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THE BRITISH TITANIC INQUIRY.

The British board of trade court which conducted an inquiry into the Titanic disaster finally has reported, a liberal application of whitewash forming the bulk of its effort.

THEIR IDEA OF HARD TIMES.

A family truth, which like many of its kind is easily forgotten, is well enforced in a little conversation between an old lady and her little granddaughter, says the Detroit Free Press.

POLITICAL PHRASES.

Getting down to actual facts, the St. Louis Times sees absurdity in the use of such terms as progressive and reactionary, and points out that it is obvious that these terms are mere political trickery, palmed off upon a thoughtless public for the sole purpose of catching votes and bolstering up personal causes.

The United States has been steadily progressive from the beginning, the Times continues. The triumph over the British government by way of the revolutionary war was a progressive movement. The knitting together of federal power, as distinguished from the haphazard authority of the states, acting independently, was a progressive measure.

Sidewalk Sketches

By Howard L. Rann

THE PICNIC SEASON.

A picnic is a place where people meet to perspire in unison and make the acquaintance of several new varieties of insect life.

A picnic is always held at some damp and inaccessible spot, where there is an abundance of sharp visaged ants which are continually dropping down somebody's neck and interrupting the conversation with unholo remarks.



No picnic is considered a real success unless it bumps into a wet thunder shower just as the fried chicken is about to be disseminated. It is a melancholy sight to see a lean, hungry picnicker comfortably seated in a large, resilient pool of rainwater and trying to spear the elusive olive with a tin fork, while all about him are the prostrate and water-soaked forms of the

shall know what reactionarism has meant—in social, in commercial, in political fields; we shall know the difference between a tricky politician's weapon and a great nation's tendency.

THE HILLES STATEMENT. The Courier today publishes in full a resume of the delegate contests at the recent Chicago national convention. The document prepared by Mr. Hilles has been approved by the Taft cabinet and the review of the evidence submitted is certified to by Victor Rosewater, who was chairman of the national committee, and Thomas H. Devine, chairman of the credentials committee of the Chicago convention. It takes up individually the 233 contests brought by the Roosevelt forces at Chicago, reviews the manner in which 164 of these contests were dropped by the Roosevelt managers and Roosevelt members of the national committee, and submits evidence that the remaining seventy-four Taft delegates seated were entitled to their seats. A detailed denial of the charge that the renomination of President Taft was accomplished by the seating of fraudulently elected delegates is made.

The Hilles statement, which is given on page 2 of this issue, is the first detailed reply made by President Taft's friends to the reckless charges made since the convention. It should be read in full.

When August Belmont modestly admitted that he had contributed \$250,000 to the democratic campaign fund in 1904, there were two kinds of thrills that bounced along the corduroy spine of many of the "working" members of the democratic party. One was a thrill of regret that they did not know of the contribution at that time, and the other was a thrill of hope that August will do it again this year.

Judge Stevens seemed to be afraid to trust the people at the Des Moines convention with all of Roosevelt's telegram. There are one or two other men who believe more in talking a square deal than in living it.

The trustees and the management of the Ottumwa waterworks met the warmest praise for the quality of water they are furnishing Ottumwa. A year ago the best Ottumwans got warm baths. Today the water is so clear it seems a shame to muss it up by bathing.

Michiganers are coming out strong for the new party, the Chicago Examiner observes. When the suffragettes become active in that state will they be known as Michigees?

You may say you do not believe the Jonah and the whale story, but can you invent one that will last one-hundred-thousandth part as long.

The latest from Texas says that prohibition is the democratic issue there now. Until recently the democratic issue there has been as to how much of an interest Senator Bailey had in the Standard Oil.

The latest news from Washington says that the railroad rates on potatoes are to be investigated. Is this a movement to prohibit their shipment into dry territory?

LaFollette says that the progressive movement made rapid progress while Roosevelt was in Africa. We respect fully refer to this terrible statement to the Outlook.

With the democrats pushing prohibition in Texas and a bolt in the Roosevelt convention in Florida, the south is attracting as much attention now as it did during the contest at the republican national convention.

Remember—the man who gets an increase in his salary is not entitled to it, unless he does more work and better.

The idea that Yoshihito should be crowned emperor of Japan, when Teddy is out of a job is beyond understanding.

The Mexican rebels are doing all they can to make the United States intervene. That rebel army in Mexico ought to be caught and put to sawing wood.

Roosevelt is such a good natured man—he speaks with such moderation.

We haven't heard of any children being named Bull Moose. Woodrow still leads in the child naming race.

Certain members of the Detroit city council have started in on a campaign to advertise their city.

HOLDS TARIFF AND TRUST BLAMELESS

SENATOR BURTON DECLARES THEY ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR HIGHER PRICES.

