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No paper will be discontinued until arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publisher.

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A Neighborly Act.

Disorder in Central America is offensive to Mexico and to the United States. It is as if the neighbors of two law-abiding citizens were continually bickering and carrying their quarrels over the fence into the grounds of the peaceful. It is the duty of the orderly, not only for their own protection, but in the interest of decency, to persuade the disorderly to behave themselves. The presidents of the United States and of Mexico acted as benevolent international neighbors when they tendered the good offices of their governments to the quarreling republics in Central America to assist in arranging a plan for arbitrating all disputes which cannot be settled by the republics themselves. Government is in an unsettled condition in Central America. Although nominally democratic in form, in fact it is almost a military despotism. That aspiring leader wins the election who can command the largest number of soldiers, and the people have little conception of the nature of what we in America know as representative institutions. There is little more respect for the rights of the neighboring countries than for the rights of the opposition party; consequently petty wars are of frequent occurrence. This survival of a sort of petty feudalism, a group of little warring countries, squabbling over matters that other peoples to-day settle peaceably, cannot be tolerated. It is necessary, however, remarks Youth's Companion, for the United States to assume that these little countries mean to keep the peace save on the gravest provocation. Yet its joint action with Mexico amounts to little less than a warning that if they do not behave in an orderly manner voluntarily, they will be forced to submit to the power of the stronger nations.

It is no longer possible to doubt that the natives of New Guinea use spider webs for fishing nets. A medalist of the Royal Geographical society, who has lately been traveling in New Guinea, reports that the natives bend the tip end of a long bamboo rod in such a way as to make a loop five or six feet in diameter. They set up this arrangement in the forest where the spiders are thickest, and wait for the insect to weave her web in the loop. The web has a mesh about one inch square at the outside, which gradually decreases in size to not more than an eighth of an inch square at the center. The native uses this as a scoop net as he stands in the stream and dips the fish out as they come near. It is strong enough to hold fish weighing a pound. The spider which makes it has a body about the size of a small hazel nut with legs that spread out two inches.

Parents who are dissatisfied with the present status of athletics in the public schools—and there are many of them—will follow with interest the course of the Boston school committee, which is considering the advisability of introducing the West Point drill. It is a matter of common knowledge that the drill at West Point accomplishes the main object of all athletic exercise—it gives its pupils a sound body and an erect, vigorous carriage that lasts them through life. Is there any school in America where football, baseball or all the sports together do this for the whole student body?

All the justices of the United States supreme court except William H. Moody, the youngest member, are gray haired. Mr. Moody is a blond, and his hair is of that pale straw color which turns gray only very late in life. His ruddy complexion gives an additional touch of youthfulness, so that the contrast between Mr. Moody and the other members of the court is striking.

The professional pie biter occupation will soon be gone. With the rise in pastry he will be compelled to retrench. Luckily, however, doughnuts remain at the same old price, and the New Englander can afford to have them with his matutinal coffee.

MADE CHINA FRIEND

SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENT OF SECRETARY TAFT.

His Visit to the Celestial Empire Has Done Much to Restore the Supremacy of American Influence.

The gratifying effect upon Chinese opinion of Secretary Taft's address at Shanghai has been summarized in a dispatch from that city to the New York Tribune. From the comment of the press, officials and leading Chinese the prevailing opinions are said to be as follows:

"The United States will not sell the Philippine islands, an assurance which is welcomed, as it means that there will be no extension of Japanese influence and a continuance of American influence in the far east.

"The Chinese desire to interpret Mr. Taft's statement reiterating that the United States favors the open-door policy in China as being inofficial, but at the same time made on high authority and indicating that the United States will support it in China and maintain the policy in Manchuria, the only place where the open door is threatened.

"Mr. Taft's indorsement of the United States court for China, over which Judge Wilfley presides, is regarded as meaning a continuance of the new era of justice and as demonstrating that the United States is really interested in China, as shown by the acts which follow her assurances on the subject.

"The enthusiastic welcome accorded to Mr. Taft here atones for the boycott of American goods, and demonstrates China's freindship for America.

"The assurances given in regard to fair treatment of the emigration question are accepted in good faith.

"China trusts in the United States, and believes the latter to be her true friend."

The Tribune's representative further declares that Secretary Taft's visit is regarded as epoch-making, and that it goes a long way toward restoring the primacy of American influence which was the result of Secretary Hay's enlightened statecraft. "The Chinese consider the United States to be the only power not wanting to annex a part of the territory of China," says this correspondent, "and as being disinterestedly concerned in China's welfare. It is regarded as assured that the utterances of Mr. Taft will give American business men in China renewed confidence in pushing their lines of trade."

