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TODAY THE IRISH RULE.

IT IS St. Patrick's Day, and Alaska, like with other portions of the United States, and all that there-in is have been surrendered to the Irish. And the surrender has been freely made as we give to those who have just claim to the gift. No day in the annual calendar—outside of two- or three so-called National holidays, as the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving Day and Washington's birthday, and two or three Christian church notable days, as Christmas and Easter—is so generally observed in the United States as is the natal day of Ireland's patron saint. Some day perhaps, people of other races in the United States may have in days dedicated to them that will be as universally regarded as is the day when the Irish rule, but that time has not yet come.

Of course, the reason why all—old line Americans and all the worthy strains of latter day Americans, Jew and Gentile—give first place among the immigrant holidays to St. Patrick's day is that the Irish lead the great trek from overcrowded and oppressed Europe to the newly established American Republic. They were our first immigrants to come in cargo lots. And they made good. They took a leading part in making the Great Republic a Greater Republic. Those that were here when they came and those that came after recognize the handiwork of the sons of Hibernia in the United States, and they feel that it is good. Therefore, they join freely in helping them to celebrate, one day each year, the fact that they are Irish or of Irish extraction as well as Americans.

Another instance of the prevailing Eastern ignorance of Alaskan conditions is told in the difficulty that Albert Berry, of this city, has had in trying to place an order with a Massachusetts manufacturing house. One might very well believe that there are more reasons than Wall Street mismanagement for the troubles of the New Haven railroad that have become a National scandal. If Eastern railway agents would get a school geography of North America and make themselves familiar with its contents they might increase their traffic considerably.

WOMEN AND REGISTRATION.

IF the women of Juneau are refraining from registering because of dissimulation to tell their ages it is because they have been wrongfully advised as to what is necessary. No woman that registers is required to give her age, nor man either, for that matter. Women and men are obliged to say that they are over the age of 21 years, and that is all. Many of those that have registered as voters—both men and women—have the words "legal age" written after their names, and that is all that is required.

There is no excuse and there has been none for all this talk about impertinent questions being asked women—unless the talk has been the result of more or less crude attempts at wit.

The women of Juneau should register. They are as greatly interested in the welfare of the community as are the men. They are particularly interested in school matters. They should not only treat the suffrage that has been extended to them as a privilege, but it should be regarded as a sacred duty.

A NEW GILL.

THE DECLARATIONS and conduct of Mayor Gill since his election to the office of Mayor would seem to justify the hope of those who accepted his campaign promise that he would give Seattle a different administration than any he had ever been connected with in the past. His appointment to the office of chief of police of a man who had done as much as any man in the city to make "Gillism" unpopular, one who had denounced him from the platform in scathing words time after time and opposed him strenuously in every campaign he had ever made for Mayor—including the one that has just ended—and his speech last night at a banquet must be accepted as tokens of a determination to fulfill pre-election promises. It really looks as though it was not the Gill of "Gillism" who was elected Mayor of Seattle.

The statement given by Senator Roden to Secretary of the Interior Lane outlining his ideas on the immediate legislative needs of Alaska should make some of the people who have attacked him in connection with the railroad bill legislation feel ashamed of themselves.

FIGHTING WITH BOOMERANGS.

IF THE doctrines of Socialists ever come into vogue in the country it will be because they can stand up under calm and dispassionate discussion. It will not be through malicious, villifying and falsifying attacks on fellow citizens such as characterize the campaign being conducted by the Socialist organ in this city. The people of Juneau and of Southeastern Alaska have known Charlie Carter, and Harry Raymond, and Bill Case, and William Geddes and John Reck, and John R. Willis and William Britt and the others who are on the present City Council and who are candidates on the Citizen's ticket to serve on the next, for many years, and they know that they are not crooks or thieves. They know that they are square, enterprising and public spirited business men who have labored long for Alaska. They will resent the attempt to blacken their reputations, and the resentment will be in evidence in the ballot box on the evening of election day. Juneau Socialists are fighting with boomerangs.

None is now after a government railroad. Secretary Lane probably was taking into account Western aggressiveness when he predicted a complete railroad system for Alaska before the government quits construction once it begins in the North. It is appropriate that we should be gay with the Irish on their gala day. No race has contributed quite so much to the galaxy of our country as the Irish, and evidence of appreciation is their due. At that, there will be many an Irishman to celebrate the Emerald Isle's holiday over a lunch of lager and hamburger. Such is the result of the mixture of races in the great American melting pot. Is the administration conducting a matrimonial bureau as well as regulating the tariff, the currency, the trusts, Alaska and other things? Alaskans have special reason to honor St. Patrick. We have no snakes either.

Dated at Juneau, Alaska, February 24, 1914. EMERY VALENTINE, Administrator. First publication, February 24, 1914. Last publication, March 24, 1914. H. B. LEFEVRE, Attorney for Administrator. Juneau, Alaska. Buy a meerscham pipe at Burford's and treat yourself to a satisfying smoke after dinner. 2-16-14 The Empire \$1.00 a month delivered.

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