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REPUBLICAN SLEMP ASKED TO HELP DEMOCRATIC FUND

A Big Break Is Made by Treasurer Rolla Wells

Much amusement has been caused by a faux pas recently committed by Treasurer Rolla Wells of the National Democratic Committee.

Representative C. Bascom Slemp of the Ninth Virginia District, who is the only Republican in Congress from the Old Dominion, has received a letter from Mr. Wells asking him to receive and transmit contributions to the Wilson-Marshall campaign fund.

Mr. Wells evidently assumed that the entire Congressional delegation from Virginia is Democratic. He and Mr. Slemp have met in St. Louis, where Mr. Wells lives and where Mr. Slemp often goes on private business, and the Republican representative says that he will promptly answer the letter expressing entire willingness to do as asked.

Mr. Slemp happens to be the chairman of the Republican party of Virginia, which makes the "break" of Mr. Wells the more amusing. In explaining his willingness to transmit Democratic contributions, Mr. Slemp declares that he has a fight on hand for his own re-election and will be glad to get as much Democratic money as he can out of the Ninth district.

The Booster Helps His Town While The Kicker Injures.

Walt Mason, the matchless humorist-philosopher, hands out the following chunk of truth in one of his recent prose poems, which we wish every one in Lexington would commit to memory:

"This surely is a one-horse town," the shiftless manservant, then takes his seedy gripsack down and packs his socks and shirts, and to some other village goes to seek the shining plank; there he accumulates new woes and says the burg is punk. In every town, however slick, you'll hear the failures say: "This wretched hamlet makes us sick; we'll chase ourselves away. The poor man has no chances here, he finds no open door; the whole corrupted atmosphere makes head and bosom sore." From town to town the failures drift and find each one the worst, until at last the peelers lift them to the jug feet first. All towns are good if you will work and try to reach the top; all towns are fierce if you're a shirk, whose mission is to yawn. Select a man whose heart is bold, whose courage never slumped, and he will gather fame and gold, no matter where he's dumped. Though planted in the virgin woods, or on an island bare, you'll see him coming with the goods, and both feet in the air. And when you hear a pilgrim wail and blame things on his town, you may be sure that he would fail where'er he settled down.

Science Grows "Fatherless Frog"

The "fatherless frog" is in Washington. He has two bulging green eyes, a big white throat, and for all the world looks just the same as millions of his brothers who occupy thrones on lily pads in some muddy creek. However, according to Professor Jacques Loeb of the Rockefeller Institute of Research, this particular Mr. Frog, on exhibition before the Congress of Hygiene and Demography last week, was hatched from the egg of a female by chemical process.

While visitors are greatly interested in this orphan frog, learned professors are busy challenging his chemical parentage.

Professor Loeb said that his fatherless frog was the culmination of years of effort, and that with little more study he will be able to produce other forms of life resulting from his study of parthenogenesis.

Ryan Makes Gift

Thomas Fortune Ryan of New York has authorized Lieut. Gov. Taylor Ellyson to spend \$25,000 for him upon military mural decorations in memorial hall, the south wing of the Confederate Institute or "Battie Abbey" in Richmond now under way.

N. & W. PROSPEROUS YEAR

The Sixteenth Annual Report Shows Substantial Increase

An increase of 11 1/2 per cent in total operating revenues and of practically the same percentage in its net revenues is shown by the Norfolk and Western railway company in its sixteenth annual report covering the year ended June 30 which has just been issued in pamphlet form. The figures of the income statement reveal that the total operating revenues were \$39,735,237, which is an increase of \$4,177,714 as compared with the statement of a year ago. Total operating expenses were \$25,669,429, an increase of \$2,711,149, and the net railway operating revenue was \$14,045,397, an increase of \$1,456,135. After deducting taxes the railway operating income was \$12,635,397, an increase of \$1,366,135, or more than 12 per cent. Gross income was \$13,998,639, increase of \$1,426,928; net income after payment of interest, rentals, etc., was \$9,381,674, increase \$1,824,288, balance to profit and loss after dividends on adjusted preferred stock \$8,462,006, increase \$1,824,288, or about 27 1/2 per cent; total balance to credit of profit and loss after payment of dividends on common stock, appropriations for additions and betterments, etc., \$8,580,831, increase \$2,426,634, or more than 39 per cent.

President L. E. Johnson says to the stockholders, in commenting on the substantial increase in the gross operating revenues: "The liberal expenditures which have been made for improvements upon your lines and for heavy engines and freight cars of large capacity have enabled your management to show a practically unchanged ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues, notwithstanding substantial increases in rates of employees' wages."

To Protect School Children

To center fire on the schools of the State and to make careful study of the sanitary condition of schools is a part of the winter's work of the State Board of Health.

