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FRANK L. HOOGSMANAGER

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Plan To Defeat Secretary Taft

Information from Washington is to the effect that George B. Cortelyou, Secretary of the Treasury, is the most active and influential enemy to the Taft presidential boom. He is not an open and declared opponent of the nomination of Taft, but his work is none the less effective. He is the only member of the Cabinet who maintains any political relations with the "reactionaries."

Originally Cortelyou was taken up by what is known in politics as "the old guard," of which Mark A. Hanna, Cornelius N. Bliss and Henry C. Payne were the leaders. His relations with "the old guard" has never altered, despite his membership in President Roosevelt's Cabinet. The "reactionaries" know that they cannot nominate Fairbanks, Foraker, Shaw or Cannon. They must take somebody who is identified in the public mind with President Roosevelt. Mr. Cortelyou is also aware of this.

Some time ago it became apparent that somebody close to President Roosevelt was unfriendly to the Taft boom. Finally Cortelyou made overtures to Senator Dick and the Ohio leaders of "the old guard." From that day Dick and his colleagues counted Cortelyou as one of themselves. About this time it began to be observed that callers who talked with Cortelyou on politics had better not talk about Taft. At the mention of Taft's name he froze up. He became alert attention as soon as the callers mentioned the Cortelyou boom or the Roosevelt third term boom.

Cortelyou's chief lieutenant is Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock, whom he created. When Cortelyou became Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Hitchcock was made chief clerk. When Cortelyou became Postmaster General he took Hitchcock with him and made him first assistant. When he became Secretary of the Treasury it was expected and even announced that Hitchcock would go into the Treasury Department, but he remained where he was.

A little while ago Cortelyou sent Hitchcock South nominally to look into the reports of disaffection against Taft. Hitchcock held private conferences with postmasters, State chairmen and miscellaneous politicians. When he got back he threw cold water on the Taft boom and proved that there was no use trying to do anything with it in the South; but he wanted everybody to understand that there was a tremendous amount of Roosevelt third term sentiment there. He talked third term without limit, not as a thing he himself favored but as a regrettable feature which could not be overcome.

Then things began to happen in Tennessee. There are two factions in that State, one headed by the only Republican Congressman Walter P. Brownlow, the other by H. Clay Evans and State Chairman Newell Sanders. Sanders is hand in glove with Cortelyou and Hitchcock.

Brownlow was for Taft. Cortelyou got the President's ear and Roosevelt got the impression that these Taft declarations were insincere. Then the Federal patronage club began to swing and the Brownlow men were removed from office. Cortelyou bounced the Treasury Department employes and Hitchcock the postal employes. Subordinates in Federal offices were induced to desert their chiefs and join Cortelyou's friend Sanders on promises that they would get their chiefs' jobs. They got them.

Not only the removed Treasury employes, but the postal employes as well found that they had to do business with the Secretary of the Treasury. They and their friends went to see him and innocently assured him that they were for Taft. Then they saw a light, and began to sound him on the Cortelyou presidential boom. They all found that they could get a hearing by talking up either the Cortelyou boom or the Roosevelt third term boom.

The Brownlow men are going to keep on fighting for Taft. Every man of them is convinced that the object of the Sanders men is to keep Taft from getting the delegation by instructing it for Roosevelt and then turning it over to Cortelyou. So the strange spectacle is presented of the faction which the President, at Cortelyou's behest, has turned down, fighting tooth and nail for the President's candidate, Taft.

Bogus Whisky The Favorite

Attorney General Bonaparte recently gave a hearing to a number of representatives of leading distilleries and rectifiers on the question of the modification of the Attorney General's opinion relative to the labeling or branding of different kinds of spirits under the new Pure Food Act.

Former Commissioner of Internal Revenue Yerkes and former Congressman Hemphill represented the interests which were opposed to the Attorney General's ruling, which, it is said, would deprive the makers of blended whisky of the benefit of the word "blended" as formerly used upon their labels. It was represented that fully 90 per cent. of the whisky sold in the United States was blended whisky and that to deprive them of the use of the word would involve heavy financial loss. It was insisted that the word "blend" could not, under the Attorney General's opinion, be permitted on labels except in the case of a blend of two or more "straight" whiskies and these, it was contended, could not properly be called a "blend" at all.

The Attorney General, without passing on the question of whether or not rectifiers could, under the law, use the word "blended" as they have done for many years, said that the whole question was so important that he thought a test case should be brought in the courts for a final determination of all questions involved. The Department of Justice would afford every facility for making this test case.

Vents His Spleen On New York

Maxim Gorky, the Russian novelist whose peculiar ideas of morality failed to meet with approval on his recent visit to New York, and who was turned out of several hotels with a woman companion, has taken a characteristic revenge on the city which rejected him. He has written an article entitled, "New York; the City of the Yellow Devil," every line of which breathes abuse. The following are some characteristic extracts:

"From afar, the city seems a black maw with uneven black teeth. It exhales clouds of smoke, and appears like a giant suffering from obesity. On entering you feel that you have chanced into a belly of stone and iron, into a stomach which has engulfed millions, and which

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

The series of treaties and alliances that Japan has made for the maintenance of the status quo in the Far East cannot be regarded in any other light than as making for peace. They are essentially self-denying ordinances, intended to eliminate the chief cause of international friction and jealousy. A few years ago, when the dissolution of the Chinese Empire seemed to thoughtful statesmen the world over to be on the eve of accomplishment, there was a not unnatural anxiety on the part of the commercial Powers lest their rivals should get the best of the situation. It was this anxiety in large part that gave Germany a foothold in China and justified the land-grabbing operations that have since been indulged in.

