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ANTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., ASSECOND-CLASS HAID MATTER. SCRANTON, MAY 8, 1899.

The toad which tried to puff itself up to the dimensions of an elephant puffed a little way and then exploded. The lesson of its sad example should be studied by the promoters of trusts.

Firemen's Day.

That Scranton needs a paid fire department goes without saying; and if then reports be true that in certain instances in the past men who have served as volunteer firemen have been docked in pay by their employers for the time spent in fighting flames, the need of establishing a just system of remuneration for this perilous branch of the

public service is doubly pressing. Today's parade, if it shall be like the parages of the past, will emphasize the excellence of the local volunteer department; but instead of rewarding that department merely by means of applause on review occasions the people of Scranton, the direct beneficiaries, should determine to establish the fire department on a paid, regular basis, in keeping with the importance of its responsibilities and in recognition of its worth.

Not until the firemen of Scranton are paid for their labors will justice be done

Unterrified office-seekers have about lost confidence in the local Democratic slot machine.

An Efficient Administrator.

The prediction of Senator Depew that five years hence Theodore Roosevelt will ride into the white house on a tidal wave may or may not be realized. Should it not be, the name of Roosevelt will nevertheless be recognized by every fair-minded American as a synonym for personal integrity, patriotism and courage and the public career of this intrepid soldier and reformer will in its main features and especially in its guiding principles be for all time to come an inspiration to American manhood.

Recause of the undiminished popular interest in this picturesque personality we give room elsewhere to an appreclative review of the first four months of Roosevelt's administration as governor of New York. This article speaks for itself and is worthy of careful perusal. It perhaps exaggerates the friction between Roosevelt and the socalled New York state Republican "machine" or party organization. The impresssion, prevalent among a certain class of people, that political organizations are necessarily "rotten" and necessarily hostile to the appearance of clean-cut and incorruptible men in public life, is more often erroneous than accurate. Especially is it inaccurate, we think, in regard to the and Senator Platt. A class of newspapers has tried to paint Platt black by hinting at quarrels between him and the governor, ascribed to the governor's refusal to take dishonorable orders. This kind of literature is credited only by those who do not know much about politics and the relations existing between public men. Platt himself has said that he greatly admires Roosevelt, because, unlike some men he had known, Roosevelt is always outspoken and sincere; his word can be depended upon; one can always know just where to find him. This characteristic of manliness is not displeasing to men like Platt, so-called professional politicians. They respect it even when it differs from them in views of duty. They can get along with it far better than with the snakein-the-grass type of artful schemer which is many persons' idea of what a "machine" politician is.

The great merit in Roosevelt is his common sense, which is so uncommon among professional reformers. An example may be cited in his treatment of the civil service problem. There is in this country no firmer advocate of civil service reform, and yet he does not make the subject appear foolish by londing it down with a lot of nonsense. Under his directions the civil service of New York state has been practically recast, but the change has been wholly with the purpose in view of better fitting the public employes to their respective places. Examinations of no consequence have been abandoned and practical examinations bearing directly on the specific duties of the office sought have been substituted. There was a time in New York state, and not long ago, when candidates for deputy factory inspectors, janitorships, etc., were asked questions like these;

1. If the Spanish ambassador should be assaulted in the streets of Washington what court would have jurisdiction to try the case? Explain concerning the composition, election or appointment and the term of office of such court.

2. Mention five constitutional powers of

3. Is a citizen of the United States nec-essarily a citizen of any particular state? Explain your answer. 4. Distinguish between murder and manslaughter; larceny and robbery. How is each punished?

5. In the purchase of real estate, what precautionary steps should be taken? Mention one way in which the constitution of New York may be amended.
 Explain the composition and the du-

ties of a grand jury.

3. What is necessary in order to impeach a public officer in the state of New State three functions of govern ment and illustrate each in the government of a country.

10. How are contested elections decided in the case of legislative officers?

Here were questions no more pertinor the care of public buildings in New York state than to the government of Kamchatka. Under Roosevelt's direction such questions as these have been reserved for college students and professional reformers, and an entirely different kind asked. Recently a janitor in a state building had to be ap-

were the questions asked under the Roosevelt regime: 1. State generally what you consider to

be the duties of the position you are te-ing examined for. 2. Describe any building of which you have been flanter, indicating size of building, number of stories and rooms. purpose for which used, nature of care given, number and kind of elevators, heating apparatus, closets, etc. 3. What care should be taken of water closets and urinals?