Chief among the problems to be considered by the Board is the provision of ample sanitary outbuildings for all public schools. Statistics show in many counties comparatively a small per cent. of the public schools of the State are provided with any form of outbuildings and that, in some instances, those provided are well calculated to spread disease among the school children.

Acting on authority given it by the General Assembly the State Board of Health has adopted a regulation requiring that all schools be furnished with suitable sanitary outbuildings. In this it has the full co-operation of the State Board of Education and, during the coming winter, will begin an active campaign for the enforcement of the law. So much sickness is shown to be due to the lack of proper outbuildings that the Board of Health regards the erection of such buildings as an essential to the welfare of the school children.

Death of Rev. R. E. Steel

Robert Edward Steel, Ex Chaplain United States Navy, traveler, fine preacher, lecturer, poet, story-writer, while temporarily under great mental derangement, died by his own hand at 2:35 p. m., Tuesday Sept. 10, 1912, at his home in Lumberton, N. C.

His work for humanity was as varied and widespread as his great gifts, which were withheld at no time when he was aware that they were needed. Generous, kindly and helpful in his nature, he must have in the course of his life accomplished untold good, though his modesty prevented these things being known unless they were learned through other sources.

The trend of his mental disorder was to the end that he could bring greater victory to his Lord's banner by dying than living. A physical indisposition, not considered serious, extending over about ten days, seemed to desperately increase the mental trouble and intensified the determination to carry out what he declared was his Lord's will with regard to him.—Christian Observer.

THE VALUE OF BIRDS TO FARMERS' CROPS

Recklessness of Many Hunters In Killing Songsters

THEY DESTROY MANY INSECTS

Responsibility for Much Crop Loss Rests on Sportsmen

"The time has come when every sportsman should put away his gun for five years at least," said Col. G. O. Shields during a lecture upon "Birds and Animals of America" at the University of Chicago, a short time ago.

Col. Shields argued that drastic measures must be put into effect if quail, grouse, pheasants and prairie chickens are to be saved from extinction. The annihilation of these birds, he said, would mean untold poverty resulting from the scarcity of crops which would be eaten by insects.

"Ninety per cent of the normal bird life of this country already has been destroyed and the other ten per cent will go in the next five years unless strong measures are employed to stop the slaughter," he said. "Careful scientists tell us that if all the insect-eating birds were destroyed the whole continent would, within three years, become uninhabitable by reason of the myriads of insects that would spring up and devour every living thing."

"Farmers and fruit growers of the country are losing over \$1,000,000,000 a year by reason of ravages of insects. Cotton growers of Texas are losing 50,000,000 a year by reason of the ravages of the boll weevil. And all because the quail and prairie chicken, the natural enemies of that bug, are practically extinct in that state."

"Wheat and fruit growing regions are suffering because of the killing off of sap suckers, robins bluejays, bluebirds, orioles, tangers, martins, swallows, swifts, nighthawks, egrets, herons, bobolinks, gulls, kingfishers and other birds which men love to kill under the pure lust for slaughter."

"A quail killed in a potato field had in its craw the remains of 101 potato bugs. Another killed in a Kansas wheat field had the remains of 1,200 cinch bugs. C. L. Harlatt calculated that the Hessian fly damage to the wheat crop in 1900 was \$100,000,000. The cinch bug as early as 1864, damaged staple crops \$100,000,000."

Take Your Citizenship Seriously

William J. Bryson's paper, the Commoner, commends in highest terms the suggestion of the Richmond Times-Dispatch that there is nothing more important than that we should take our citizenship seriously. The Commoner says:

In its issue of Sept. 9, The Richmond Times-Dispatch printed a short editorial that ought to be read in every precinct, in every State of the Union and posted up on every school house, and in every counting room and factory of the land. Here it is:

"There is nothing more important than that we take our citizenship seriously. Some people take it as a joke, some as a game, some as a selfish purpose and some as a chance to help friends or grind axes. No man is worthy of citizenship unless he regards it as a mission and uses it for the common good to free his fellowmen from every kind of servitude and oppression and make them their own lovers to raise themselves to better estate. Citizenship is a duty, and every man who has a high ideal of life, who makes it brave and serviceable has a right to be called a citizen, and no other should be enrolled upon the roll of honor. A citizen is a man who honors his city, his State and his nation by living right and doing good. Such a one regards citizenship seriously. The duty of citizenship is committed to each man as a trust to be discharged always for the common welfare and the higher purpose. A ballot is to be used for the benefit of mankind and not for the advantage of individuals."