EXTRAVAGANCE HIT

Present Scale of Living, Coupled With Progress Made in Recent Years and Inequalities of Fruits of Progress Given as Reasons.

Washington, July 30.—Senator Burton of Ohio, explained to the senate at length today the reasons which, in his opinion, are responsible for the present high cost of living. The manifest and important causes, he said, were "the phenomenal progress of recent years, the striking inequality of this progress in different lines of human endeavor and the tendencies to extravagance and waste and to diminished productive energy by a large part of the population."

Neither the Payne-Aldrich tariff law nor any other similar measure was responsible for the general high level of prices," he declared; for, "the variations in prices have been so very considerable, both in the way of increase and decrease, as absolutely to disprove any inference that the change in prices has been due to the tariff of 1909, or to any other tariff act."

Trusts Not to Blame. He exonerated the "trusts and large combinations of capital" with responsibility for high prices, declaring that a complete monopoly in any particular article affords a chance to increase its price but that the same result is apparent when separate producers maintain an agreement as to prices.

"One of the serious influences tending to increase prices," he asserted, "is that of price agreements of various sorts. It was one of the purposes of the Sherman anti-trust act to prevent practices of this sort; however, there can be little doubt that in fact this practice still continues. It is alleged that the so-called Garry dinners, just as effectively did away with competition and established uniform prices as the older and more illegal form of agreements had done."

Another "device now resorted to, to eliminate competition," he declared was that of "hiding behind the patent right." He referred to a recent supreme court decision, under which the "user of a patented article may be required to buy supplies of a certain make and pay the price imposed."

Scale of Living Higher. In regard to the progress of the age as a factor in high prices, Senator Burton said that "the conveniences and luxuries of one generation are regarded as necessities in the next. Even in humble homes a standard of living is made possible which was beyond the fondest hope entertained by generations that have scarcely passed away."

Better homes, food and clothing; the desire for a wider outlook, which is afforded by a higher education; and an insistent demand for leisure and amusement; were elements, he said, which were adding to the burden of life on the coast side, although adding it in many other ways. He quoted figures showing a marked increase in the consumption of staple articles, such as cotton, corn, sugar and so on; and then added that expenditures for luxuries showed a much higher percentage of increase.

Cost of Government Factor. The rapidly growing cost of government,—national, state and municipal,—was adding to the cost of life, he said; the expenditure of the federal government having increased 122 per cent from 1890 to 1910.

"To these must be added," Senator Burton continued, "the oppressive burden of military and naval armaments, now involving a cost to the civilized nations of \$2,000,000,000 a year, an economic waste which imposes an almost unendurable burden upon the world's resources. The expense of the naval establishments of the United States for the year 1890 was \$22,006,206; in 1910 it was \$123,173,717."

As to increase in municipal taxation rates, quoted from New York city statistics, showing that the per capita tax rate there had increased 71 per cent from 1890 to 1910.

Farm Science Backward. Speaking of the "unequal progress in the different lines of endeavor that supply human wants," Senator Burton said that "it is evident that science working through invention and improved methods has not accomplished the same result in agriculture as in manufactures. Although considerable progress has been made in the transportation of agricultural products to the market and in preserving them for use, these pertain to transportation and to the middleman rather than to the original producer. Improvements in agricultural implements have been very considerable, but have wrought no revolution such as has been manifest in many processes of manufacture. In addition he called attention to the "growing scarcity of new lands suitable for profitable cultivation." In connection with the form, he spoke of the movement of population cityward from the country as a distinctive feature of modern life.

The diminishing supply of lumber in the face of unusual demand, he continued, has caused a rapid and continuous increase in the price of products of the forest to extravagance, and waste, he declared that it was the inevitable tendency in every progressive era.

No Drinking Cups at Fair. Des Moines, July 30.—There will be no public drinking cups at the state fair this year, according to members of the state fair board. The board has arranged to change the present drinking fountains with cups attached to chains, into modern sanitary fountains.

Everything is in good condition at all the institutions," said Mr. Wade.

CANAL DEBATE OPENS IN SENATE

QUESTION OF CHARGING TOLLS TO FOREIGN VESSELS DEBATED

Washington, D. C., July 30.—The right of Great Britain to participate in an understanding for the control of the Panama Canal was denied in the senate by two advocates of the measure to give American coastwise shipping the preference in canal tolls. Senators Bradley of Kentucky and Massey of Nevada contended not only that the United States had the right under the treaty to regulate its own affairs but the purchase of the canal zone removed the entire subject from international control.

Senator McCumber of North Dakota took an opposite view in his speech opening the debate. The United States Senator Massey declared the Hay-Pauncefote treaty of 1901 could be entirely ignored by the United States, so far as the Panama canal was concerned. The operation of that water way had become a domestic problem, he said, and not properly reviewable by any international work.

