

if a strong nation can conquer and appropriate a little republic, it ought to have it. How "Irre- dition" ought to affect those who are by such a process dispossessed or how they may seem to feel about it does not seem worth worrying over.

The fact that when a sovereign marshals his armies and fleets and turns a trick like that he is only imitating on a big scale the somewhat questionable accomplishments of an ordinary "hold-up" never seems to appeal to such writers and thinkers in the least.

It is about time for the free men to assert themselves sure enough.

Two Candidates

AS expected Col. Roosevelt is out with pro- nunciamento explaining on what terms he will accept a nomination from Republicans for president. It came a little sooner than we had expected but not very much sooner for we realize that the time to make hay is when the sun shines and it is but natural for the Colonel to begin his spring ploughing. And at the same time we do not expect that the Colonel will receive the Republican nomination.

He gives notice that if he is nominated he will give up none of his four years ago ultimatums. He forgets that he did not advance any original program four years ago. There was nothing new in his platform. It was a piece of patchwork that he had borrowed from LaFollette, George Perkins and half a dozen other sources and its purpose was not to exalt a thing in the world but to get votes for Theodore. The only new thing in it was his betrayal of the men and party who and which had been showering honors and emoluments upon him for a score of years. It may be said the men and party did not count, but he at the same time turned the Republic to the care of that other party which has not advanced in one single principle since James Buchanan left the presidency in shame and disgrace fifty-five years ago.

We do not expect that the solid men of the Republican party will condone that offense this year. Then there are other reasons; not only did the Colonel betray his friends, his party and his country then, but he shows no contrition. It is with him as it would have been with the prodigal son had he when he returned from his husk-eating tour, walking up the front steps accosted his father and said: "Blankety, blank, blank my soul, old man; bring on a couple of Martinis, some blue points, a filet Mignon with Long Branch potatoes, crab salad with mayonnaise, and frappe a case of Cliquot!"

Then there are still other reasons. In their president the people of the United States want two attributes whatever else may be lacking; one is sound judgment, the other is absolute truthfulness.

They do not want to go to bed at night carrying with them a nervous dread of what may be done by someone in authority before morning, and they do not care to innocently quote today the words spoken by a gentleman yesterday only to be advertised as a liar by that same gentleman tomorrow.

It is going to be a little difficult for all the parties this year to name candidates that the people generally will accept in thought as men great enough, wise enough, unselfish enough and aggressively conservative enough for the place. The great office has once or twice had men stoop to accept it. It really does not look as though it would be that way this year. It is expected that President Wilson, notwithstanding the obligation placed in the platform when he was nominated four years ago, will be renominated in June. The average citizen contemplating that, asks, what for? And he asks the question, not as a Republican, not as a Progressive, not as a Socialist, not as a Prohibitionist, but just as an American citizen.

What can his own party offer as a reason why he should be renominated? The past three years have demonstrated that nowhere is acute business ability so much needed as in the office of chief magistrate of this Republic. At no time has the fact that high scholastic and literary pursuits for a life time, do not prepare a man for the duties of that office, been more clearly exemplified.

At no time has it been more clearly shown that the most enchanting theories must conform to practical application in order to win.

A sincere reverence of right attaches to a great, capable university president. He fills one of the most important positions that any man can. But what does the average great president of a university know about the complications of an ordinary business? If not very much, then how has his life-work really prepared him for the business of chief magistrate of a great republic.

One claim is that he has avoided involving this country in war. So did Andrew Jackson, but the methods of the two men were not much alike. Jackson had not many theories but one of them was that while trusting "By the Eternal," to meet bluff with bluff and to stand no foolishness for his experiences at the bar and on the race tracks of Tennessee, had taught him the wisdom of David Harum's remark, to "find out what the other fellow was going to do and do it first."

Some one may ask, "Who would you nominate for president?" If we had the power we would nominate a man who would build up the industries of the country that give most poor men employment; who would fill the seas with ships to extend American trade, see that every industry was enlarged in the right way, resent every wrong to our country or countrymen, provoke no quarrels, trust in God and keep our powder dry and make more powder.

