

## THE EVENING STAR.

With Sunday Morning Edition.

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## Philander C. Knox.

There can be but one opinion about the qualifications of Senator Knox for the office of Secretary of State. They are ample, and he will fill the place with distinction. He is, as Judge Taft says, a great lawyer. He will bring to his new duties the training obtained in the courts, at the cabinet table, and in the Senate. He is in the prime of life. At fifty-five a man in the political world is reckoned as having the sun right overhead. He should be as buoyant as a boy.

Another point of great value is that Mr. Knox will take his new office familiar with the leading questions he will find awaiting him. He was so recently at the cabinet table he has not lost touch with cabinet problems. He will be quite at home seated near Judge Taft discussing the welfare of the country. Taft in Roosevelt's chair and Knox in Root's will merely change the positions of the two men at the table.

The only matter affording a doubt relates to the taking of Mr. Knox out of the Senate. This, Mr. Knox himself confesses, gave him a moment's pause. He thought the Senate the better field for usefulness, and that he could serve his party better there. Since the suggestion of his name for a cabinet place others have expressed the same opinion. The Star entertained it, and only the other day declared it.

But the decision was with Judge Taft, and Mr. Knox naturally bowed to it when rendered. He speaks modestly on the matter, but like a true soldier. He will serve where assigned.

What will Pennsylvania do about filling the vacancy in the Senate? The responsibility is more than ordinary. In numbers the republicans are strong in the upper house of Congress. But they have no strong men to spare. Their opponents, while few in number, are led by young men of force. Culbertson, Bailey, Bacon, Rayner and others are able and alert, and with improved party fortunes should make it uncomfortable for the other side. It is a long lane that has no turn, and the democrats are not in absolute despair.

Has the Keystone state a man of the Knox kind to put in his place? If so she should prepare to put him there. The party will need him. With the tariff question, the trust question, the railroad question and the inland waterways question all knocking at the door, Pennsylvania should be in the front line of the contest. Her interests are large, and should be represented by more than a vote.

It is a fine opportunity, both for the state, and for the new man if the proper one is chosen. So great a state should be able to produce the proper man. Mr. Knox when appointed Attorney General was unknown to the country. He had no reputation outside of the courtroom. There, however, he was most favorably regarded, and on the strength of such recommendations Mr. McKinley called him to his side. The rest is fresh in the public mind. But in making Mr. Knox senator, Pennsylvania simply endorsed Mr. McKinley's important "find." It was the successful Attorney General, and not the exceptionally able Pittsburg lawyer, whom she rewarded. Is she capable of "finding" the right man for herself?

## The Aviator.

Wilbur Wright's remarkable performances in France continue to establish successive records for height of ascent, distance and speed of flight and time of levitation. His machine is undoubtedly the best that has thus far been demonstrated, whatever may be the opinion of the other inventors in secret. Up to this time, however, Mr. Wright has maneuvered his apparatus within the bounds of a chosen field, starting and landing on prepared ground. Thus the supreme test of the aeroplane is yet to be applied, the undertaking of a flight across country to a fixed destination and the selection there of a landing place. Until this is accomplished successfully the aeroplane remains a scientific toy, of no utility whatever as a practical aid to human enterprise. That this test will soon be applied is not to be doubted, and there is no warrant for impatience. It must be remembered that the soaring machine is a product of only the last two or three years, indeed, as far as the public is concerned it has been the growth of less than one year. It has been evident from the beginning that success depends in this effort upon the operator as much as upon the machine. Thus, Wilbur Wright may be regarded as the most skilled of living aviators. Until he has mastered the art of aerial navigation the "practical" demonstration that are to prove whether man is to fly at will must wait. As soon as he has brought his apparatus to perfection and has acquired the bird's sense of balance—and this outcome may not now be questioned—he will doubtless be followed by many others, and another half decade may witness the evolution of a new class of public servants, men capable of guiding aeroplanes safely from point to point, even as now there are chauffeurs who can handle high-speed road engines without mishap. Aeroplane schools will be established, and there will be need of a new code of rules to govern the navigation of the air.