4. How would you care for and clean a rdwood floor How would you tell a good soap for

uning purposes? Name five other supplies desirable to be kept on hand for cleaning purposes and state for what and how each is used. s. Suppose you found a defect or break in the plumbing of a building of which you were in charge. Write a report to the superintendent of buildings stating the case concisely, yet fully, assuming such facts as you choose.

 Do you know any tests for leaks in gas pipes or plumbing? If so, describe to How should stoves and stovepipes he cared for when not in use during the 11. What is the purpose of stove black-

Of what does it consist and how is It best applied? 12. How would you treat a coal stove that emits coal gas?

The ability to use common sense in public administration is very rare. Roosevelt has it and he has also rare qualities of energy, courage and personal honor. It is a good sign when the public keeps its eye fastened upon such a man.

A good deal of unnecessary worrying is being done over the future of he is competent to take care of him-

An Interesting Tussle with a Trust. In 1891 the legislature of Missouri enacted a law containing the proviso that any purchaser of any article or commodity from any individual, company. or corporation transacting business contrary to the preceding sections of this act, shall not be liable for the price or payment of such article or commodity, and may plead this act for such price or payment." The preceding sections here spoken of were calculated to outlaw combinations or trusts.

Some time ago the S. E. Grote paint store in St. Louis refused to pay to the National Lead company, or "lead trust," a bill amounting to \$1,700, which it had contracted for paint purchased. The refusal was based on the argument that the National Lead company, although holding a corporation charter, was practically a monopoly formed to control prices and as such was outlawed under the act cited above. When tried before the local court, the lead company's suit against the St. Louis paint store was successful, but upon reversed the lower court and held that the anti-trust act of 1891 is constitutional. In announcing the reversal the Appellate court said: "The crucial question in this case is whether the plaintiff corporation, either in its organization or business operation in this state, has offended any of the provisions of its laws. That the predecessor of the plaintiff, the National Lead trust, was an unlawful combination both in purpose and in fact, is sufficiently established by the nature of the in the executive chamber. agreement under which it was created and the methods and practices resorted are discretion, tact and diplomacy that and the methods and practices resorted to in furtherance of that agreement." After pointing out the identity of the National Trust company and the National Lead company, the court says: "A combination which is illegal under the anti-trust law cannot be operated under the cloak of a corporation by its constituent members or governing bodies."

The foregoing decision is an interesting one as showing the power of state legislatures to regulate combinations for the restraint of trade. But practically the decision amounts to little. If the National Lead company cannot collect bills in Missouri it can at least go-as-you-please style. Tod sell paint for spot cash; and the ad-thing soes as by clockwork. sell paint for spot cash; and the advantage of having a legal excuse for demanding cash with orders will probably outweigh the disadvantages in the curtailment of its ability to give

In the meantime it is a pleasure to note that Cecil Rhodes' confidence in himself appears to be undiminished.

Expert Advice.

The timely paper contributed to the North American Review this month by General Leonard Wood upon the existing conditions and needs in Cuba deserves to be pondered carefully by the authorities at Washington. In a thoroughly judicious yet entirely candid manner it voices a criticism of the administration's present course in Cubawhich certain other American students of the Cuban problem are voicing more boisterously. "What is needed in Cuba at present," he says. "is a firm but liberal and just government of the people, for the people and by the people, under American military supervision, for the time being: this supervision to extend only to such time as the civil government shall have become fully established and running smoothly. What is to be avoided, above all things, is militarism, military pedantry, unelastic methods and any continuance of the old Spanish system of multitudinous office holders, filling unnecessary offices and rendering practically no return for the salaries paid them." General Wood goes on to say that our army is not in Cuba to suppress the civil law and civil rights, but to sustain them and that the military power should be subordinate, so far as possible, to the civil power, and avoid interference save in serious

