

The Journal and Courier

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THE WEEKLY JOURNAL.

THE ORANGE PROTEST.

Some of our neighbors of the town of Orange can always be depended on to keep things moving lively in the otherwise peaceful community. They are a good deal of the time persisting in occupying the front of the stage. Sometimes it is comedy and again ordinary vaudeville. A good many of them have a penchant for politics. Just now the coming vote accepting or rejecting the proposed charter to establish a new city to be called Orange is absorbing attention. It had been supposed by the engineers of this scheme that everything was moving along so swimmingly that they could shut off steam for awhile and take a vacation for a week or so, when behold, they are threatened with a head-on collision. A "committee of protest" has appeared. The circular which this committee issues declares that they "object to the forcing" upon them of a city charter. After reciting that "five-sixths of the territory is farm land"; that "the farmers of Orange have little in common with the people of West Haven"; that "improvement can and should be made to the present charter by necessary amendment," this committee gets right down to business by saying that the charter is crude and in many particulars ill-drawn, and that "this is in the main a politicians' movement, designed, promoted and carried out for the general purpose of increasing and perpetuating the powers of the present officeholders and their associates."

These are strong words and right here is the challenge of battle. As to the charter it is certainly an extraordinary document. Many who have been very vociferous for a city charter have their doubts in moments of sober reflection about the charter being exactly what they have wanted.

But the charge that this is a "politicians' movement" is the most serious restriction of all. If there is any truth in this it would be well for citizens to consider this matter carefully before voting for a charter for which little real study and reflection has been given. Quite a number of officeholders are indeed on this charter committee. It is the fact that the charter is "designed" to increase and perpetuate the powers of the present officeholders? This is charging a great deal. If the proposition for the charter had come from a body of citizens holding no office it would appear in the light of a disinterested movement. This charge of the committee of protest places the officeholders on the embarrassing position.

From now until the vote is cast next week there will be something doing. If the decision by the people is for the new city charter a big task, experimental in character, will be undertaken. The next interesting venture will be the selection of Orange statesmen to shape the life of the new city. Will they be chosen from those who are figuring on the places for which they have already assigned salaries, or will entirely different, but capable men, be given the task of "making good" this experiment?

It is costing Massachusetts \$1,000,000 a year to fight the gipsy moth, and the gipsy moth has no sleeves to laugh in.

SOME KANSAS MATERIALISM.

Kansas is a State where sentiment seems to have played a prominent part, and yet the other day the biggest tree in Kansas, located on the Ben Wilson ranch, near Williams-town, was cut down. It was a cottonwood and was purchased from Mr. Wilson by the Topeka barrel and box factory, and four and one-half days were consumed by two men in cutting it down. Sixteen strong horses were required to draw each of the three sections, which were twelve feet long, to the railroad. It measured twenty-three feet, six inches, in diameter. The body was sound and when sawed up made 3,500 feet of first-class lumber and about the same amount of second-class. The machinery of the factory was inadequate to handle such a monster and dynamite was finally used as a last resort and it was torn in three places.

Isn't it about time for William Allen

White to again ask, What's the matter with Kansas? Kansas hasn't many trees anyway, and the destruction of this splendid specimen should have been prevented. Are they shooting eagles in Kansas too?

THE NEAR-PROPHETS

Brother Horace Johnson has had a narrow squeak. The heavy rains which he predicted haven't come, but rain enough has come to admit him into, or keep him in, the list of "near-prophets." He can chortle some over the dampness and is doubtless doing so. As for the Stoddard Hill man, perhaps he feels like "drying up and busting." Meanwhile the Weatherman at Washington keeps plugging along, hitting it right times enough to entitle him to quite as much admiration and respect as are bestowed on the near-prophets.

There hasn't been anywhere near rain enough yet to make this part of the country damp enough. The thirsty earth is still really and most unpoetically thirsty. It needs a good long drink. We hope it will get one, for many reasons. One of them is that we shall then be encouraged to feel that New Haven's generous water supply will continue to hold out so that the crosswalks can be as well watered as they have been during all the dry time.