## Johnson and Bryan.

The Boston Transcript:

"Gov. Johnson's assertion that the democratic party's condition is today better than before the campaign is well regarded by the historically minded the declarations of the Richmond newspapers, in the early spring of 1905, that Gen. Lee had got Gen. Grant just where he wanted him."

Allowance must be made for Gov. Johnson's position. As one of the few who saved something out of the wreck last month, he must be cheerful. As his friends have hopes, he also must have. Otherwise, it would be useless for anybody to go on with the Johnson boom for 1912.

As a matter of fact—and probably so clever a politician as Gov. Johnson is well aware of the fact—the democratic party's condition today is too peculiar to be compared or contrasted with anything in the past. And the future is a puzzle. It is true the Johnson men are talking Johnson, the Harmon men Harmon, while

the old guard among the Bryanites assert that, while Mr. Bryan is forced to surrender now and then, he never dies. They are really in favor of putting him up for a fourth race.

But look at matters. Judge Taft is on the eve of taking office under a state of public feeling which rarely occurs in our affairs. Personally he is as popular with democrats as with republicans. All the men who have come in contact with him since he has been a national figure express admiration for and confidence in him. Nearly everybody expects him to succeed in the presidency. And if he does succeed, can there be but one result? Will not success spell a second term?

Let us then consider the situation in the summer of 1912 in the light of this probability. If Taft's strength at that time is so formidable as to discourage the opposition, Mr. Bryan may not care for the democratic nomination. After taking Roosevelt's measure in the latter part of 1903 he refused his friends the use of his name, and by so doing paved the way for Judge Parker, although he preferred another man. His judgment was verified at the polls. Roosevelt was invincible that year. Mr. Bryan might have made a better showing than Judge Parker, but he, too, would have been beaten.

But if because of Taft's success in office Mr. Bryan should not care for his party's leadership in 1912, what would it be worth to Gov. Johnson? Let it be granted that the Nebraska man is clean and conservative and all that. But there will be a clean and conservative man in office, and why a change?

There is the question of a lack of good feeling between Gov. Johnson and Mr. Bryan, and that may crop out in season. We are not likely to see Mr. Bryan an enthusiastic Johnson man in any state of case. And the democracy's condition cannot be good, better or best while it is faction torn and Mr. Bryan is at the head of one faction.

## Two Urgent Local Needs.

Attorney General Bonaparte in his annual report calls attention to two especially urgent local needs, concerning the importance of which there should be no doubt whatever in Congress. One is the demand for a new jail, or better, for a penitentiary in this District. Prisoners sentenced to serve long terms being now by necessity sent to other jurisdictions for custody. A commission, consisting of Justice Stafford, Mr. John Joy Edson, and Mr. La Dow of the Department of Justice, has been at work during the year examining the local conditions and obtaining information relative to the penal institutions elsewhere. This commission is instructed to report to Congress before the March adjournment. Doubtless its conclusions are even now being formulated for submission. So urgent is the need of relief at the jail, however, that the Attorney General recommends that provision be made at once for the temporary custody of prisoners now confined in the jail. "Grave consequences," he says, "may result from any undue delay" in dealing with the case. This significant language should cause immediate action. But nothing that may be done for the temporary relief of the situation should check the making of an appropriation at this present session for the construction in the District of a model penitentiary, capable of caring decently and judiciously for the lawbreakers who may be convicted in this jurisdiction for years to come.

The second important need is that of the girls' reform school, an institution of value to the community in the care of the wayward. So crowded is the school that it has become necessary, as Mr. Bonaparte points out, to release a large number of the inmates to make room for newcomers who are more urgently in need of care and to utilize for ordinary housing purposes the hospital and rooms ordinarily put to other uses. Such a condition necessarily lessens the effectiveness of the school, which should be large enough to accommodate in proper manner all the girls whom the court may deem to be in need of such restraint. There should be no limit to the freedom of the court in committing unruly girls to the institution designed for their correction and moral training. This item should be promptly considered; with the result of granting the appropriation of \$50,000 urged by the Attorney General for the erection of the absolutely essential additional building.

