

# Editorial Page of The Evening Teller

FEARLESS, PROGRESSIVE AND REPUBLICAN

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1906.

The indications from the seat of war today are that the rival forces in the state republican convention have harmonized their differences and will present a solid front to the enemy in the coming campaign. Personal ambitions apparently have been buried in the broader sentiment of the greatest good to party interest.

The Czar is after the Douma with war to the knife, and has indicated that he will visit those taking part in the Viborg Manifesto with summary punishment. The characteristic of the Russian government is that it knows no conciliation. It is high handed and autocratic and presses every vantage home on the offender regardless of the old sores. The revolutionary spirit is feeding on these restrictions and is being driven relentlessly to open and protracted revolt.

The national democracy is on the qui vive to know what the keynote speech of Mr. Bryan will be. At the reception to be tendered the returning leader in New York it is understood that Mr. Bryan will strike the keynote of the coming campaign and determine his availability as a candidate. His London interview went wide of the high mark set for him by those who had hoped that years had given discretion to his thought. They considered that he had grown safe and sane but found that he professes to be more of a radical than ever. The criticism of the London interview has had a marked effect on the Bryan boom and has checked the enthusiasm of conservative journals that had sounded the Bryan revival. The availability of Mr. Bryan will be determined by the speech he makes at the coming reception.

The old project of a tunnel under the English canal between England and France is reported to have been seriously revived. The scheme formerly met strong opposition on the somewhat fantastical ground that in time of war it would make an invasion of England easier, though it is difficult to see what would prevent England from flooding the tunnel from her end if ever driven to extremities. The engineering difficulties are said not to be great, owing to the chalk formation through which the tunnel would be bored. The distance across the channel at the east end, where it is connected with the North sea by the strait of Dover, is 21 miles, so that the project would be a stupendous one compared with the tunnels under the East and North rivers at New York. A tunnel from England to France would probable put new life into the scheme of a tunnel under Behring straits connecting Siberia and Alaska.

### SAGE AS A POLITICIAN.

Russell Sage, whose death occurred in New York recently, was known to the present generation as a business man and a millionaire. Many, therefore, will be surprised to learn that he bore a prominent part in politics long before they were born. With his career none is more familiar than Henry Watterson, who, in his Courier-Journal, gives a most interesting account of Sage's early career.

Mr. Sage was a Whig and afterwards a republican. He was, in fact, a republican long before he ceased to be nominally a whig. He was, while still a young man, alderman of the city of Troy, and for some years treasurer of Rensselaer county. In 1850 he was the whig candidate for congress. It was a whig district, but the party had become divided, and the element known as the "Silver Grays" failed to support Mr. Sage, and he was defeated. Two years later he was elected by a small majority, and in 1854 was returned by a majority of 7,000. The

whig party went to pieces after the presidential campaign of 1852, but a good many other things had happened in the interval and Mr. Sage profited by prevailing tendencies. He was instrumental in electing N. P. Banks, who was the first republican speaker of the house. It may be noted in passing that it was this congress that passed the tariff of 1857, the lowest rate we have had since the era of high tariffs began in 1816, the year in which Mr. Sage was born.

But the most important chapter of Mr. Sage in politics, as related by himself, concerns his action as a member of the whig national convention of 1848, and its consequences. He was a Henry Clay man, and he controlled twenty-eight out of thirty-two votes of the New York delegation. There was a strong current for Zachary Taylor, but Mr. Sage feared he was not a good whig. On this point he received assurances from William H. Seward, Thurlow Weed, Judge Randall (father of Speaker Samuel J. Randall) and Col. Taylor, a brother of the general. He insisted, however, on supporting Clay, but, according to previous agreement transferred his votes to make the nomination of Taylor unanimous. Then the leading friends of General Taylor consulted Mr. Sage as to the vice presidency, and he says it was on his recommendation that Millard Fillmore was nominated for that place. As General Taylor died early in the second year of his term, Fillmore became president, and Mr. Sage always claimed that he had made a president.

In his reminiscences Mr. Sage laid stress on another instance of his political influence. After Taylor was inaugurated the Silver Grays prejudiced his mind against W. H. Seward, then senator from New York, and his recommendations for important offices were held up. It was then recalled that Sage had made a speech complimentary to Taylor at a public meeting held shortly after the Mexican war, and this had been reported to Taylor. He was, therefore, thought the best man to see the president in the interest of Seward, and he performed the duty so successfully that Seward got all the patronage which he claimed.

In 1857, however, Mr. Sage found himself in a position where he was obliged to choose between politics and his business. He said he had entered congress for the "schooling" that he expected to get there, and his service on the ways and means committee, he said, was of great benefit to him in after life. But, having got the tuition that he desired, he resolved to abandon a political career and devote himself to business.

## == THINK IT OVER ==

Now what is Senator Dubois going to do about it?

Harmony seems to be legal tender down at Pocatello.

Thirty more days and you can laugh at the weather man.

Emotional insanity is a bulwark that is shielding too many criminals.

The Nez Perce delegation will probably have to stack arms and mark time.

General Enthusiasm was also present and took a prominent part in the convention.

There is a kick that the midnight caucus savors too much of the star chamber variety.

Too bad that the bottom fell out of such a beautiful scrap just as the democrats were getting interested.

Those of us who still feel warlike can now turn our attention to Russia where harmony is an unknown quantity.

Men have sight, women have insight, but it is the common experience of all that the most comprehensive point of view is the hindsight.

Brazilian politics is charged with the rise in the price of coffee. There should be a democratic administration in Brazil that would take a fall out of prices.

### A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR.

The reports of the two big commercial agencies are still optimistic to a high degree. A notable statement, and one worthy of preservation in the pages of our national history, is made this week by Dun, who says that the first half of the year 1906 was the most prosperous six months in the history of the United States. Unless heavy cancellations occur, it is confidently predicted that the latter half of the present year will establish even a higher record. It means something to be alive in a country whose prosperity for a given year surpasses all the records of its own existence and of the world.

We are liable to fail in our appreciation of what this nation is and what it has. Statistics like those furnished by the commercial agencies can sometimes bring us to a more thorough appreciation of the country's greatness and its possibilities than could oratory and rhetoric.

Another interesting sidelight is given by Bradstreet, who says that despite the gloomy predictions current some time ago regarding the meat trade, the prices of cattle and hogs are at their highest point of the year. The investigations have improved conditions in the packing houses, but the farmers who have cattle and hogs to sell have not suffered. American prosperity evidently will not down.

### ONE DOESN'T!

One would think as one grows older

One would learn a little sense,

But one doesn't.

Either from the force of precept

Or one's own experience,

But one doesn't.

One perhaps is feeling "fit."

For one evening one is "it."

Next day one decides to quit.

—Winnipeg Tribune.

The democratic congressional campaign committee complains of a lack of funds, as usual, but the statement comes from the similar republican committee that it has money left over from the last campaign, when the trusts and insurance companies were bled so generally. It will not be as easy for the republicans to tap the corporations this year; a coldness has come over them in relation to the grand old party. So the republican committee is in luck in having corporation money left over from two years ago.

## Our Semi-Annual Suit Sale



Is still on and is meeting the wants of the customer who does not care to put much money into a suit of clothes at this season of the year.

Many people watch and wait for our sale.

Our prices are honest and we give exactly the reduction we advertise. No goods marked up to mark down again—no trickery or scheme.

**\$6.75**

if we can fit you, buys the best 2-piece suit offered in Lewiston.

**Watson Clothing Co.**