WILSON IS EASILY LEADING THE FIELD

Straw Vote Shows Him Far Ahead of Rival Candidates

ROOSEVELT STANDS SECOND

Taft in Third Place, but His Cause is Gaining Some Strength

The New York Herald publishes the following instatement of its country-wide review of the presidential situation, and its indications are that Wilson is easily leading both Taft and Roosevelt, with Taft running third, according to the straw ballots. More than 24,000 test ballots were taken in various parts of the country. The results in the various States follow:

New York—Taft, 583; Roosevelt, 1,011; Wilson, 1,147.

Connecticut—Taft, 85; Roosevelt, 127; Wilson, 96.

Delaware—Taft, 266; Roosevelt, 381; Wilson, 927.

New Jersey—Taft, 245; Roosevelt, 300; Wilson, 477.

Pennsylvania—Taft, 543; Roosevelt, 573; Wilson, 567.

Maryland—Taft, 48; Roosevelt, 126; Wilson, 192.

Ohio—Taft, 942; Roosevelt, 818; Wilson, 1,914.

Indiana—Taft, 891; Roosevelt, 1,711; Wilson, 2,100.

Kentucky—Taft, 773; Roosevelt, 1,452; Wilson, 2,764.

West Virginia—Taft, 232; Roosevelt, 529; Wilson, 775.

Wyoming—Taft, 176; Roosevelt, 118; Wilson, 204.

Of the total straw ballots taken in all regions, the result was as follows: Wilson, 11,164; Roosevelt, 7,147; Taft, 4,784; Debs, 1,800. The figures show Roosevelt has drawn 4,150 votes from the Republican party, 678 from Democrats, 20 from Debs.

The Republican loss from 1908, according to the figures, is 5,997. The Democratic gain over 1908 is 2,254. The Herald makes no predictions of its own, but merely presents the figures, which speak for themselves. It also prints the reports from correspondents in every State in the United States, which bears but largely the indicated results of the straw votes.

The Herald finds that the Roosevelt tide has reached its height, and that the Taft movement is gaining in some parts of the country. Wilson remains stationary in some sections, gains in others, and, so far as reports show, loses nowhere. The Herald says that its reports indicate very clearly that Wilson is leading both the other candidates.

Democratic Campaign Fund

Total contributions to the Democratic campaign fund amount to \$298,750, it was announced last Thursday by Henry Morgenthau, chairman of the Democratic National Finance Committee. Of this sum, he said, \$206,806 has been expended and while the National Committee feels encouraged over the contributions received, there is urgent need of not less than \$750,000 additional to pay legitimate expenses to the close of the campaign.

"The feeling of confidence throughout the country in the success of the Wilson and Marshall ticket is hurting us in a financial way," said Mr. Morgenthau. "We have received contributions from 17,116 persons," he continued, "and every State in the Union has been heard from."

The States credited with the largest amounts are New York, \$105,385; Pennsylvania, \$19,516; Illinois, \$15,453; Missouri, \$9,470; New Jersey, \$7,012; Wisconsin, \$6,125; Louisiana, \$5,465; Virginia, \$5,402; Washington, \$5,824; Alabama, \$5,036; Texas, \$4,392; and Massachusetts, \$3,639.

Harry St. George Tucker of Virginia, has contributed \$1,000 to the campaign fund.

The transcontinental excursion of International Geographers will hold their symposium on geography instruction at the University of Virginia at one o'clock, October 12. Many distinguished American and European representatives will speak.

OLD FAMILY BIBLE PASSING

It Formerly Was the Depository of Family Records

"In Old Virginia," says the bulletin of the State Health Department, in further explaining and commenting on the new vital statistics law, "the family Bible was the repository for domestic annals. Kept in the darkened parlor, on a center table, the Bible was opened with due solemnity whenever a new entry had to be made in chronicling the life history of the family. With a heart full of joy, the father would open the great book at the space between the Apocrypha and the New Testament and would write proudly the name of his new-born son, while the mother stood by with the babe in her arms and watched the slowly moving quill. In the same room, heavy-hearted and sad, the trembling hand of the bereaved parent would trace the lines that told the passing of his pride and joy. In future years, grandchildren could read the faded lines, and what a heritage was theirs."

"This beautiful custom has passed. War and fire and poverty and neglect have destroyed many of these ancient tomes; our families to day do not cherish these volumes, and use them as did their fathers for the record of their race. This is to be regretted, but in its place the State offers the individual its protecting care. The records which he might misplace, the State will preserve; the dates which he might forget, the State will record. Every Virginian is assured a safe, undying record of his life."