emergencies. "There is," he adds, "another point which cannot be too strongly impressed upon our own people, and that is the absolute necessity of keeping Americans and all others than the inhabitants of the island of Cuba out of office in Cuba. We want an absolutely open, honest, clean-handed policy in dealing with the people of this island. The military governors in the different ent to the proper inspection of factories | provinces, assisted by their officers and such civilians as they may have on their immediate staffs, are absolutely all that are required, except possibly one collector in each custom-house, so long as we are directly responsible for the revenues. The appointments of Americans to office here, except as above stated, is regarded by the people

here to teach them to govern them selves, it would seem that the best way to begin is by letting them try, standing here ourselves simply to supervise, and, if necessary, check, when

we see af 'irs going wrong." General Wood has had more and better opportunities to speak knowingly on these points than any other Amertean official now in Cuba. The record he has made is a monument to his practical discernment and capability He pays a high tribute to the Cuban people, says the prevalent theory that they will not work is false, maintains that they are capable of learning selfgovernment very rapidly if taken in hand in a kindly and manly manner, and expresses his confidence in the ability of a very few American soldiers -not over a regiment in each province -to do all that is necessary in the way of ballasting things while a permanent independent government is being constructed on the basis of provincial autonomy with federal relations, But the great need, he insists, is to dispense with military red tape and get down at once to a policy of helping the better Cubans to do their own governing in as nearly their own way as is compatible with the ultimate success of the experiment. Wood has governed Santiago province in this way and made an inspiring success of it. He ought therefore to be qualified to give good advice.

Talk of an extra session of congress receives no confirmation at the white General Miles. Miles has shown that house. The president has anxieties

> A change has just taken place in the French ministry of war. Critics of Alger will take new courage.

Theodore Roosevelt Practical Reformer.

OVERNOR ROOSEVELT'S administration has passed the period of infancy and it is now possible to make at least a partial estimate of the man and his
k. It must be confessed that
in Theodore Roosevelt assumed ofon January 1 last the outlook was not favorable for a successful adminis-The leaders of the Republican state machine secretly hoped he would be defeated at the polls. Foiled in that they laid plans to discredit him. They figured that, independent as he is, he would take the bit between his teeth and set out to defy the machine. In that event, it was planned to have the machino legislature "put him in a hole." If on the other hand, the governor showed disposition to cater to the machine it was decided to take the fullest advan-tage of such yielding and load him down appeal the Circuit Appellate court has with the very worst of partisan employes and to indirectly discredit his adinistration by partisan legislation of the rankest sort.

> Now that the legislature has adjourned nd the work of the last four months is dispassionately reviewed it can be very plainly stated that Theodore Roosevelt has completely foiled the plotters. He has been independent; he has instituted many reforms; he has appointed machine men to office, it is true, but he has appointed men of the highest standing character, men whom the machine would never have thought of recom-mending had a machine governor been In doing all cannot be accused of had faith or double dealing with the machine. Nev-ertheless, because of its shortsightedness and failure to gauge popular sentiment, the governor has practically demoralized the aforesaid machine, while the people stand with the executive and trust him as an honest man. In short Governor Roosevelt has developed into what his warmost admirers never expected—a practicel politician of high order and high character, paradoxical as that may eem. It will doubtless be of interest to the general public to learn something of how this has been done.

The first day Governor Roosevelt took office he began to systematize the business in the executive chamber which had hitherto been conducted on a hap-hazard-Today every The govrnor is at his office early in the morning. Two or three hours are devoted to sing of correspondence and they are not lide hours. The governor is a rapid thinker and a lightning dictator. He eing the senators and assemblymen. Not in years has there been more free-dom of intercourse between executive and individual legislaters than this year. While their views might not always jibe, still full and free discussion was always had. In this connection another innovaion should be noted. In the past no rule was observed for receiving visitors in the executive chamber and favored poliicians or others often kept those who and business to transact waiting. Since lovernor Roosevelt took office an apointment book is kept and if any one, matter what his station, wishes to see e governor he must make his appointent with the military secretary who ssigns him to a certain hour and minte, giving him a card to designate the ime and the length of his stay with the xecutive. As each visitor's time is up e is bowed out and the next gentlemen's card is sent in. 'The arrangement has been galling to the politicians, but it has pleased the general public because no one has had an advantage, all are treated alike and it has been possible for even the humblest to see and talk with