Flag Day

THE 19th inst—next Wednesday—will be Flag day. The Sons of the Revolution are heading a movement to have the day specially revered this year. Men by tens and hundreds beyond the sea are dying for their flags daily. All other governments, when we stop to think what governments stand for, begin to look second class when measured for what they hold out to their people, when compared with ours, and it should not be left until some supreme call is sounded to make us appreciate what our flag really signifies. Its sovereignty is not confined to our land; a half stranded world in truth turns to it for ultimate redemption, and the bringing back of peace, and for such re-adjustments as shall permit men and nations to plan for a future that shall not be overshadowed by menacing clouds. Under all other forms of government it really is as Napoleon said: "Men are nothing, a man is everything!" Hereafter the man is to count for less, men are to count for more, and in our land, if the people shall only be true to themselves, all the opportunities which our land has to offer are to be offered to all alike.

It is that which gives to our flag the special reverence that is due it and the majesty which no other flag bears. Hence all who have a flag on Flag day should bring it out and the children should be told what it stands for and why no other flag means half so much to mankind.

The 1846-47 War With Mexico

BEFORE us is a contemporary that has an editorial on the 1846 war between our country and Mexico and says that "from a military point of view our war with Mexico was no achievement."

It says, further, that Taylor fought two battles, Matamoras and Monterey, and that the territory lost by Mexico was California, Arizona and New Mexico.

The writer forgot to mention Buena Vista, also that General Scott and his army went to Mexico, or that all of what is now Utah and Nevada was included in the cession from Mexico, a little area somewhat greater than three times the area of the six New England states. Such a statement should not pass unnoticed for children might read it, and carry a wrong impression for years.

Buena Vista was one of the great little battles in history. It was a battle that lasted all day and was a fight of 4,500 men against an army of 22,500 men, General Lincoln was killed there, so were Hardin, McGee and Clay and scores of other gallant officers. Our General Connor was wounded and lost so much blood that a soldier had to lie close on either side of him that night on the ground where he lay to keep him from freezing.

General Scott landed his army at Vera Cruz, stormed the fortress that guarded the city and then began his march to the capitol.

He stormed the pass of Cerro Gordo, fought the fierce battles of Contreras, Churubusco and took the citadel of Chapultepec by assault and planted his flag on the capitol. In every fight the Americans were confronted by from three to four and a half to one enemies; in every fight save Buena Vista they were on the offensive, the enemy fighting behind entrenchments, the sacrifice of officers compared to private soldiers was almost unparalleled, while the plans of General Scott and the results were the astonishment and admiration of military men the world around.

It was in that war that scores of the great soldiers of our Civil war earned their first spurs—Grant, Albert Sidney and Joe Johnston, Canby, Sumner, Bragg, Jefferson Davis, Lyon, Magruder, Price, Thomas, Rosecrans, Hill—and plenty more. It was as gallant a war as was ever fought and its results were a blessing to mankind and the doubling of the power of our Republic. This paper before us tells us that Mexico's failure then was due to want of cohesion, that her people were divided and distracted by revolutions. Her people then were just as they now are. The great mass of them were mongrels without pride of ancestry, and without any character to uphold them under the shock of prolonged fighting.

They had many accomplished officers, but the rank and file were like those now under Carranza, and the others who have been raising hades there for four years past and have been proving that the race are incapable of self-government and would be better off on a reservation.

The Question Of Wages

IT seems that the Southern Pacific Railroad company is having a little clash with its train and engine service and from a circular put out by the company it appears there is no friction over too long hours for the day's work, but over the pay for extra work. For this the train men want an increase of 87½ per cent, as reckoned by the hour, the regular day being eight hours. That is if the train men receive say \$5 per day, that of course is 62½ cents per hour, whereas if they work two hours overtime, for those two hours they demand \$1.12½ per hour.

We do not care to discuss the exact equities of the train men's claim but to say to those and all other wage-earners that the working man who is always watching the clock never wins. Neither is he ever promoted.

The healthy man who does eight hours of work daily, is not so fatigued that if now and then called upon for an extra hour's work, he is justified in demanding nearly double pay for that hour. The engineer who think he should have such extra pay is liable to fall into the habit of coming in an hour later, or if necessarily late he will be suspected of holding his train to get the extra pay. The feature of it that we do not like is its un-Americanism. It is an evidence that the man who demands it is thinking vastly more of