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PERKINS ASSAILS ROOSEVELT

Senator George C. Perkins is the Washington correspondent of a large number of the small newspapers of California. He is industrious and copious, and every week he sends from Washington, in a U. S. Senate envelope, and under his frank, a long letter dealing with all the important happenings in Congress, especially his own diligent labors and feats of statesmanship.

Under date of Dec. 20, Senator and Washington correspondent Perkins sends to the Imperial Valley Press, and presumably to a few hundred other papers, a letter which crackles with anti-Rooseveltism. The first paragraph insinuates that the president has not told the truth about the cruise of the battleship fleet. The second takes a side swipe at "legislation by executive order" and "usurpation of legislative powers" and the third is as follows:

President Roosevelt, according to the published statement of Mayor Dahlman of Omaha, accepts responsibility for the recent panic, the ultimate effects of which are not yet felt. The financial community long ago fixed the blame on his shoulders, and the mercantile and manufacturing world is thinking similar thoughts as business diminishes. When the effects of the upheaval strike wages, as it is believed they will, the laboring classes will doubtless find little reason to rejoice in the propaganda which has been put forth by him whom ex-Governor Black refers to as the Man on the Barrel Head.

It is not true that the President accepts responsibility for the money famine created by a band of Wall street conspirators, and it is not conceivable that Senator Perkins believes it to be true. The Senator does not escape responsibility for the false assertion by crediting it to the Mayor of Omaha. He makes it his own by elaborating it, declaring that the blame has been "fixed" on the President's shoulders and telling the laboring people that their wages will be reduced as a result of the policies of "the Man on the Barrel Head." Senator Perkins makes that epithet his own also.

Convicted criminals of the Standard Oil type, financial pirates of the Ryan class, trust company thimble-riggers, looters of banks and smug-faced toadies to predatory financiers have done their vicious utmost to unload the consequences of their own villainies upon the shoulders of the man who has exposed them and made their crooked games dangerous to play, but they have not succeeded in persuading any honest man that the policeman who arrests an incendiary is responsible for the fire losses or should be tried for arson.

What is the "propaganda" at which the smug Senator Perkins covertly sneers? A square deal, obedience to the law by the creatures of the law, honesty in business, fidelity to trust and prosecution of crooks and law-break-

ers. Does Senator Perkins fear anything in that policy? Does it menace him or his friends? Has he reasons for objecting to a policy that would put an end to rebating and make secret combinations in restraint of trade dangerous to corporations and persons concerned in them?

Senator Perkins is a Republican. He is a member and a long-time beneficiary of the party of which President Roosevelt is the official head. He desires to remain in the Senate as the representative of the party and of the Republican State of California. He may attain his end by attacking the chief of his party and collaborating with Chancellor Day, but it will be because the people of California have no voice in the election of their Senators.

MISCHIEVOUS MEDDLING

When associations for meddling in other peoples' affairs find leisure hanging heavily on their hands, they turn their attention either to the army or to the Indian and plague the Government with insistent demands that something be abolished, prevented, prohibited or regulated according to their notions. The poor Indian can't help himself, and he comes in for more than his share of irritating interference. One of these associations has gravely "resolved" that "the practice for Indians of both sexes to dance together tends to lower the standard of morality among them and the association earnestly urges the government and the Indian office to take the necessary steps to prevent such dancing."

There are people who hold that dancing by white men and women is immoral and sinful, but they know better than to ask Congress to pass a law forbidding the practice. They would be jeered at for even suggesting such a thing.

The red man and the man in khaki don't vote and therefore their "morals" are subject to regulation whenever the politicians think the meddlers have political influence enough to be formidable. There hasn't been an Indian outbreak in the last fifty years that was not provoked by stupid or malicious meddling with the red man's affairs, and the appalling record of desertions from the army is traceable directly to conditions brought about by the truckling of politicians to regulators of other people's business.

Probably the most effective solution of the Indian question would be the full enfranchisement of the Indian, making him a citizen instead of a "ward." The red man is better fitted for self-government than millions of black voters are or ever will be, and he has a better claim to American citizenship. Treated as a man, not as a child, the Indian would soon cease to be a problem, and the zealous regulators of things in general and joggle-witted sentimentalists would cease from troubling him and the government.

"SUCCESS"

Benjamin Hadley, of Somerville, Mass., never married, never joined any kind of an organization, never had his life insured, never purchased a ticket for any sort of entertainment, never ate a meal at a hotel or restaurant and did not spend more than \$1 in his entire life for car fare. He lived 90 years, piled up \$1,500,000 and died. The career of a toadstool on a rotten stump is more useful, inspiring and ad-

mirable than such a life, yet Benjamin Hadley was a "successful" man in the estimation of money-mad fools.

Senator Perkins is not content to supply the country newspapers of California with Washington news; he generously furnishes editorial opinions without charge. Following a statement of alleged fact in connection with the shooting up of Brownsville by negro soldiers, the Senator would make the papers printing his volunteer correspondence say that the point "is a further justification of Senator Foraker's criticism of the President." But possibly some of the country editors have opinions of their own, and some may not be convinced yet that there has been any justification of Senator Foraker's onslaught.

Secretary Cortelyou was an efficient private secretary and a very good government clerk, who never permitted political convictions to interfere with the holding of his job, but his ambition to be President of the United States is preposterous. His scheme to get the Federal brigade organized into a secret machine for his own use, under pretence of booming Roosevelt for a third term, was the sort of politics the people of this country do not like and the collapse of his furtive campaign is unanimously satisfactory. Mr. Cortelyou looks very much like a tin-horn gambler caught dealing from the bottom of the deck.

Representative Hayes has a bad case of Japanese jimjams. He sees California a colony of Nippon within twenty-five years, and he shudders at the vision. Those funny things jumping around Mr. Hayes are not really Japs; they are Rats.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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Late Private Secretary to United States Senators Stephen M. White and Thomas R. Bard. Land and other departmental practice; also Congressional business. Refers, among others, to United States Senators Frank P. Flint and George C. Perkins, California delegation in House of Representatives, Hon. Thomas R. Bard, Hon. R. J. Waters, Gen. H. G. Otis, Hon. A. G. Hubbard, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles City Aqueduct.

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The trade in our grocery department is increasing daily. Our fresh goods is the reason for this. We buy often, and keep on hand such edibles as will give satisfaction.

We Wish All a Happy New Year.

Payne & Hamilton
El Centro, Calif.

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Meats of all Kinds Always on Hand. Fresh Fish Fridays. VEGETABLES, BOLOGNA, WEINERS, BOILED HAM

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EL CENTRO, Main St., Cal.

ALFALFA SEED

Clean Alfalfa Seed; absolutely free from fowl seed. Limited quantity for sale at 18c per pound while present lot lasts. Will be higher after that.

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The El Centro Fancy

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J. A. McCAUSE, W. A. THAYER, Board of Directors.
Shipping Shed—Foot of Fourth St.

We have made our contract for the season of 1908 with our present distributors, Messrs. Crutchfield and Woolfolk, of Pittsburg, Pa., and members who will plant cantaloupes next season are requested to sign their acreage at once. New members can get application for membership blanks from any of the above members of the Board of Directors.

Attend to this at once.