## Castro.

The fury of the mob at Caracas may not have been directed solely at Castro. What sort of statues of the dictator were those that perished? What grade of art did they represent? Celebrities are sometimes placed at a serious disadvantage in that way. It adds to the terror of fame to be obliged to appear in bronze, or in marble, or on canvas from the chisel or brush of some "shoemaker." If Castro had allowed the town to be disfigured with counterfeit presentments of himself that in truth were counterfeits, it was a good time for the population, acting in a spirit of local pride, to take revenge.

Any effort to settle the Brownsville matter permanently must look like an attempt to efface Senator Foraker from politics.

Editors who get into quarrels with the President are likely to find some consolation in looking over their circulation statements.

Senator Thomas Platt's idea of publishing a book of reminiscences seems modest. He could easily afford a magazine of his own.

Statements are being published to the effect that there was nothing in that story about Marc Antony and Cleopatra. But why dig up so old a scandal as that?

Gov. Haskell ought to be able to give some suggestions as to the difficulties which attend a reforming enterprise.

W. R. Hearst seems so content with the defeat of Bryan that he almost forgets to sympathize with Hugen.

## The Proper Name of Christmas.

Next Friday will be Christmas, not Xmas or Yuletide, and all who believe in calling things by their proper names will discourage by their good example the writing of the substitutions. Xmas is a crude abbreviation which is no less than irreverent. Christmas is so called because it is the anniversary of the birth of Christ. An X is a "criss cross," and its substitution for the first syllable of the name of the great Christian festival is a strained attempt at abbreviation. Far more seemly it is to write the word Christmas. That would still lack in the full reverence due the name of the day; but it would be innocent of suggestion of a pun. It would seem as though there were ink enough and space enough and time enough to give to Christ's natal day all the nine letters which belong to it.

"Yuletide" is no proper substitution for "Christmas." It refers, it is true, to the same season of the year, but it is not a suitable synonym. It is a relic of the ancient theology of northern Europe, the worship of Thor. It was the practice of the Scandinavians in those early days to hold a great feast at the time of the winter solstice, which occurs a few days before Christmas, to celebrate the coming of a new sun. It was virtually the Norse new year, and it is only a chance that when the Christian religion was intro-

duced its chief festival virtually coincided with the Yule-tide feast. Naturally the two became confused and thus with the passing of the Norse mythology and the substitution of the Christian faith among the peoples of north Europe many of the practices of the Thor worshippers became grafted on to the popular observances of the Christmas season. These included the burning of the yule-log and the eating of the yule-cake. The mistletoe was a feature of the old Druidical rites, and thus from a third religious system came one of the now common attributes of the great Christian ceremony. It is well to bear these facts in mind, else the symbolism of Christmas, its lesson and its moral uplift may be lost.

Reports come in that the hens are laying again. This news arrives just in time to prevent the hens from running the risk of severe reprimand from those who have the nation's welfare at heart.

By playing only a moderately good game of golf Mr. Taft escapes a great deal of envy. An invincible man is never universally popular.

There is no reason why Mr. Bryan should insist on trying to look surprised every time he is defeated.

It is safe to predict that very few letters from Mr. Archbold will be delivered at the Capitol this winter.

Possibly Castro is reconciled to the idea of letting Holland help itself to anything he has left.

It will be difficult to make tariff debate as exciting as some of the other topics that threaten to appear in Congress.

The funeral of the late Emperor of China is said to have cost \$4,000,000. Evidently the Asiatic undertaker has a pull.

## SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

## Paradoxical.

"Study the careers of our successful men," said the person who gives advice. "That's what I have been doing," answered the observant youth. "These investigations indicate that some of them succeeded by not knowing anything about their business."

## A Question of the Hour.

Oh, let our thoughts to peace be turned, Our angry doubts let's smother. How can our salaries be earned Rebuking one another?

"De man dat goes aroun' singin' his own praises," said Uncle Eben, "is mighty lib'le to get disappinted when he looks foh folks to jine in de chorus."

## The Battle of Phrases.

"Our office has been terribly upset by the controversy we got into," said one New York Journalist.

"What's the trouble?" asked the other. "The boss has been so busy looking for words to express his indignation that the art critic and the dramatic editor haven't a thesaurus left to their names!"

## Determination.

"Shall we sit in silence at such a time?" said one member of Congress. "No," answered the other; "whatever we may be accused of I shall not be silence!"

