grand Opera house in Kansas City declare himself to be a representative of the great farming class, and when the ripple of laughter had subsided, he continued: 'I have a little patch of ground down in Vernon county. I have a horse, a cow, a couple of pigs, a few chickens and—and a mortgage. And if that doesn't make me a farmer, I'd like to know what would.'"

"Last week Senator Stone leased a Jefferson City home with a patch of ground, moved into on Friday, in advance of superannuation, and settled down. He took over everything from the owner, including three dozen chickens, two dogs, three cats and a big lawn dotted with pretty flowers.

"From time to time the senator will sail forth into various parts of the state to attend picnics, barbecues, good road meetings, fish fries, etc., where he will meet his old political friends. He will make as few speeches as possible. His health is as good now as it ever was, and after feeding up on greens, hog jowl, fried catfish, cornbread, etc., he will be ready to tackle anything which may come up before the senate when it meets."

SWINDLERS AT THE SPRINGS

Excelsior Springs in the Hands of a Tough Gang

Excelsior Springs is not only to be famed on account of its hotel and boarding house keepers, but is to have new notoriety as a hard place through the medium of one of its local papers which says:

"The gang of race horse swindlers are still holding forth in Excelsior Springs and are working their old schemes and robbing their victims in the same old way, defiant of the officers of the law and untried of the publicity that has been given the workings of the gang through the columns of the Standard."

"The presence of this gang here is doing the town a great injury and some action should be taken to rid the town of their presence. Their operations are held in secrecy they know not, and their defiance of the law has placed the officers of this city and county in a position to be criticized whether they deserve it or not. If the officers have no power to stop the operations of these thieves, then those foolish enough to engage in betting on fake racing are at the mercy of the thieves and will continue to be fleeced of their life savings."—Excelsior Springs Standard.

As Fred Garlick's Says It

Little Willie's kind of funny— Takes it after Uncle Life. Swallowed all his sister's money. Said that he was "blasted safe."

OH, HOW STRANGE!

For once the village had the last word in a discussion with Teddy the Noisy.

Teddy the Noisy is saying less, and perhaps thinking more, than in the two or three days immediately following the Lusitania disaster. His last published expression comes by way of South Mansfield, La., and takes the form of a brief correspondence between him and certain citizens of that town in which the citizen strange to say, had the last word.

Following is the message that was sent Colonel Roosevelt from South Mansfield:

"Judging from the statement of yours at Syracuse that you have the fighting spirit, we, the citizens of this village, will furnish gun and transportation for you to join either the allied or German forces individually—or substitute."

To this the Colonel sent the following response:

"If your citizens who addressed the telegram to me will volunteer to join and accompany me to Europe, we will join the allied forces, purchasing our arms from your city and starting immediately from South Mansfield."

The rejoinder, which closed the correspondence, was this:

"Get the meaning of the former message: You to go unaccompanied. We are for peace, you do the fighting and our offer will hold good."

Colonel Roosevelt's narrative of his exploits in Cuba during the war with Spain was facetiously dubbed by the irreverent Mr. Dockery "Along in Cuba." While he is apparently eager to fight in Europe for the cause of the allies the Colonel does not wish again to be alone. And his fellow countrymen, at least those in South Mansfield, are unwilling to fight with him under any other flag than the Stars and Stripes.

It is very very annoying and distressing. Unless the United States can somehow be brought into the war the Colonel's throat for gore will have to go unquenched.

THE QUESTION OF FEDERAL AND STATE RIGHTS AGAIN

Sooner or Later It Will Be Necessary For the People to Face the Problem

They Must Decide According to Their Power of Weighing the Evidence.

Sooner or later it will be necessary for the people of the United States to face the question of the absorption of state powers by the federal government. Whether this process, which is undoubtedly going on, is in itself a good thing or not, the people will decide according to their power of weighing the evidence which may be laid before them. The question is one which it being perpetually discussed, but in respect of which nothing is ever determined. The power to take advantage of the existing conditions of things lies with the supporters of the movement for strengthening the federal influence, and this for the power of the government is commonly directed to supporting the federal claim; second, because the federal element is able to carry on its campaign by a persistent process of sapping the state authority. The supporters of the state authority may say, in the words of the books of Job: "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further," but the line drawn must represent a pure academic one, and the sapping process may be begun immediately with the purpose of undermining this line.

