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FRANK A. MUNSEY.
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1907.

Coming—But by What Route?

Secretary Wakeman, of the American Protective Tariff League, is quoted as saying:

I was greatly surprised during a trip which I have just made through the Middle West at the extent of the sentiment for tariff revision. I believe in telling the truth, and so I do not hesitate to say that this is a fact. While in Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh I talked with forty or fifty prominent business men, and found them favorable to revision. I must admit, too, that reports received by our organization indicate that the sentiment is general throughout the country. I confess that these reports and my interviews surprised me.

Not only surprised, but disturbed, we warrant. Tariff revision is on the way. The question is whether the Republican leaders will permit it to travel on its tracks or take the Democratic accommodation.

Aginaldo Misses Fire.

Judge Taft, soon to be on the spot and master mind on the welfare of the Philippines, may be expected to make final answer to the proposition of Aginaldo that the United States sell the islands to the Filipinos. Manifestly the idea is now absurd. For the natives have shown so far only a beginning of progress toward ability to govern themselves, only a beginning of a disposition to develop the land, only a beginning of a capability to absorb and use education. If they were unfitted for self-government in 1900 they are, for all practical intents and purposes, as fully unfitted in 1907.

Ultimate independence must pass to the Filipinos as an earning. It can never go to them because the United States has found holding the islands unpleasant, unprofitable, or difficult.

Good for G. W. U.

George Washington University would have done itself great injury to allow its athletic endeavors to cease. Though its football squad were ever so small the institution must either have infused new life into it or abandoned practically all forms of organized exercise for its students, and the latter alternative would have been costly in the extreme.

This is the view which the university's athletic council has put into practice. Instead of disbanding its football squad, it has called on the students to give it better support. The result is new and promising material, fresh enthusiasm, an abundance of the right kind of spirit. Every lover of sport in the District will hope for the squad steady progress and abundant support.

The need of colleges generally for an athletic dragnet which shall reach the whole student body is specially great at George Washington. Its rolls reveal the attendance of 1,473 young men. Most of them are at work during the day. All of them are carrying their study into the night. Every spare moment of daylight ought to be spent, therefore, at lung expanding, muscle stretching play. For this they may be expected to turn to their alma mater more readily than anywhere else. Supplying it is now extra difficult because of the university's lack of an athletic field, gymnasium, and dormitories. But what can be done notwithstanding this shortcoming must be done. Football and baseball teams are the beginning of it—an indispensable beginning. But they are only that.

A Pause for Breath.

The Big Stick is hung up, and the shotgun taken down. With characteristic agility and delight the President has turned from work to play—from the impressive task of instructing the nation how to deal with waterways and corporations to the unimpressive though equally taxing pastime of bear hunting. Solon is now Nimrod.

When Mr. Roosevelt took the Presidential chair the general impression was that the tremendous responsibilities would quiet him. But the people didn't know the man. In fact, he has led them such a breathless race that they hardly know him today. They question his wisdom, and yet they admire him; they say he is arbitrary, and yet they applaud his speeches on civic integrity, and his sermons on the domestic virtues; they believe heartily in the cardinal principles he has revived and enforced, but, at the same time, they resent the idea that on account of those principles

they should swallow his candidate for the Presidency.

We find a conservative body like the Massachusetts Republican State convention endorsing his Administration, and, on the other hand, we find socialists, disciples of Karl Marx, and brothers in arms of Morris Hillquit, pleased at his attacks on "undesirable citizens." Fither and thither he makes his way, always on the rush, always working with all his might, and playing similarly, exhorting, shaking hands, shouting "Ah, there!" to "Bill," "Ike," and "Pete" from the ranches, attending church, disputing over Nineveh with the archaeologists, swapping stories with guides from Maine and Texas, scolding the "nature fakers," trying out bishops and diplomats on the tennis court, steepchasing, and dictating essays on literary tendencies.

Far from quieting him, the Presidency has simply enlarged his field of action. In liveliness and versatility the country has never seen his equal. What will he ever do when he leaves the White House?

Airships in Peace and War.

Balloons float over Washington, and our people come to realize the potentiality of aerial tactics in war. Great Britain, Japan, and Europe, in the meantime, conduct extremely successful experiments with airships. The dispatches are still fresh that told of the voyage of the "Nulli Secundus," the airship of the British Army, thirty-two miles from Farnborough to London, in a ten-mile breeze. Germany has a similar vessel which has sailed an hour against a wind of seventeen miles an hour. France has long been training her officers to manage dirigible balloons, and has conducted entirely satisfactory tests in the neighborhood of Paris.