From 11 until 11.15 a. m. was given up o seeing the legislative correspondents o a body. This was a distinct innevain a body. This was a distinct inhova-tion at Albany and one that disgusted the politicians; still it was one of the shrewdest moves that Theodore Roose-velt ever made. In the past the fifty or sixty representatives of the state press at the capital were forced to await the easure and caprices of the governor, was on but rare coeasions that they saw the executive and generally had to rely upon the private secretary for their news. Since January 1 all the correpondents have been welcome at the excutive chamber at 11 a. m. and 4.45 p. very day. The doors were closed to all other visitors, no matter who walted. The newspaper men usually drew up in a semi-circle with the governor in the enter. He relaxed official dignity and told the scribes all that had happened during the hours since their last meet-ing. This "news" included what politicians he had seen, what they wanted, what they suggested, what he himself had agreed to, etc. There were few if had agreed to, etc. There were few if any reservations. The only restrictions imposed were that the governor should not be directly quoted in what was "written up" and that when he imposed secrecy nothing whatever should be printed. It is to the credit of the legislative correspondents' corps that not one of them ever broke the confidence thus Had it been otherwise the offender would have been sent to Coventry by his indignant associates.

When the governor had finished detail-ing his budget of news he usually turned the tables and interviewed the corre spondents. It was his cristom to ask about the prospects of legislation on particular subjects, the good faith of the leaders on certain matters, the general impression concerning this or that indipointed under civil service rules. These as a great injustice; and, if we are vidual or bill, etc. Each correspondent

felt perfectly free to "speak out in meet-in" and air his views, knowing well in" and air his views, knowing wenthat he was among men who would not betray confidence. After the interviewing was over the governor often entering was over the governor often cher-tained the newspaper men with rendins-cences of his western life, his Washing-ten experiences and his Cuban career. Not unfrequently he would "take off" some of his political callers and do it inimitably as he is an admirable mimic and possesses a keen sense of humor and of the ridiculous. Frequently he re-marked that he knew of no amusement in the world to equal playing American in the world to equal playing American politics, provided one had a sense of hu-mor. The governor was at his best with the reporters and many times said that he looked, forward to the few minutes with the newspaper men because he always felt he was with friends, with mer whom he could trust. For their part all the newspaper men liked Theodore Roosevelt. One reason was they were all treated impartially. Although several of the Albany correspondents were with the governor all through the Cuban war and last fall's campaign, they were shown no partiality and received no greater or better news tips than the correspondents whom he met for the first time last Jan-uary. Among the souvenirs the reporters will treasure are several flashlight photographs of the dally newspaper audi-ence, with the governor in the center of

Another innovation of the governor wa

a weekly meeting with the other state officers at which departmental needs and affairs are gone over in detail and plans mapped out for better serving the public, greater economy, etc. It is due to Governor Rooseveit's firm stand that all the total departments are today on a busistate departments are today on a busi-ness basis instead of running along with increasing annual deficits which are up in large part the yearly appropriations He has also been the first governor in years to attend meetings of the board of regents and of the managers of the Sol-diers' home at Bath, of which the execu-tive is a member ex-officio. If the governor has his way there will be a rational and practical public educational system in place of the present dual and divided system that now prevails. In his appointments Governor Roosevelt has placed men in office whom he can trust and in whom the public has confidence. He has exacted of them but one pledge that of discharging their duties so as to best conserve the public interests so far as their knowledge and capacity permits He has adjured them not to appoint unit men to office not even if recommended by himself. In most instances his appointees have been indersed by the ma chine leaders, after they had vainly tried to bring about the selection of their own favorites and henchmen. In this way the machine has not been ignored, neither can its leaders say they have not been consulted. Nevertheless Superintendent of Public Works Partridge, for instance will not be dictated to by the machine as to his subordinate employes. Al though the machine did not relish the relection of Avery D. Andrews, a reform Democrat, for the important position of adjutant general, they had to submit and the same is true of other selections

It is due to Governor Roosevelt's in sistence that the Black starchless civil service law has been repealed; that the primary law has been amended in decrat shape; that the anti-sweatshop law the one to increase the powers of the state factory inspectors are now upon the statute books; in short, all the re form measures passed by the legislature of 1899 are directly due to the efforts of the governor. Early in the year the governor became impressed with the neces sity of enacting some law to tax fran public streets and so advised the leaders of the Republican party. They disagreed with him on the plea that it would operate to the disadvantage of th corporations who were heavy contribu-tors to the Republican campaign fund The governor replied that the Republicar party could not afford to be always or the side of the corporations and that I paid for a political party to respond to public sentiment once in a while. Although Senator Ford's bill was admit tedly crude, the corporations could be asked to suggest amendments that would make it equitable to all parties. But a franchise tax of some sort must come