THE GOLDEN MEAN DESIRABLE.

In as far as President Roosevelt insisted in his Provincetown speech on his duty to enforce impartially the laws of the land, whether the offender shall be a great corporation or a humble citizen, he was standing on solid ground. No lover of law and order would wish him to do otherwise. No one who believes in justice can defend the practices of corporations that violate law.

That which gave offense in some circles was the manner in which the President spoke. He is impulsive naturally and may not always speak with the reserve and judicial bearing that conditions call for. Was it at all necessary that he should speak in a belligerent manner? Could he not have been conciliatory in speech, but nevertheless as strong as ever in his purpose to enforce the law? Society today is highly organized and the business world is very sensitive psychologically. Anything said by one in high political or industrial leadership that tends to impair confidence is communicated along the whole line like an electric impulse. There are innumerable business enterprises that are engaged lawfully but nevertheless feel the effects of any general feeling of insecurity. It is due to these legitimate enterprises that the utterance of a statesman should be moderate in tone and judicial in character.

No thoughtful citizen will for a moment apologize for any corporation that violates the laws of the land, but it is possible that the tendency to legislate against corporations may become a sort of mania. Some States already have passed drastic measures, other states are hastening to fall into line and the thing may be overdone. If there has been laxity in the past in providing proper legislation and in enforcing law, care must be taken that the reaction does not carry affairs as much the other way. The golden mean is the more desirable, safer and more quiet.

Kissing at weddings is no longer in good form. Perhaps kissing at divorces will yet be thought proper.

SETTLED AT LAST.

For seventy-two years the now famous deceased wife's sister bill has been passed by the British commons and rejected by the lords at nearly every session. It merely provided that a widower might marry a sister of his deceased wife just as they may do in all the rest of Europe, in the United States, in Canada and in the other British possessions. The recent action of the lords in passing the bill at its second reading indicates that the struggle is ended and that the law of England is to be made to conform to the practice of practically all the other nations of the earth in spite of the continued opposition of the Church of England, as represented by the bishops. The rule against the marriage of a man to a sister of his deceased wife was a survival of a much broader rule fixed in the early days of the Christian church in which relationship by marriage was considered of equal importance with relationship by blood as a factor in determining who might marry. How much regard the framers of those rules had for substantial considerations may be judged from the fact that the relationship of godfather to godchild was also deemed to have a bearing on the matter, because they and their descendants were spiritually related.

If an Englishman, living in England, is really about to be allowed to marry his deceased wife's sister if he wants to and she will have him, we congratulate all concerned. The struggle over this matter has looked ridiculous enough to those who were free to marry their deceased wives' sisters.

THE WAR-TOY QUESTION.

The president of the Pittsburgh peace conference has returned to this country after an unsuccessful mission which was undertaken to persuade German manufacturers of military toys to shut down what he considered their war-inclining business. "The manufacturers," he said, advised him "that their work was clearly a commercial proposition. The Germans make toys for our market because it is the best in which to sell."

Of course. And it is quite possible that these seekers after good United States money are not doing as much harm by their war-toys as some think they are. We are told that the instinct of motherhood is being destroyed in the little girls by the foolish Teddy bears, and that the spirit of war is being encouraged in the little boys by the tin soldiers and other war-toys they play with. Perhaps neither "evil" is so evil as it looks to those who have got it on their brains or on their nerves. Few of the little boys who play with soldiers or who "play soldier" ever start wars, and it is too soon to tell whether the Teddy bear is a greater provocative of race suicide than the real Teddy is a restraint of it. Still, it can fairly be admitted that if little boys had something besides war-toys and little girls something besides Teddy bears to play with they and the world would probably get along just as well.

Again it is said that Walker is alive. Don't remember Walker? Why, he is the man that stole somewhere from half a million to a million from a New Britain bank.

THE WAY OF TRUTH.

To read on each Saturday the announcement of the subjects to be considered in the pulpits on the following Sunday is not without profit. It frequently happens that the subjects are of such a variety and suggest so widely different lines of treatment as to prove exceedingly interesting. The changing conditions of life require a new point of view for the most worn themes because a new application of a truth that has ever been the same in its essential character is called for frequently.