As the people of London, or Berlin, or Paris, looked overhead and saw these ships of the air sailing back and forth, turning and winding over hills and valleys, rising and dipping at will, it must have seemed to them that a new era of commerce and warfare was dawning; that the dream as old as the first writings of history was now about to be realized. Maybe so.

There are many who believe that the construction of an airship of the manageable balloon type—strong, easily held to its course in the stormiest weather, equal to long voyages—is a matter of a few months, while the higher or aeroplane type will require only a year or two more. Mr. Wellman's airship promised better than any other to test the practical value of the present designs had not snowstorms and adverse winds prevented. But, as it was, his sail of three hours and fifteen minutes, with his craft completely under control, rather brightened the prospect than clouded it. If the air is ever to be profitably navigated, it must be with airships like his, carrying weight by the thousand pounds, and built to travel hundreds, not tens, of miles.

For spying out the enemy in time of war, however, and possibly dropping chunks of explosive into his camp, the airship is put in a new light by a report from the Belgian war department. That bureau has been firing at balloons in the air, according to the New York Sun. "It was, of course, necessary to anchor the balloons, and as the question of effective fire, it was of no great consequence whether the target was swinging at the end of a tether or holding a course." Shrapnel, in field guns, found the gas bags and punctured them at heights varying from 1,300 to 4,800 yards. One balloon, gondola as well as bag, was hit 149 times. Couple this vulnerability with the present uncertainty of keeping aloft, and it is plain the airship as a new factor in war is yet nearly all theory.

If the President will permit we should like to observe that the Tigers have locked horns with the Cubs.

Just the same, we'll bet some of those fat colonels will be too busy for a few days to sit down when they eat.

The W. C. T. U. says "the District may soon bar liquor." That's the way it's usually got rid of, isn't it?

By not stopping to haggle over items of 10 cents and not being content with resolutions the Chamber of Commerce bids fair to get itself in bad favor with the local precedents.

Dr. Woodward resumes his desk as Health Officer by stating that there are no developments in the milk question. Some of the product that gets to consumers seems to be pretty far developed.

The drummer receives another boost. Mrs. Nation is to become a star.

The organ in a Baltimore church is believed to receive the attentions of a ghost during the "sm" hours of the night. At any rate, says the proprietor of a grocery near by, there is an unearthly air about the music.

OVERTONES.

I ask not alms, oh life, of thee! Nor guerdon for mortality. Only, I wist unceasingly, I do not weep because the mire Has held and stained my soul entire, Only, I feel a blind desire.

I seek not sanctity or place, Fame, riches, or especial grace. But I would hold a hidden face, —Harrison Moore, in the Pathfinder.

Battle for Daughter Develops Conflicting Stories From Webbers



LEROY WEBBER.

Stories Differ; Both Are Emphatic

"I would be the happiest man on earth if she would come back to me. I want my wife to come back." — Leroy Webber.

"You can just deny everything he has said. He has never asked me to come back to him, and he does not want peace. He is frightened, and I am glad of it." — Mrs. Webber.



NOILE WEBBER.

Conflicting statements offer the latest developments in the struggle between Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Webber for the possession of their five-year-old daughter, Noile.

Mr. Webber is a former clerk of the Department of Commerce and Labor, and June 1, after a long series of domestic troubles which resulted in the separation of himself and his wife, gained possession of his little girl, and has since kept her whereabouts unknown to his wife. Webber was arrested Monday night charged with non-support, and yesterday appeared in the Juvenile Court. The case was continued until next Tuesday in order to permit Webber to bring witnesses in his own defense.

Arrested at Wife's Home.

Since he disappeared with the child, June 1, Mr. Webber has been in various places, but all efforts on the part of his wife to locate the little girl were fruitless. Monday evening he telephoned his wife that the child was in Baltimore, and offered to take the mother to her. Mrs. Webber, however, suspected that her husband was not acting in good faith, so told him to come to her house, pretending that she would go to Baltimore with him. She summoned a detective from headquarters, and when Webber arrived at his wife's house he was arrested.

Mr. Webber pleaded not guilty to the charge of non-support, and his lawyer, Mr. For a postponement until next Tuesday so they can arrange

a defense and bring witnesses from out of the city.

Mr. Webber said the principal reason for his desire for a postponement was that he hoped to effect a reconciliation with his wife.

"Judge," he continued, "I would be the happiest man on earth if she would come back to me. I have bought a splendid home at Mount Rainier, where we were living when she left me. I am willing to let bygones be bygones."

A continuance was granted until next Tuesday. A. C. Ashton, a business man, furnished bond for Mr. Webber. In the sum of \$500.