For Germans Only.

A recent report of the Frankfort Chamber of Commerce says:

Owing to the protection afforded by the high tariff rates, factories producing tar colors are beginning to spring up in the United States. If the import duties are not lowered the German color manufacturers will be compelled to establish factories in the United States so as to continue their business with that country, similar to the course they had to take in France and Russia.

The upspringing of the coal-tar color industry in the United States is one of the things which the German agreement is calculated to prevent. All the Germans need to do is to label their products "for export only," and get a local chamber of commerce to certify the value, and the colors will come in at a rate of duty which will discourage any more factories in the United States. The general plan of the agreement seems to be to provide a system of duties that will afford protection to German producers only.

Not a Bad Example.

President Roosevelt strikes quickly and strikes hard when he is aroused. There was some jockeying among the steamers in the fleet that bore the president from Cairo to Memphis, and the master of one of the boats annoyed the others by crowding and racing; it is even said that he endangered the president's own steamer for a few minutes. Now the president has telegraphed to Washington directing that the license of this master be suspended for 90 days; and he even wishes him suspended by telegraph.

Some persons like this quickness of President Roosevelt in action; some others do not. But if everyone were as quick as the president to strike when he sees something wrong, the world would be better. A good many abuses exist because those who observe them complain—and do nothing. President Roosevelt is not of this kind. And this is one of the reasons why he now has the power of suspending by telegraph.—Buffalo Express.

President and Questionable Finance.

A good many persons have professed the fear, and many more have sincerely entertained the apprehension, that a continuance of the president's main policy will interfere with prosperity. Why should this fear be widely held? Every day gives additional proof of loose management in the world of high finance, of methods which are adverse to the public welfare, even when they are not dishonest, as they too often are. President Roosevelt is not destroying confidence; the men who juggle values, who misappropriate the savings of the community, who engage in or permit on a great scale transactions which cannot be defended by any code of morals, and which would not be tolerated on a small scale in any village—these are the men who destroy confidence.—Boston Herald.

FOR A STRONGER NAVY.

President's Speeches Point to Wisdom of Preparation.

In the series of speeches which the president made on his tour especial stress is laid on the enlargement of the navy. For the first time Mr. Roosevelt is publicly discussing the proposed transfer of the United States fleet to the Pacific. The movement, he declares, is the result of a new policy he hopes will be made permanent, the policy of shifting the fighting ships now and then from one ocean to the other, not only for the invaluable practice such voyages will give, but also for the strategic advantages of demonstrating the mobility of the navy. After the completion of the canal this policy could be very easily maintained, but it will be less urgent than now. In the meantime the president has made it clear that the first of these fleet tours is to be for the benefit of the navy and that the ships will be returned to the Atlantic in due time. Thus he refutes the theory that they are to remain permanently in the Pacific that new vessels are to be built in the Atlantic to take their places.

On the other hand, the president urges more strongly than ever before the enlargement of the navy. He calls attention to the fact that so long as the main fleet is no larger than it is now is must be moved as a unit. This being necessary, it is impossible to give adequate protection to the eastern and western coast lines at the same time. He probably does not hope to have another mighty fleet constructed, but he would have enough ships added to the navy to make it safe to divide the ships between the two oceans, especially pending the completion of the Panama canal. The arguments in favor of a larger navy are unanswerable. It takes a long time to build a battleship—longer than to fight a war such as that between Russia and Japan. There is no time to build ships when their need is once immediate. They must be prepared in time of peace if they are to be available in time of war. And the best possible way to avoid war is to be continually prepared for it.

Comparative Centralization.

There is interest, not to speak of amusement, in the reason which Mr. Bryan assigns for his stern rejection of President Roosevelt's proposition of national incorporation of railroads doing an interstate business. Mr. Bryan sees in this "the most far-reaching step for centralization proposed in this country since Hamilton submitted his plan of government," and will have none of it.

We are not prepared to endorse the president's proposition until its necessity and effectiveness are made clearer. But the unconscious humor of Bryan's objection is that whether Mr. Roosevelt's proposition is a "far-reaching step for centralization" or not. It is not half as far-reaching in that direction as would be the proposition which a certain gentleman made at the Madison Squart Garden for the government's ownership and operation of all the trung line railroads.