"Christian knowledge," a subject considered in one of our city churches yesterday, does not seem particularly striking, for it has been presented again and again. But how many have sounded the depths of all that is included in the knowledge of Christian truth and life? Were such a subject presented in the Medieval times "Christian knowledge" would be understood as referring to Christian truth in some metaphysical aspect. The knowledge of the head concerning the finer distinctions of some abstruse theological proposition would be in evidence. There would be deduced much material for the intellectual processes and much grey matter would be used up in demonstrating with all possible force of logic the right of this doctrine or develop a spirit far from lovely and Christian.

But for this age the content of "Christian knowledge" must be quite different to meet and solve the problems of the age. The demand is for a knowledge of the heart in preference to that of the head. It may be interesting to codify Christian truth in some sort of logical form but the real testing ground of the validity and power of such truth is in the consciousness and objective life of a man. The demand to-day is for a conscious experience of Christian truth. This may be called the laboratory method of attaining knowledge. The boy in the high school who is sent into the chemical laboratory and handles the elements, brings them together, and records their action and reaction, knows more about the subject than the boy who recites memoriter what he has read in a text-book. The first boy becomes a master in his subject, the second boy is a parrot.

In gaining knowledge of Christian truth the laboratory method is preferable. For one to be satisfied to give intellectual assent to what others have thought out is not enough, for it is without proper vital or dynamic force. The apostle emphasized experimental knowledge who declared that he made known to others only that which he himself had learned, which his eyes had seen and his hands had handled, of the "Word of life." That truth that penetrates farther than the head and reaches the conscience and influences the will to act courageously and righteously is the most effective, but such truth must be wrought out in the laboratory of one's personal being. How can one know that a statement declared to be a truth is true? By using it. A statement familiar to everyone is: "Blessed are the merciful," or "Blessed are the peacemakers." The surest way to learn whether these are true is to be merciful or be a peacemaker when the response will quickly come to one's consciousness.

To change the comparison from the workshop to the farm it may be said that gain in Christian knowledge is in proportion to the direct effort that one makes to learn. In some of

the European countries small farms are the order, but the farmers get from them gratifying crops because they enrich the soil and put much in of thought and planning, care and solitude. The intensive method of cultivation in the growth of a good character or in gaining "Christian knowledge" will bring results in proportion to the direct interest taken in testing and using truth consciously. It is therefore truth that lives and has the power to move things that this age demands. It becomes living truth, effective knowledge, because it has been felt and used in human personality. When a truth finds in anyone a receptive spirit and succeeds in changing the currents of his life, imparting new and better incentives, he knows that he has gained in something more vital than all the speculative theologies in the world, interesting though they may be.

Some of those who were generously allowed to participate in the Interborough-Metropolitan "merger" are now thinking that there was a slight mistake in the spelling. They think it was marbler.

CORTELYOU'S PATERNAL PLAN.

The plan of Secretary Cortelyou to relieve and prevent "money stringency" seems to be generally admired. Beginning with this week, the Secretary will place each week, at such points as he shall designate, government funds, in such amounts as he deems necessary to relieve existing conditions. This he will do for a period of not less than five weeks. The deposits will be made in various national banks of New York, Boston and other financial points, the security required to be approved State, municipal and railroad securities, with the understanding that, if called, the deposits shall be returned after January 1 of the new year. No interest will be demanded.

Looks smooth and promising, doesn't it? But will it really work any better than other attempts to relieve "money stringency" have? Is there any limit to the amount of money that can be and will be soaked up when Wall street is again roaring? We notice that the plan is warmly approved in Wall street, as any paternal plan to increase the amount of money to be played with and played for would be.

A THEORY AND A CONDITION.