Mrs. Webber was indignant at the stand taken by her husband.

"You can just deny everything he said," she said to a Times reporter. "He has never asked me to live with him, and he does not want peace. He is frightened, and I am glad of it."

"During the time I lived with him he treated me so cruelly that I was obliged to leave him and come to my mother for protection. I have never refused him permission to see the child. In fact, the way he gained possession of her was by my consent. I took a walk with him three weeks ago, and I have never seen her since."

"I am nearly distracted," continued Mrs. Webber with tears starting from her large blue eyes. "I feel like a slave in an eternity to wait, and then to think that I am not certain of seeing my darling then. I want my child, and I will work for it and myself."

For several months the Webbers have been living apart, and the wife once began proceedings for a divorce, but by a mutual agreement the suit was withdrawn.

National Civic Federation Will Consider the Trusts At the Chicago Assembly

In view of the tremendous interest, financial, industrial, and political, which now centers in what is termed the "trust problem," the conference on combinations and trusts to be held under the auspices of the National Civic Federation in Chicago, October 22-25, will be one of the most important gatherings of the year. Coming at a time when the whole country is aroused over the many questions involved in the enforcement of the Sherman anti-trust law and the amended interstate commerce act, this conference, it is to be hoped, will serve to give direction to public opinion in reaching a final judgment.

Delegates Named.

Delegates have been named by governors of forty-one States and Territories, and by national labor, agricultural, manufacturing, financial, economic, and trade organizations. Governors, attorneys general, members of the Interstate Commerce Commission, members of the Senate and House Committees on Interstate Commerce, the Commission of Corporations, and two members at least of the Cabinet will participate. The delegates appointed by the governors represent the best interests of their respective States, and include United States Senators, Congressmen, former governors, manufacturers, labor leaders, farmers, merchants, lawyers, clergymen, bankers, etc.

respecting jurisdiction over interstate commerce, now pending in Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Alabama, and Arkansas.

Corporations.

The second day will be devoted to a consideration of the corporation. How should it be constructed? Should there be national corporations as well as State? What should be the basis of capitalization of corporations? Their internal control? The protection of investors looking to the protection of public service and other holders, as well as fair dealing with the public? Should there be a distinction between public service and other corporations? Should the Sherman anti-trust act be amended? If so, how?

Hundreds of letters from all classes of people have been received expressing gratification on the calling of this conference.

A GREAT MAN.

Ascum—Your father was an actor, you know?
Bragley—Sure; Bragley, the tragedian, you know.
Ascum—Funny I never heard of him. He played Hamlet, I suppose?
Bragley—Sure; He originated the part. The Catholic Standard and Times.

GIVE IMPROVEMENTS TO SOUTH AND EAST

Commissioners Will Grant Requests for Former Citizens.

Inspecting City While Making Estimates for Next Year.

There is a strong probability that the Board of Commissioners will, in their annual estimates for the coming fiscal year, recommend appropriations for extensive improvements in the eastern and southern sections of the city.

For years the citizens in the South-eastern, Southwestern, and Northeastern sections of the city have complained that their sections have not been given a reasonable proportion of the money spent for street, sewer, and other improvements. Not only does this complaint come from the city limits proper, but from the suburban sections.

Hundreds Ask Improvement.

All over the Northeast and Southeast sections citizens' associations have been organized to bring this alleged neglect of the Commissioners to their official notice. Hundreds of such requests for improvements have been filed with the Commissioners by individual citizens during the last year, and all of the citizens' associations have made the wants of their particular sections known by formal and detailed requests.

The Commissioners, in going over the annual estimates, are taking these requests, petitions, and papers into consideration, and so far as it is possible they will be provided for in the annual appropriation bill to be presented to the Congress. It is probable that the eastern section of the city will get double what was provided by the last Congress.

Commissioners' Inspection.

In this connection the Commissioners have started a personal inspection of the city to see for themselves just what the needs of the city are in the way of street and other improvements. Commencing yesterday afternoon the Commissioners made a trip through the northeast, southeast, and southwest, paying particular attention to streets, alleys, sewers, lights, and other public necessities. During the inspection the school and fire engine houses and police stations under construction in the sections visited were looked over, as was the Anacostia bridge, now nearly completed.

In response to the request of L. H. Patterson, secretary of the Northeastern Suburban Citizens' Association, Langdon, for a hearing relative to a revised list of street improvements submitted the Commissioners have informed Secretary Patterson that as the board is now considering the annual estimates the hearing can not be granted at this time, but as soon as the estimates are completed a date will be fixed for the hearing.