## Through Hardships.

Standing in a street car, In the twilight glow, Trying to step forward where There isn't any room; Some one shoves your holly Half way down your neck. Knocks your hat about your eyes And leaves you quite a wreck: Pretty little baby Rubs a candy cane Over your best suit and smiles At your look of pain; Heavyweight conductor, Shouting as he goes, Shoves his elbow through your chest And treads upon your toes; What's the use of kicking? When the work is done You'd go through twice the trouble for The sake of half the fun!

## Knox for Secretary of State.

From the New York World.

President-elect Taft in making requisition on the tried cabinet material of his predecessor could not have chosen a better man for Secretary of State than Senator Philander Chase Knox of Pennsylvania. Senator Knox is one of the ablest men in public life—one of the ablest the generation has produced. His mind is clear, comprehensive, vigorous, acute, logical and thoroughly trained. He will go into history as one of the greatest of Attorney Generals. In the hands of the man who first demonstrated the validity of the Sherman law against the power of the trusts, who brought the railroad giants and the beef trust magistrates to terms and who framed an antitrust law which has since been the standard of work in the State Department is not likely to fall below that established by Hay and Root. And personally Mr. Knox's hands are clean.

## Holiday Zeal.

From the Syracuse Herald.

The scenes of activity in the business streets of the city are eloquent proof that Christmas is incomparably the most popular of all holidays. Even had weather does not serve to abate the benevolent zeal of the holiday shopper. Every year the ante-Christmas rush seems to grow more formidable. The wise chaps who arise now and then to declaim against Christmas extravagance in general and the Santa Claus legend in particular have been powerless to influence the opinions or customs of the masses. The grip of Christmas on popular affection is firmer than ever.

## Brain Foods.

From the Nashville Banner.

A scientist in a lecture to a Buffalo audience the other day declared that there was no such thing as brain food per se. He said that the most so-called brain foods have a stronger tendency toward dyspepsia than to mental improvement. We are not prepared to fully accept or to controvert the assertion made by this lecturer, but we are inclined to believe that whatever may be claimed for certain kinds of diet or drugs as special mental stimulants, the best that it would be a good and wholesome diet which properly nourishes every part of the body.

## Postal Shopping.

From the Boston Transcript.

At the post office: "How much are the new two-cent stamps?"

## Brownsville.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

As we understand it, the President is now willing to take back all the guilty 25th Regiment troops who are practically innocent.

## Might Hunt Lions.

From the Brooklyn Standard-Union.

The Kaiser, with \$10,000,000 a year, is said to be broke. Nothing doing in the way of 4 marks 20 pfennigs a word?

## At It Again.

From the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

As usual, Poultney Bigelow is on deck when there's the slightest chance of obtaining some free advertising.

## And Vice Versa.

From the Atchison Globe.

The man who does not brag on himself usually has reason to.

## Couldn't Expect to Shine.

From the New York Evening Post.

Mr. Bryan was wise to deny his bear story. He knew that it would soon be eclipsed by an African lion story.



## Woodward &amp; Lothrop

New York—WASHINGTON—Paris.

Christmas Cards, Calendars, Booklets and Diaries—Main Floor, G Street.

Store Will Remain Open Evenings Until Xmas.

# This Eight-Acre Store

## Is Filled With a Vast Collection of Articles Especially Suitable for Christmas Gifts.



T NO time of the year is the helpfulness of this great store so widely appreciated as during the Christmas holidays.

Occupying as it does practically a square of ground, with ten wide doors opening on its four boundary streets, it is pre-eminently the shopping center of Washington.

Each floor has an acre of space, and there are eight floors. Broad windows admit a flood of natural light that reveals to the best advantage all the splendid and beautiful qualities of the stocks displayed.

Wide aisles and thoroughly up-to-date ventilating systems complete the most perfectly sanitary conditions possible.

Nine commodious elevators carry the thousands of patrons to the upper floors, and courteous clerks are ready to attend to their wants.

We would be pleased to have you pay a personal visit to the store and mingle with the vast holiday throng. If that is not possible, the shopping organization of our Mail Order Department will attend to your wants.