An Excellent Object Lesson

An excellent object lesson in the process of sapping is offered by the health department. It is the avowed object of the federal health service to gain complete control of the entire health service of the country, that is to say, if the campaign is successful, the opinions of the various states as to what is desirable within the borders of those states will be set aside in favor of a highly centralized organization in Washington. The doctors in the federal service make no secret of this whatever, they maintain that they know what is good for the states much better than the states know themselves. If the federal authority should become dominant, the federal doctors would have the right to go into any state and any town, and entirely disregard the views, not only of the doctors of that state or town, but of the community in general, in order to impose by a collection of the federal department on the citizens of the state, in plain English, what is threatened is the setting up of a bureaucracy with the most arbitrary powers. Now anybody who imagines that a bureaucracy is anything short of despotism, benevolent or otherwise, knows very little of the history of the bureaucratic countries. The most bureaucratic country in Europe is Russia, which is simply ruled, not in the least by the czar, as is so commonly supposed, but by a collection of bureaucratic departments which dictate the imperial policy. It must be obvious that a single individual, such as the czar, is, cannot possibly know anything whatever of the policies which are dominating the governments of such remote provinces as Kamchatka and Poland, as the Caucasus or Archangel. In consequence the officials of a bureaucracy become a series of czars, in petty, who are spontaneously unquestionably more arbitrary than the czar himself.

How This Works Out

An excellent example of how this works out is given by the Russian consular service. For years past the Russian consular service has been the despair of the foreign offices of Europe. Working like the other great Russian departments, independently of all other departments, it has again and again involved the government in Petrograd in issues, from which the war office has had to rescue it. Only quite recently, in Persia, the consular agents were establishing claims in direct defiance of the undertakings of their own foreign office, and then calling on that foreign office to protect the flag. The czar of Russia is nominally an autocrat, but his power over the bureaucracy is really so nebulous that most of the misgovernment of Russia has been traced, again and again, not to the autocrat, but to the bureaucrat.

The United States represents an enormous territory, with almost as many diversities as the Russian empire. Between the interests of the miners of Alaska and the negroes of Virginia, or between the fishermen of New England, the farmers of the Middle West, and the Indians of Arizona, there is a great gulf fixed. The state governments are calculated in every way to understand the vital problems presented in their midst, in a way which cannot be appreciated by a centralized bureaucracy, endeavoring to interfere simultaneously in a hundred different places where the conditions are entirely dissimilar. Take a subject like female suffrage. Under a centralized bureaucracy it would have been almost impossible to have given women a vote in one place, without giving it in all. As a result, either the women who had obtained the vote

would have had to have been deprived of it, or the states where the vote has not been given would have been forced to concede it. It may be argued, no doubt it is argued, that nobody is proposing to centralize power to such an extent, but a few years ago it was proposed to extend the federal authority at the expense of the state authority, to the extent this imposition has already taken place. Once a stone of this nature is set rolling, it becomes increasingly difficult to stop it, and the effort of the health department is a perfect example of this. It is an avowed effort to control the whole health service of the republic from an office in Washington. If this were carried out it would be simply one step toward the practical disappearance of state rights and the establishment of a bureaucratic system.

What This Would Mean

Let anybody consider what this would mean. Could it really be what Daniel Webster described, eighty-five years ago, as "The people's government, made for the people, made by the people, and answerable to the people?" We are perfectly well aware that it can easily be theoretically maintained that this is the case. But then we are not sure that it could not be purely academically maintained that this was not true of every country, inasmuch as the people must be a consenting part to the established form of government. There is a great deal of truth in Bret Harte's wise quotation:

"Are things what they seem? Or is visions about?"

and it may be well to remember the words of William Harvard: "The greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."—Christian Science Monitor.

LOST THE UNION PACIFIC

Forty-six Years Ago Monday, Jeff Thompson Made a Sad Blunder

If little Mr. Jeff Thompson had acted a little better about half a century ago, the Union Pacific, and indeed the greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."—Christian Science Monitor.

Forty-six Years Ago Monday, Jeff Thompson Made a Sad Blunder

If little Mr. Jeff Thompson had acted a little better about half a century ago, the Union Pacific, and indeed the greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."—Christian Science Monitor.

Forty-six Years Ago Monday, Jeff Thompson Made a Sad Blunder

If little Mr. Jeff Thompson had acted a little better about half a century ago, the Union Pacific, and indeed the greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."—Christian Science Monitor.

Forty-six Years Ago Monday, Jeff Thompson Made a Sad Blunder

If little Mr. Jeff Thompson had acted a little better about half a century ago, the Union Pacific, and indeed the greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."—Christian Science Monitor.

Forty-six Years Ago Monday, Jeff Thompson Made a Sad Blunder

If little Mr. Jeff Thompson had acted a little better about half a century ago, the Union Pacific, and indeed the greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."—Christian Science Monitor.

SOME VANDAL'S DIRTY WORK

Monday night during the storm some miscreant went to Twenty-eighth and Farson streets, where the city is to be beautified by the new boulevard and where young trees and shrubbery had been set out on either side to assist in the art effect. This skunk made his way along a block and put all of the newly planted trees out of shape. It is to be regretted that these trees are not fully developed and that the destroyer is not swinging by the heels from one of them until he would agree to stop further depredations.

Surprised About Senator Warnell

The hundreds of friends in St. Joseph of ex-Senator Thomas J. Warnell of Liberty, were surprised and shocked to read the other day that he had pleaded guilty in the circuit court at Liberty last week to tax dodging and was fined \$200 and costs, which he paid.