"The new vital statistics law is as simple as it can be made to secure statistics that are valuable. It imposes no hardship on any citizen, but fully protects the records of the people's life. Yet as the law is altogether new in many localities, its operation cannot be made immediately successful without the co-operation of the people. The law is not a health measure exclusively, or even to any considerable extent. It is intended for the people and is aimed to serve them. If it is to be effective, its provisions must be upheld by those who are the principal beneficiaries under it. Every citizen should co-operate to enforce the law that protects him and his neighbors. All the people should unite to secure for Virginia records that shall be complete, accurate and reliable—records that will give to posterity a true roll of our people."

A Little Child Dies Every Second

Edward Bunnell Phelps of New York City, before the Fifteenth International Congress of Hygiene and Demography in Washington City discussed the world-wide effort to diminish infant mortality and its present status and possibilities.

Demonstration by data that approximately 55,000,000 babies are born each year and about 15,000,000 die before the first year of life, Mr. Phelps declared the world's infant mortality probably reached the enormous figure of 40,000 babies' deaths each day, year in and year out, which practically means that an infant death occurs every other second.

"There are the best of reasons for believing that at least fifty per cent of the world's present infant mortality is readily preventable," said Mr. Phelps, "and the civilized countries are just beginning to awake to that fact."

Expel Six Students

Drastic steps to stamp out hazing at the University of North Carolina have been taken as the result of the faculty investigation of the death of William Rand, the Smithfield freshman who recently was killed while being hazed by sophomores.

Four students, who were accused of forcing Rand to dance on a barrel when he fell and cut his throat on a broken bottle, were expelled.

Two other students who witnessed the hazing also were expelled for aiding and abetting the students.

Ten members of the student body who were known to have engaged in hazing either during the present year or last year were suspended from the institution for one year.

The Gazette, only \$1 a year.

MR. McCULLOCH NAMED MOOSE CONGRESSMAN

Roosevelt Followers Held Meeting Thursday in Buchanan

At a mass Convention of the Progressive party of the Tenth Congressional district held at Buchanan Thursday Mr. E. J. McCulloch of that place, was nominated for Congress to oppose Hon. H. D. Flood, Democratic nominee. Twenty-five Progressives are reported to have attended the meeting in response to a call issued from Staunton on September 5.

Following the nomination of Mr. McCulloch as their candidate for Congress the Progressives selected their executive committee for the district and the district chairman, John E. McCulloch was elected as district chairman and the executive committee was chosen as follows: Mott Robinson of Appomattox county; Wilbur L. Moorman of Amherst county; C. V. Parkins of Augusta county; J. M. Urdike of Buena Vista and H. G. Huddleston of Clifton Forge.

The Buchanan News has the following to say of Mr. McCulloch, who is well known in R' bridge:

"Mr. E. J. McCulloch, who was on yesterday nominated for Congress by the Convention held in this place is one of the best known citizens of the county, having lived in the county, on the same farm, all his life of 58 years, leading an active business and political career since his young manhood. Mr. McCulloch works with all his might at anything in which he is engaged, and despite the fact of his starting out and for a number of years an active, working Democrat and office holder, he joined hands with the Republicans and was a Federal office holder for several years. A man of strong convictions, he is fearless to act, and like the head of his party, to believe is to do, and now he is found a Progressive or Bull Mooseer."

"He has the unique distinction of being the only Botetourt man ever receiving a nomination for Congress. He has many friends in this and adjoining counties who admire his pluck and push in business, handling over \$75,000 worth of cattle this year, besides other interests, but he will be overwhelmed by the great Flood and Democratic votes on the 5th of November, next."

Hundreds of Millions Being Spent On Railroads Terminals

The special feature of Scribner's Magazine for October is the group of articles on "The Modern Terminal." The great congestion of population in cities within recent years has confronted the railroads with a most astounding problem. They are meeting it by the construction of colossal stations in which every device of science and architecture is used to facilitate the handling of passengers and trains. Five great terminals in the United States—at Washington, D. C., Kansas City, the Chicago & North Western at Chicago, and the Pennsylvania & New York Central in New York City—have cost, it is estimated, about \$350,000,000, which is equal to the cost of an average railway from New York to San Francisco and back to Cincinnati.

W. Symmes Richardson writes the first article "The Terminal—the Gate of the City." He is a member of the famous firm of architects which built the Pennsylvania Station. He describes entertainingly the great modern stations in European cities. He then writes of the different conditions which prevail at many American terminals. The article is from the point of view of a constructing architect.

Samuel O. Dunn, editor of the Railway Age Gazette, elaborates the problem from the point of view of the practical railway man who must take into consideration not only the present necessities but the future; because these tremendous expenditures are only justified if they meet the needs of many years to come.

The illustrations for both articles are most elaborate, and show how much beauty has recently been evolved where we were accustomed to unsightly train sheds.