Everything that a wide-awake management of a modern mercantile establishment can do to bring its service to a state of absolute efficiency has been done by us. Delivery of goods is prompt and accurate—but to avoid any possible delay that might occur during these busy days we would suggest that, when convenient, customers will kindly take small parcels with them.

Purchases made here and intended for out-of-town friends packed for forwarding by mail or express. No charge for the packing.

The store offers you its improved and unmatched facilities, confident that it can care for you in every way.

## Art Objects, Bric-a-Brac, Marbles, Bronzes, Pottery, Electroliers, Leather Novelties, Etc., from Paris, Berlin and Vienna.

Bronze and Marble Figures and Pedestals, Bronze, Brass and Silver Electric and Gas Lamps, Desk Lights and Candlesticks, Candle and Lamp Shades, Hand-painted Ivory and Porcelain Miniatures, Hand-carved Ivory and Vienna Bronze Cabinet Ornaments, Mantel Sets, Royal Dresden, Sevres, Holland and Cloisonne Vases, German and Austrian Pottery, Teakwood Stands, Copper and Hammered Brass Articles and a superb assortment of Hand-painted China, by Paul Putzki, each piece signed by the artist.

German and Sterling Silver Purses and Handbags, Sterling Silver Buckle Pins, set with white stones; Horseshoe and Circular Pins, set with white stones; Bar Collar Pins, set with white stones and pearls; Single Pendant Necklaces, set with Jade, Amazonite, Rose Quartz, Clouded Amethyst Quartz, Lapis Lazuli, Pearls, White Stones and Cameo; Jeweled Hatpins, Cut Jet Collars and Draped Necklaces, Pearl Earrings, Single Strands of Pearls, Pearl Dog Collars, Jewel Boxes, Silver Toilet Sets, Mounted Shell Back Combs, Cut Jet Side and Back Combs, Cut Jet, Real Shell and Imitation Shell Barrettes, etc.

French Gilt, Sterling Silver, Tapestry and Vienna Leather Photo Frames; French Gilt, Iron, Onyx, Porcelain, Vienna Bronze and Leather Clocks; Elastic Belts, studded with cut steel, and cut steel buckles; Elastic Belts, studded with cut jet and cut jet buckles; Gold-plated and Jeweled Belt Buckles, Hair Ornaments, Hand-painted Lace and Spangled Fans; Pearl and Enamelled Opera Glasses, etc.

Bronze and Leather Desk Sets, Inkstands, Seals, Paper Cutters; Poker, Bridge Whist, Chess, Cribbage and Pinochle Sets and Playing Cards in fancy leather cases; Brass Book Racks; Scissors and Razor Sets, in leather cases; Exclusive Hand-embroidered and Lace-trimmed Table and Toilet Linens, in exclusive patterns and designs.

## Men's House Coats, Dressing Gowns, Bath Robes, Raincoats, Fancy Vests, Neckwear, Gloves, Full Dress Protectors, Etc.

Men's Gloves, Collars, Cuffs, Suspenders, Canes, Umbrellas, Fancy Hose, Handkerchiefs, Mufflers, White Shirts, Colored Shirts, Underwear, Pajamas, Night Shirts, Sweaters, Cardigan Jackets, House Coats, Dressing Gowns, Bath Robes, Full Dress Suits, Tuxedo Suits, Business Suits, Fancy Vests, Raincoats, Hats, Full Dress Shields, Neckwear, Cuff Links, Jewelry Sets, Hose Supporters, etc.

## Real Lace Handkerchiefs, Lace Robes, Feather Boas, Silk Hosiery, Gloves, Umbrellas, Books, Etc.

Real Lace Robes, Net Robes, Oriental Scarfs, Persian Scarfs, Ostrich, Marabou and Coque Feather Boas, Chiffon Ruffs, Phoenix Mufflers, Real and Imitation Lace, Embroidery and Hemstitched Collar and Cuffs Sets, Linen Collars, Jabots, Lace Yokes, Spanish Lace Fichus and Scarfs, Lace Ties, Ruchings by the yard, Box Ruching, Silk Stocks, Chiffon Stocks, Women's, Misses' and Children's Gloves for all occasions; Women's and Children's Silk, Lisle Thread and Cotton Hose; Real Lace Handkerchiefs, Lace-trimmed Handkerchiefs, Hand-embroidered Handkerchiefs, Initialed Handkerchiefs, Plain Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, Silk Handkerchiefs, Veils, Women's and Children's Umbrellas, Books of all Descriptions, Magazines, etc.