Not Bound by Treaty. Senator Bradley held that even under the treaty the United States had simply made the rule of equality which were to apply to all nations. As soon as those expense the canal had been built, he declared the United States was not bound by the regulations of the treaty, so far as it requires "equal treatment" to all ships.

Senator Cummins asked if the treaty with Panama guaranteeing free passage of Panama's war vessels would not require that the United States give free passage to war vessels of all nations. Senator McCumber said he believed the strict terms of the treaty would require equal treatment to all war vessels. Senator Fall called attention to the fact that there was also a treaty with Colombia for free passage of its warships.

Hopeless Diplomacy. "One is impressed in examining these different treaties," added Senator Cummins, "with the hopeless confusion into which the diplomacy of that time seems to have fallen."

Senator McCumber declared the treaty proposed absolute neutrality for the canal, but Senator Cummins said it was "impossible to conceive" that the United States should be compelled to pass through the canal in time of war the battleships of a hostile nation.

IOWA PRESS COMMENT

Cedar Falls Record: There is going to be a scarcity of teachers this fall. In several counties the superintendents report an evident shortage because less than the usual number have applied for examinations. The time was when many a young man took a whirl at teaching during the winter months. Now they find more lucrative positions in other lines of employment and the girls have monopolized the field.

Des Moines Tribune: Some day some city that desires to take the leadership in reform will propose to consolidate all the various taxing agencies.

Here is Des Moines with a school board levying taxes, a county board levying taxes and a city council levying taxes, the taxes levied by each being again subdivided into funds that are non-interchangeable.

The result is that, while the city has no money whatever for protection against fire, it is building school houses twenty years ahead of the demand and on a scale of expense unknown to any but one or two cities in the United States.

Cedar Rapids Gazette: President Marvin Huggert of the Northwestern says Iowa is the modern garden of Eden. It's better than Eden, however, for no one is being driven out of it.

Cedar Rapids Republican: "He made a good president once," they say. But admit that Roosevelt was a good president twice, does that establish his claim to be the perpetual president? Washington made a good president, so did Madison, so did Jackson and so did many others, but they all retired at the end of their second terms. Some man might make a good president for life, but in this country we limit presidents and we do it wisely. We think we can find one man good enough at least every eight years.

Burlington Hawkeye: Iowans are beginning to appreciate Iowa's lakes. It is reported that there are some 800 summer cottages at Clear Lake, and that these as well as the hotels are full and that there are some 4,000 visitors at this beautiful lake, and it is the best season since people began "summer-resorting" there. By and by, Iowans will be wondering why Iowans should leave Iowa just to spend a few weeks in peace and rest and quiet and comfort somewhere and why they should make long journeys in the hope of finding what they have right here at home.

REDUCE TARIFF ON FARM PRODUCTS

Democrats Propose to Immediately Lower the Duty on Produce.

Washington, D. C., July 29.—Democratic House Leader Underwood is quoted as saying that the next tariff bill to be taken up will be the so-called "market basket bill."

This bill will reduce the tariff on a great many things that the housewife buys for her table. It will, incidentally, remove the protection from a large portion of the things the farmer raises—fruits, vegetables, butter, eggs, and so on.

From a democratic standpoint, the mass in the cities are consumers of

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for the largest gathering ever held at this place. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson of Libertyville visited friends here Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Clara Johnson is visiting with friends at Libertyville. C. Croly of Alabama is here visiting his mother Mrs. J. B. Croly.

IOWA MAN APPOINTED TO DRAINAGE POST

Washington, D. C., July 30.—S. H. McCroy, an Iowa man, has been appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to be engineer in charge of drainage work to fill the vacancy created by the removal several months ago of C. G. Elliott, which followed charges of irregularities in connection with the use of drainage funds of the department.

IOWA EXHIBIT AT HYGIENE CONGRESS

Des Moines, July 30.—Iowa will have a large exhibition at the International congress on Hygiene which meets in Washington, D. C., September 23 to 28. Dr. A. E. Kenford, state board of health, the state university, the dairy commission and the labor commission are preparing exhibits to be sent.

After the exhibits have been used in Washington, they will be brought back to Iowa for use in educational work.

AGENCY. Saturday about 4 o'clock O. Mengis' barn was discovered to be on fire. The barn and contents, consisting of hay, corn, buggy and harness were burned. It is supposed that it caught fire from a bonfire that some children had started near the barn. Some insurance was carried.

The prospects for the home coming picnic to be held here Aug. 16 are good

YOU DO YOUR SELF AN INJUSTICE If you buy elsewhere before seeing our show and style No More \$15 No Less The Glasgow Tailors 224 East Main St.