Ireland Praised By Irish Captain In New York Port

NEW YORK, Oct. 9.—With the flag of Ireland flying, naughtily from her foretop and a yellow poodle barking a greeting to the Goddess of Liberty, the Irish Monarch, 4,200 tons, and the pride of the Emerald Isle, steamed into port, sugar laden, from Java.

"Sirs," said Capt. George Gordon Graham, of Cork, "the Irish Monarch came from Ireland and she flies the flag of what will be the greatest nation in the world, England willing."

SULTAN OF TURKEY HAS LIVED LONG

LONDON, Oct. 9.—Remarkable that "the old man live long," M. A. P. notes that Abdul Hamid, the Sultan of Turkey, has just celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday, after having successfully evaded the efforts of both friends and enemies to make his lot uncomfortable during the last thirty years.

In the number of his years and the length of reign the Sultan of Turkey ranks high among the rulers of Europe. In point of age five monarchs are before him. King Oscar of Sweden is thirteen years older, the Emperor of Austria can give him twelve years, King Leopold of Belgium seven, while King Charles of Roumania, and Prince Nicholas of Montenegro are, respectively, three years and one year older than the Sultan.

"Five kings of Europe and four Asiatic potentates have a longer record on the throne. The Emperor Francis Joseph has now reigned fifty-nine years, King George of Greece forty-four years, Prince Nicholas of Montenegro forty-seven, King Leopold forty-two, and King Oscar of Sweden (over that part of his dominion which remains to him) thirty-six. In Asia the Mikado of Japan has reigned over that rule, the Emperor of China thirty-two, and the King of Siam and the Rajah of Sarawak each thirty-nine years.

Abdul Hamid has this further record—that no ruler of Turkey for nearly 250 years has reigned as long as he.

HORSE GUARDS MASTER UNTIL HELP ARRIVES

WILKESBARRE, Oct. 9.—While galloping on his patrol through West Pittston, Trooper White, of the State constabulary, met with an accident that nearly proved fatal to him, but demonstrated the thoroughness with which the troopers train their mounts.

His horse stumbled, throwing him heavily to the ground. As he lay unconscious and bleeding from a long gash in the head the animal stood guard over him, licking his wound until help arrived.

Naming of Voglegesang Due to the President



CARL T. VOGLEGESANG, Lieutenant Commander in the Navy, Who Has Been Assigned to Command the Mayflower, the President's Yacht.

Officer Made Good Impression on Panama Trip Last Fall.

Lieut. Commander Carl T. Voglegesang, the popular young naval officer who has been selected to command the President's private, converted cruiser yacht, the Mayflower, owes the honor conferred upon him to the splendid impression he made upon President Roosevelt during the latter's trip to Panama last fall. Mr. Voglegesang was the first navigator of the Louisiana, on which the President made the journey, and the manner in which he handled the ship quickly caught the Chief Executive's eye.

The President saw much of the work of the young officer on the journey, spending considerable time on the ship's bridge with him. The entire journey of several thousand miles was made safely and without the slightest incident, and before leaving the vessel Mr. Roosevelt personally congratulated and thanked the commander, Capt. A. R. Couden, now rear admiral, Commander Chapin, who was the executive officer, Mr. Voglegesang, and the other naval officers for the safety and pleasure of the journey.

Mr. Voglegesang was appointed to the Naval Academy from California in 1888, and attained his present grade in July, 1905. He made his reputation as a turret officer in the spring target practice of 1904, on the Asiatic station, when he was in command of the forward thirteen-inch turret on the Wisconsin. The scores made by him and his crew broke all records of the navy, and has never been exceeded. He is a crack shot and was by the same gun and nearly the same crew the following year. This gun made thirty-two hits out of a possible thirty-six, and made 1.58 shots per minute, with 1.41 hits per minute.

Ostrich Farm in Cuba Is Latest Enterprise

Twenty-seven Acres Near Havana Is Site of Farm With Forty-eight Birds Taken From Arizona.

Ostrich farming is the newest enterprise of Cuba and promises to grow into an important industry. At Marianao, near Havana, a farm of twenty-seven acres has been established, affording shelter for the birds in inclement weather and quarters for employees.

There are now forty-eight ostriches there, twenty-three of which were imported from the Phoenix American Ostrich Farm of Phoenix, Ariz., and the others from the Nice Ostrich Farm, in France. Fourteen of these are breeders and the others are between one and two years old.

Account of Farm.