There are advocates of the whipping-post in Connecticut, and they have pointed with pride and emulation to the whipping-post in Delaware. So perhaps they will not be impressed with the testimony of Mr. Amos S. Meserve, who has resigned the wardenship of the Newcastle county workhouse, at Greenbank, Delaware, in protest against the continuance of the whipping-post. They may think that he doesn't know as much about the whipping-post as they do, and that he isn't the right man for a whipper. But others who are not certain that the salvation of the world is in the whipping-post may feel that Mr. Meserve's testimony is worth attention. In the last six years he has whipped 235 men. Of these, he says, sixty had been whipped before, some of them as many as six times. His contention is that whipping, so far from preventing a petty criminal from becoming a desperado, has just the opposite effect. It inflicts upon a man who has been a petty criminal a stigma that keeps him apart from all associations that might elevate him, and leaves him no recourse but to take refuge with the criminal element. From being one who could be turned into better ways he is converted into a desperate man to whom all roads to respectability are closed. Mr. Meserve says that these observations are not based upon impressions, but on a careful record of the men who have undergone a public flogging.

This looks plausible, and it looks as if a condition had collided with a theory to the damage of the theory.

The Car smokes thirty cigarettes a day. Trying to get used to going up in smoke?

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

Colonel Mosby says that Robert E. Lee never owned any slaves, and that those he freed in 1863 had been owned by Lee's father-in-law, whose will provided for their manumission.

George H. Ware, seventy-three years old, an expert accountant of Providence, Rhode Island, figures that in the last forty years he has smoked nearly three tons of tobacco in his meerschaum pipe.

Lifting magnets are coming into use in British iron works. Castings weighing two to three tons are lifted by electro magnets. Much time is saved in comparison with the use of hooks, slings and other devices, as the mere throwing of a switch energizes the magnet.

It is reported that the smoke nuisance is in a fair way to become dispelled in the English pottery towns by the introduction of Mond gas in the firing of ovens. A recent successful trial of the gas was made at Hanley before a number of pottery manufacturers. It is claimed that a temperature of 3,475 degrees F. can be pro-

duced by the gas, which is said to be safer and more economical than the present methods of firing ovens, and in addition is smokeless.

Soldiers engaged in target practice at Fort Des Moines recently killed a pedigreed Duroc Jersey cow belonging to a man whose property adjoins the rifle range. The owner sought to collect damages in the sum of \$40 for the loss of the animal, but has been advised that the War department cannot reimburse him. It is a hard and fast principle that the government is not responsible for the torts of its agents, and the claimant will be compelled to look to congress for any relief obtained.

Tibet's army is to be modernized, and with it, probably, will be the grand lama's military medical staff corps. The sick Tibetan soldier, it was reported a year or two ago, was put through a sort of faith-healing process. An army physician of the old school chalked a prescription on a board; the martial patient washed off the lettering and drank the rinsings. The plan of the younger doctor was simpler; he scrawled his prescription on a piece of paper and gave it to the invalid to chew and swallow.

The Deep River (Connecticut) New Era says something which all acquainted with the business departments of country weeklies will see is pretty classic: Occasionally we are asked by a delinquent subscriber why we keep on sending the paper after the subscription date has expired. Every weekly newspaper in towns of this size are forced to do this. Should we stop subscriptions when time expires, nine times out of ten the subscriber would give us a "calling down" for insinuating that his credit was not good. Rather than to cast a reflection against the honesty of a subscriber to pay a small debt, it is next to a necessity for a home paper to continue sending the paper after the time has expired. Our subscribers should deem it an honor to know that we do not doubt their integrity and continue to send them the paper after their time has expired. Should any desire their paper discontinued they should notify us and remit to date if they have not already done so.

Irish and Scotch.

Are ye gangin' to the meetin' to the meetin' of the clans. With your tartans and your pibrochs and your bonnets and brogues?

There are Neeleys from New Hampshire and Mulligans from Maine, McCarthys from Missouri and a Tennessee McShane.

Kelleys, Caseys, Dunes, and Daceys, by the dozens and the score, And O'Farrell of Virginia, whom the Trilbyites adore.

There are Cochrans (born Cocoran) as polished as you please, And Kenyons who were Keenans and Murfrees once Murphys.

And we'll sit upon the pint-stoup and we'll talk of old lang syne As we quaff the flowing haggis to our laases' bonnie eyne.