## Imported Opera Wraps, Silk and Lace Waists, Paris Lingerie, Silk Petticoats, Men's, Women's and Children's Slippers.

Elegant Imported Opera Wraps, Women's, Misses' and Children's Ready-to-Wear Outergarments, Rich Furs for Women and Children, Women's Imported and Domestic Lingerie, Bridal Trousseau, Kimonos, Negliges, Dressing Sackies, Bath Robes, Aprons, Silk Petticoats, French and Domestic Corsets, Fancy Silk and Webbing Hose Supporters, Fancy Ribbon Garters, Infants' Hats, Caps, Coats, Dresses, Underwear and Toilet Accessories; Women's, Misses', Boys' and Children's Shoes; Women's Evening Slippers, Men's, Women's and Children's Holiday Slippers, Boys' and Girls' Rubber Boots, Boys' Clothing, Raincoats, Overcoats, Boys' Furnishings, Bath Robes, Hats and Caps, etc.

## Silk Dress Patterns, Household and Decorative Art Linens, Silk Bed Comfortables, Metal Beds, Teakwood Screens, Etc.

Silks, Satins, Velvets, Black and Colored Dress Goods, Holiday Dress Patterns, Millinery, Hair Ornaments, Table and Toilet Linens, Dresser and Buffet Scarfs, Doilies, Tray Covers, Blankets, Comfortables, Spreads, Quilts, Flannels, Brass and Iron Beds, Bedding, Sewing Machines, Bamboo Furniture, Utility Boxes, Skirt Boxes, Shirt Boxes, Shirt Waist Boxes, Shoe Boxes, Beautiful 3 and 4 fold Screens, Japanese Teakwood Screens.

## Lace Curtains, Lace Bed Sets, Sofa Pillows, Box Couches, Couch Covers, Rugs, Oil Paintings, Toys, Etc.

Lace Curtains, Lace Door Panels, Portieres, Table Covers, Couch Covers, Sofa Pillows, Tapestry Panels, Lace Bed Sets, Box Couches, Hand-carved Circassian Walnut Furniture, Art Squares for fancy work; Imported and Domestic Rugs, Pictures, Oil Paintings, Photo Goods, Toys, Dolls, Games, etc.

## Rich Cut Glass, China Dinner and Tea Sets, Lamps, Chafing Dishes, Fancy Baskets, Jardinières, Choice Confections, Etc.

Rich Cut Glass, Austrian Gold Glassware, Pressed Glassware, Handsome Dinner Sets, Tea Sets, Breakfast Sets, Game Sets, Fish Sets, Ice Cream Sets, Chocolate Sets, Bedside Sets, Platters, Chocolate Pots, Vegetable Dishes, Fancy Pieces of China, Steins, Japanese China, Japanese Gongs, Umbrella Jars, Jardinières, Toilet Sets, 5 O'Clock Tea Kettles, Chafing Dishes, Carpet Sweepers, Fancy Baskets, Tobacco Racks, Tobacco Jars, Fresh Fruits, Assorted Nuts, etc.

## Fancy Chairs, Morris Chairs, Music Cabinets, Couches, Chiffoniers, Shaving Stands, Toilet Tables, Desks, Etc.

Fancy Chairs, Parlor Suites, Parlor and Library Tables, Music Cabinets, Morris Chairs, Couches, Tabourettes, Davenport, Women's Desks, Desk Chairs, Bric-a-Brac Cabinets, Gilt Chairs, Toilet Tables, Shaving Stands, Men's Wardrobes, Men's Desks, Typewriter Desks, Cheval Mirrors, Chiffoniers, China Closets, Dining Tables, Buffets, Sideboards, Serving Tables, Hall Clocks, Hall Mirrors, Hall Racks, Bedroom Suites, Dining Room Suites, Refrigerators, Ice Boxes, Go-Carts, Baby Carriages, etc.

Woodward &amp; Lothrop