Edwin V. Morgan, American minister to Cuba, furnishes the State Department with an interesting account of the farm. He says:

"The land is divided into large pens for the younger birds and smaller ones for each pair of breeders. There is also a salesroom, where ostrich feathers are sold—not, however, necessarily the product of the farm. The price of the full-grown breeder is from \$300 to \$400, and that of the younger birds from \$250 to \$300, according to their age and sex. The cost of importation from either Arizona or France is about \$17, if imported in quantities of twenty or more, including Cuban customs duties."

"The ostrich lays four times a year, each female giving from fourteen to eighteen eggs at each laying. About 20 per cent of these hatch out, and about 75 per cent of those hatched arrive at maturity. The period of incubation is about forty-two days."

Securing and Selling Feathers.

"The first plucking is made at the age of six months, when the feathers are narrow, coarse, and of small market value. Thereafter they are plucked every eight months, the value of the feathers increasing at each plucking until they arrive at maturity at the age of four years. When ready to be plucked, the bird is placed in a padded corral large enough to contain his body and all the pluck. His wings are then raised and all the ripe feathers are clipped. Two months later the quills left in the wings are entirely dead, and are drawn without pain to the bird."

PREFERS WOMEN TO LOAD VESSEL IN EAST RIVER BED

Russian Captain Condemned by British Public for Method.

LONDON, Oct. 9.—The captain of a Russian ship has just caused great indignation along the Thames water front by hiring women to load his vessel. When men appealed for work the captain told them they were not wanted. The next day fifteen women were put to work on the ship.

The captain had engaged them to do the ship loading at 2s. 3d per day. The average wage of men employed at this labor is 8s to 7s and this price had been quoted by the male laborers the evening before. The men who watched them at work were very indignant. One of them said:

"It's not fit work for women; it's hard enough even for the likes of us. I wouldn't see my wife at it, not if I was dying."

On account of the hard work several of the women were forced to quit. Their ages ranged from eighteen to forty-five, and all were desperately poor. When the captain of the Russian ship was asked why he did not employ men, he said:

"I employ women labor because it's cheaper. For the price of one man I get nearly three women, sometimes. Their average wage is just half. In Russia we always have our vessels loaded by women, and so I engaged women here."

LIEUT. U. S. GRANT ORDERED TO BOSTON

Lieut. U. S. Grant, 3d, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., has at last been assigned to active duties in his branch of the service, most of the time that he spent in the army having been given to assignments of a light or social nature. Lieutenant Grant, who is a grandson of President Grant and nephew of Gen. Fred D. Grant, commanding the department of the East, has been detailed to duty in Boston under the direction of Maj. Edward W. Burr, in charge of the river and harbor work.

The assignment is probably as agreeable as any that the young army lieutenant could be given, aside from those of a social nature. Lieutenant Grant has spent most of his brief army career at Washington Barracks, being for several years one of the military aides to the White House.

WORKMEN FIND GOLD IN EAST RIVER BED

New York Bridge Employees Strike Vein Assaying \$24,000.

NEW YORK, Oct. 9.—Beneath the East river, 120 feet from shore, and 100 feet below the mean water mark off Roosevelt street, gold was discovered yesterday. If the vein assays in proportion to the sample brought to the surface it will run to the enormous figure of \$24,000 a ton.

The department of bridges is making a series of borings along the river front. The work is being done by the Healey and Construction Company, of 21 Park row.

A force of men was at work yesterday with a box under the direction of Thomas J. Kavanagh, foreman. Samples of the earth or rock from all borings are sent to the department with a record of the depth at which they were obtained.

The find belongs to the bridge department, and thus to the city. Those who examined the vein gave it as their opinion that the vein could be reached by sinking a shaft at Roosevelt street and running a tunnel for 100 feet, and then following the vein in any direction.

STANDARD STICK FINISHED AFTER 10 YEARS' WORK

LONDON, Oct. 9.—Ten years to make a yard measure sounds a little extravagant, but not when that "yard measure" is of platinum and iridium and is the standard yard measure destined for the government standard weights and measures strong room. There a new standard yard measure has just been placed after being in process of construction since 1887. Upon completion it was subjected to a number of tests, from all of which it has emerged with honors. The measure was sent for examination to Paris, also to the Society for the Construction of Instruments of Precision in Geneva, then to the bureau de poids et mesures, and finally to the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures, where it was just returned. Every year for the next ten years it will be further examined. If it varies by a millionth of an inch it will be rejected, otherwise it will become a standard.

HIKED UP.

"For goodness sake!" exclaimed the boy's mother, "what are you complaining about? You wanted your 'superior pants' and now you've got 'em, you ain't satisfied?"

"I know, mother," protested the boy, "but I kinder find these too tight under the arms."—The Catholic Standard and Times.