And we'll join in jubilation for the thing that we are not; For we say we aren't Irish, and God knows that we aren't Scot!—Calvin K. Brannigan, in Boston Pilot.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

Prince and Duke.

(The Boston Transcript.) In order that all the official and social p's and q's of may be attended to on the occasion of the reception of the coming royal Swede, it should be said that he is Prince William of Sweden, Duke of Södermanland. Those who are styling him Prince of Södermanland doubtless have no intention to be otherwise than courteous, but he is Duke of Södermanland, a title borne by members of the Swedish royal family. Prince is really a convenient designation, rather than a title in many countries of Europe. For example, Prince Arthur of Great Britain is Duke of Connaught, and as such sits in the House of Lords. Prince of Wales, on the other hand, is a rank given by formal investiture, Wales in theory being a principality.

A Very Serious Question.

(Prof. Goldwin Smith in the Toronto Sun.)

A very serious question and one which threatens to involve Canada and the United States in common difficulty—if not danger—is beginning to loom. It is that of the settlement of Chinese and Japanese on the Pacific coast of this continent. Both races are in somewhat different ways unassimilable from us, morally, mentally and in the case of the Chinese politically, appears almost impossible at least to bridge it would be the work of generations. Yet come apparently they will. England has, in fact, bound us to admit the Japanese by her alliance with them, the fruit of a prejudice against Russia and fear of her designs which might almost be called hallucination. We see in this that the foreign policy of Great Britain is not always identical with ours. Admitting the Japanese, we could hardly exclude the Chinese, especially if, as seems highly probable, a close relation should be formed between China and Japan. Already they are settling here in considerable numbers, way being made for the introduction of their labor by the strikes. The influx of Japanese coming here under the shield of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, into the United States can hardly be prevented, and may cause trouble with the American government.

The influx of Japanese into Canada is now stated to be at the rate of 800 a month. Since January last over 4,000 had arrived in British Columbia, 222 of them in one week, while 2,000 more were on route. During July 133 Chinese paid the poll-tax of \$500 on entering. Of 363 Japanese arriving at Victoria, 781 were males and only seventy-seven were females. It is needless to say what moral dangers such a disparity of sexes, which is still greater in the case of the Chinese, involves. Will government ever pay attention to this matter?

DAMP.

Winkles—What did Blins say when you asked if he had read your book? Miller—He said yes, and added that he "didn't read much."—The Critic.

"If some men was as patient wid deir home folks," said Uncle Eben, "as dey is wid deir automobiles dar would be a heap mo' peace an' comfort in de world."—Washington Star.

"It must be some consolation to know that you made your late husband happy." "Oh! yes. Poor George was in heaven till he died."—Illustrated Bits.

"I didn't smoke cigarettes when I was a boy." "Why not, gran'pop?" "Well—ah—the fact is, Johnny, they didn't have cigarettes then."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"I once gave a waiter a \$2 tip." "What did he say?" "To me he expressed his thanks, but I heard him say to another waiter that I couldn't have real good sense."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Jones is a slave of fashion." "I hadn't noticed that he was a very swell dresser." "He isn't. But he has to work overtime to keep his wife supplied with frocks."—Cleveland Leader.

"Did you have any trouble in making the people understand your French when you were in France?" "Not at all. They don't regard it as bad manners when you point at things over there."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Here's a fine testimonial the Bluff's Medical Boot Company is printing." "What is it?" "Man says he was totally blind, but after taking ten bottles of their remedy he could see pink elephants."—Cleveland Leader.

Louis XIV had just exclaimed, "I am the state." "Fine!" cried the courtiers. "Now you can bust the railroads as well as the Federal government does."

This explains why the steam engine was not invented until considerably later.—New York Sun.

"You stole ten marbles from me," declared little Jimmy, "and I want 'em back."

"I don't propose to give 'em back," responded little Tommy. "Furthermore, I want to warn you that if you keep harping on the subject you will bring about a panic." And their father, the old trust magnate, shed tears of joy and pride.—Washington Herald.

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