Japan's firm stand against Russian encroachments and ambitions has given another complexion to affairs in the Far East, and Japan has inherited the distrust that was felt by the Powers for one another. It is impossible to see, however, in the alliance with Great Britain and in the agreements that are pending with France and Russia, anything else but effective guarantees against both the "Yellow Peril" and the exercise of dreaded Japanese ambitions. The Island Empire is just as firmly bound by these treaties to observe and respect the status quo as are the European nations, and their effect should be to confine future enterprise in Eastern Asia to legitimate commercial rivalry. That such rivalry is easily converted into political antagonism is true, but the treaties will clear the air and remove one great excuse for suspicion and distrust.

Least of all has the United States ground for viewing them with disfavor. They do not affect American interests in the slightest. We have no designs upon Chinese territory, and there is no excuse for the pretense voiced in certain European quarters that these agreements are "aimed by Japan against the United States." The United States will mind its own business in the Far East. That business is troublesome enough, and we should welcome any alliances and treaties that would eliminate causes of trouble for the nations with whom we may come in trade competition. If they want to bind themselves to let China alone, so much the better for us.—Public Ledger, Philadelphia.

JAPAN FORCING WAY.

The Jap surely is trying to force his way into the world when he knocks at the porte and demands the benefit of "the most favored nation" clause, even to participation in the government of Turkey. Evidently the Jap does not know, or he refuses to know, that Turkey was erected into a barrier to keep out the Eastern peril, whether that peril was Russian or Mongol. But there is one thing about it, Japan can have no hope of entering her thin wedge into Turkey until Germany is appeased by the recognition of a share in the Far East. It is not England and France who now hold the trump cards in Turkey, as it was a quarter of a century ago, but Russia and Germany. And these are the two nations that are far from eager to share their spoils and their opportunities with Japan.—St. Paul Dispatch.

WING SHOTS.

Dr. McGregor may rill at the slim waists, but un-ill the fashion changes he wastes his breath.

If this criminal carelessness in rail-roading keeps up, it will have to be treated the same way as other crimes.

It is not easy to understand the democrats of the South at this distance, but their alliance with the Sunday school people in Baltimore makes it still harder.

Ireland can furnish police to all the rest of the world, but is still denied the chance to supply herself.

What wonder that bogus "antiques" impose on museums and collectors when the very spade that began the subway has been counterfeited!

crunches and digests them. And yearly awaits more and more.

"Locomotives and cars crawl like great worms; motor horns screech like fat ducks; electric wires wail grimly. The suffocating atmosphere is permeated, as a sponge with moisture, with thousands of roaring noises. Packed in this dirty city, grimed with the smoke of factories, ma is imprisoned as in a gaol between high walls covered with soot. He shudders apprehensively, exhales foul odors in one's face; he has been poisoned, is suffering and moaning.

"There are many energetic countenances, yet on each it is the teeth which first strikes one. Inner liberty, freedom of soul, gleam not in their eyes. And this energy, devoid of inner freedom, recalls the glitter of a knife, which has not yet been dulled, the gloss on a rope, which has seen little service. It is—the freedom of blind instruments in the hands of the yellow devil—gold.

"I have seen much beggardon; its green, bloodless, bone-stretched face I an acquainted with. Its eyes dim with hunger, and burning with avidity, cunning and revengeful, or slavishly submissive, and always inhuman, everywhere have I seen—yet the horrors of destitution in East Side are blacker than anything known to me.

"In those streets, packed with people as a sack with grain, children seek eagerly in the garbage pails, which stand upon the footway, for rotten vegetables and devour them, mildew and all on the spot, amid the acrid dust and exhalations.

"When they discover a crust of rotten bread it arouses fierce enmity among them; seized by the wish to devour it, they fight like small dogs. They pervade the pavement in great flocks, like gluttonous pigeons; at 1 in the morning, at 2, and later—they are still wallowing in filth, the wretched blossoms of destitutions, living reproaches to the voracity of the wealth."

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"The duel," said Senator Tillman, at a dinner in Washington "is a thing I abhor. I believe, though in manliness and pluck, and I hope the time will never come when a conversation such as was recently overheard in a New York club will be typical of American chivalry. A New York clubman approached a friend and whispered: "Bludd threatens to kick me the next time he sees me in company. If he should come in here now, what would you advise me to do?" "Sit down, was the reply."

President Hadley of Yale not long ago entertained at dinner the son of one of his classmates, the youth being a Yale freshman. The conversation turned to football, and what the president had to say on the subject was news to the freshman, who realized the fact with considerable surprise. He listened for some time and then said to Mrs. Hadley, condescendingly enough: "Do you know, Mrs. Hadley, that only illustrates the old saying that one can learn something of anybody."

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