National incorporation of railroads would establish relations equivalent to those between the government and national banks, which, whatever else may be said of them, are so de-centralized that a large share of the banking interests are busily agitating for a big central bankers' bank. But ownership of the trunk lines by the federal government would add to the present powers of the national government all the powers, legal or illegal, of the entire railroad interest rolled into one, unrivaled in arbitrary possibilities by any existing government in the world.

Certainly the man who made that proposition is not in a very good position to accuse others of seeking centralization. Mr. Bryan may have forgotten for the moment who made the proposition, but the public may with an effort recall that his name is W. J. Bryan.

The Tariff Didn't Do This.

No doubt counsel and all others within hearing were surprised at Mr. John G. Milburn's frank statement about the placing of the Standard Oil pumping stations on the border lines of New York and Pennsylvania, and also of New Jersey and Maryland, to evade the requirements of the interstate commerce law. In each case there was no necessity to file transportation rates because the oil was sent to a part within a state. When it went over an invisible line into the next state it was again pumped to a point within a state, and it made all its trips to tide water under these short line consignments. Mr. Milburn, who is the Standard's chief counsel in the pending case, told the referee that the scheme was his. He advised it, "and I thought it was excellent advice," he added.

Probably it was, at the time it was given and for the purposes of the Standard Oil company. Mr. Milburn always gives good advice. That is why he gets such well-to-do clients as Standard Oil. The fact that he served his client to the best of his splendid abilities calls for no comment here. But when from a familiar quarter a cry goes up that the tariff is father or mother of the trusts and responsible for all their exactions and oppressions, let it be remembered that it was not the tariff that did this, nor was it a defender of the tariff that prompted or devised it. Mr. Milburn is well known as an eminent free trader and a member of the Democratic party which abhors the tariff—or thinks it does.

That's all.—Buffalo News.

A NAVAL BATTLE AT VLADIVOSTOK

MUTINEERS SEIZED A RUSSIAN TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER.

FIRED ON FORTS AND SHIPS.

A Number of Men Were Killed and Wounded Before the Mutinous Crew Were Forced to Beach Their Disabled Craft.

Vladivostok. — An exciting little naval battle took place in this harbor Wednesday between the mutinous crew of a Russian torpedo boat destroyer and their loyal comrades. The mutineers were finally subdued, but not before a number of men had been killed or wounded.

The mutinous boat is the Skory, and she gave fight to the gunboat Mandsur, the destroyers Garsovoz, Smely and Serditz and the garrison in one of the harbor forts, manned by the Twelfth regiment of artillery. The Skory soon was overwhelmed and she had to be beached to save her from sinking. This was not accomplished, however, before her guns had done considerable damage and several officers and men of the other ships had been killed or wounded.

The crew of the Skory were incited by agitators, including some Jews, who had managed to get on board and take charge of the destroyer. She steamed out into the harbor with the red flag flying and at once opened fire on the town and forts. A gunboat and three destroyers went out to engage her, and with the aid of the forts soon had the Skory riddled and helpless. She then turned and ran through the surf and was beached. Those members of the crew who had not been killed or wounded by the gun fire were arrested by soldiers as they made their way to land.

Among the men killed are Capt. Kurosch, commander of the torpedo boat Ravy, and Lieut. Stoer, commander of the Skory. Lieut. Vassilief, commanding the Serditz, was wounded. Several people in Vladivostok were killed by shells from the Skory.

A TOBACCO WAR IN KENTUCKY.

Growers are Lined Up in Opposition to Buyers—No Crop to be Raised Next Year.

Louisville, Ky. — With "peaceful armies" of invasion in the dark tobacco regions and the burley growers having reached a decision not to raise any crop next year, the tobacco situation in Kentucky appears to be serious. From the western end of the state, and especially in the Green river and the Henderson stemming territories, reports of an unsettling nature were received Wednesday.

Bodies of growers, members of the American Society of Equity, are riding through McLean county advising buyers to quit the tobacco fields until the 1906 crop is sold and urging growers to pool their crops with the society. The same thing has been done in Daviess county, of which Owensboro is the county seat; in Henderson county, of which Henderson is the chief city, and in several other neighborhoods.

The growers are determined to carry their point, and the buyers are determined not to take any action that may be detrimental to their interests. Every warehouse of any consequence in Owensboro and Henderson is guarded by armed men and there is considerable uneasiness.

The National Association of Tobacco Growers met in Shelbyville yesterday and ratified the action of the executive committee of the Burley Tobacco Growers' association, which decided in a meeting at Winchester not to raise any tobacco next year, because of overproduction and the existing low prices for tobacco.

AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR HAZING.

Students in a North Carolina College Meet in a Free Fight.

Raleigh, N. C. — A recent case of hazing at the State Agricultural and Mechanical college here caused President Winston, of that college, to reprove the student body, and in his remarks he advised the men to fight in the open. As the result of this the freshman class sent a challenge to the sophomores to meet them for a test of prowess on the athletic field. Accordingly there was a mass fight Tuesday afternoon with about 75 on each side. Lieut. Young, U. S. A., the commandant, and members of the junior and senior classes were present and allowed no fighting on the ground, and the scrapping match passed without serious injury to any of the participants.

Wednesday afternoon the sophomores invited the freshmen to battle, when a fiercer struggle ensued and there were many injured on both sides. There were 65 men on a side and the noses of four men were broken, a number of eyes were blackened and many faces scratched. It is understood that another fight will take place to-day.

The opposing sides line up, rush at each other and fight at will, but rough and tumble tactics are barred. President Winston and Lieut. Young believe this will do away with hazing. Many friends of the college here condemn it.

Four Men Killed by an Explosion.

Pittsburg, Pa. — A premature explosion of dynamite occurred Wednesday at Venice, Pa., on the Wabash railroad where a cut is being made, and four men were killed. Two others were seriously injured. The men had been dynamiting rock when a heavy charge was set off prematurely.

City Destroyed—Many Lives Lost.

Tashkend, Turkestan.—The whole of the town of Karatagh, in Bokhara, has been destroyed and hundreds of the population were buried by a mountain slide following the recent earthquake there.

Costly Free Schools.

Immigrant (with large flock of children)—I came to this country because I heard that education here was free.

Native—My poor man, you were misinformed. To educate that family of children in this country will bankrupt you.

"My goodness! Are the terms so high?"

"Nothing is charged for the teaching; but you will have to buy about half a ton of new, standard, revised, improved, and otherwise mutilated school-books every month or two."—New York Weekly.

Parlor Magic.

Mr. Kybosh, who was in search of a late copy of a monthly magazine, absent mindedly stepped into the parlor.

He was just in time to see the young man hastily remove his arm from the back of the chair in which Miss Kitty was sitting.

"Pressed! Oh, Change!" he muttered, instantly stepping back into the sitting room.

For Mr. Kybosh remembered that he was a young man himself years ago.—Chicago News.

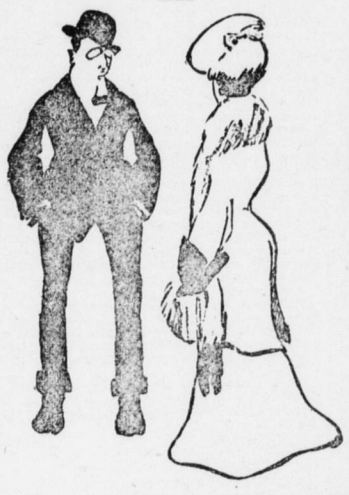
Quick Change.

Eva—Yes, that handsome young man took Edna out on the lawn to see the stars shoot. He told her every time he saw one shoot he would claim a kiss. She blushed and said she hoped none of them would shoot.

Katherine—The idea! Did she keep up that sentiment all the evening.

Eva—Oh, no. Later on when all the stars had been exhausted we heard her ask the young man if there was any chance of the moon shooting—Chicago News.

THE MUSICAL CRITIC.



"I am surprised, sir, that you write criticism of concerts you do not attend!"

"What's the difference, madam? I don't know anything about music anyway!"—Jugend.

One-Sided.

"You should give us credit for good intentions," said Mr. Dustin Stax.

"Yes," answered the discontented citizen, "but we consumers get tired of being constantly called on to give credit when we are invariably required to produce cash."—Washington Star.

A Logical Difficulty.

"Pa, how do they indict a man who makes bad money?"

"The same way they indict other people. Why do you ask?"

"But if the money is counterfeit, how can the grand jury find a true bill?——Baltimore American.

A Drawback.

"I wish my teeth were not so regular," sighed the young woman regarding herself pensively in the glass. "Every time I smile when I'm talking to Harry, he looks as if he wondered how much they cost."

The Literary Test.

"Do you think the flying machine will ever be a success?"

"A success!" echoed the scientific author. "Why, it's already a success. The magazines are full of it."—Washington Star.

Qualified.

Editor—No, take it away. I don't buy poetry.

Poet—Well, all the editors who have read this say it isn't. Won't you look at it, sir?

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