There is a false impression abroad in reference to the governor's position re-garding police legislation. Last December when the Republican state leaders suggested grabbing the New York police force by means of a metropolitan police district composed of Greater New York and three or four adjacent countles to be presided over by a commissioner of superintendent appointed by the gover-nor, Mr. Roosevelt said emphatically that he would not stand sponsor for any such plan because it would be a direct violation of home rule. He would stand for a single-headed police commission for the metropolis, appointments to be made by the mayor with power of removal lodged in the governor; or he would take a bill for a state police force. In short he would accept any measure that would take the police out of politics, while frowning on any attempt to grab the police force for the absolute profit of th keeps two stenographers busy. From 10 Republican party. After laboring in vai to 11 o'clock all winter was set aside for to induce the governor to change his po sition, the leaders yielded and introduc the bill for a single-headed commission in New York. As will be recalled this failed because of the defection of Senators Wilcox and Coggeshall. Then cam the state police bill which the governo was quoted as favoring. This was not absolutely correct. While the governor believed and still believes in the principle of state centrol of the police, he doubted the expediency of passing the bill from a party standpoint. He believes the state should administer and control the police of the entire state and that the should be borne by the state. However Senator (Platt and the other leader, thought it inexpedient to pass the bill this year and the governor yielded to their judgment, as he has invariably done where the question of party expediency was involved, not principle. this very plain to individual legislator, who asked him frankly what they should do. He told them to act as they though best and as their constituents desired, assuring them that they would not incur his personal disfavor if they voted against the bill.

Politically speaking, Governor Roose veit has intrenched himself strongly. His firm stand has aroused a spirit of independence that has not been manifest in years at Albany. Corporation attorneys have not had the ear of the executive The state capitol is no longer a haven for the heelers and henchmen. Honesty, fair dealing, economy in state business, no special favors, is the watchword at Albany this year.

TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus,

Astrolabe Cast: 2.34 a. m., for Monday, May 8, 1839. A child born on this day will take great nterest in fire departments; especially the organizations that are well supplied

for this day. The firemen will parade. According to market and other reports the onion crop continues to strength.

A well dressed rough is often received good society, but he is a bore just the ame to all save the tondies. A good woman will always listen to the dvice of her husband but her though!

iesigns in summer suits. The individual who knows how to d everything usually appears to best ad-vantage in telling others.

Ajacchus' Advice. Young men matrimonially inclined hould remember that in most cases it is easier to get a wife than the furniture

BY WAY OF JEST.

Ornithological.

'Why so very late, George?'
"Eas'ly 'splained, m' dear. Th' love of na-nature detained m-me. I was lookin' for th' firs' robin of sp-spring." "Are you sure it was a robin. George?" "Course I'm sure."
"Wasnt it several swallows?"—Cleve-land Plain Dealer.

Stranger-And every man who is guilty of leze majesty is liable to go to jail? Native—Yes, but we manage to send ome of them to the reichstag.-Puck. What Hurt.

"What's the matter?" asked the friend. "You're not augry because that man accused you of being the political boss of "That isn't what he said," replied the indignant citizen. "He intimated that I wasn't the boss."—Washington Star.

REXFORD'S,

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The Tribune Astrologer.

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will generally be centered upon the lates

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A gentleman in New York City who had been using Bloans Tabules with

beneficial and satisfactory results, recently cent some to his mother, living on a farm

three miles from Newburgh, N. Y. He said he thought they would benefit her. She

is 73 years old and has for a long time suffered from various ailments that have

rendered her more feeble than she naturally would be even at that age. Her most

annoying trouble was frequent dizzy spells, and when one of them came upon her

she could not walk across a room. The beneficial results she experienced from

Ripans Tabules are best expressed in words used in a letter to her son. She said:

"I feel as though I had taken on a new lease of life. My poor old head feels as

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I will not be without them again-never!"

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