

TWO CENTS.

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HAS SANCTION OF HISTORY

The Caucus Is Pronounced an Indispensable Adjunct to Party Government.

AID TO MAJORITY RULE

What the Custom Has Been in the Past in Determining Unity of Party Choice for Elective Offices. Difference Between a Caucus and a Conference—Rule of the Majority the Corner Stone of Our Form of Government.

Special to The Tribune.

Harrisburg, Dec. 25.—The following statement has been issued by the regulars or organization Republicans concerning the merits of the party caucus:

Certain insurgents and newspapers in Pennsylvania are busily engaged in an effort to induce the Republican party to abandon the caucus method of selecting candidates for office, and to elect candidates by the caucus system. They argue with much heat and little reason of knowledge. One of these disputants for disorganization, E. F. Johnson, goes so far as to misquote the constitution, and to say that the majority of the Republicans in the legislature would be "for the sole purpose of enabling the minority of the legislature to dictate to the majority in the choice of a candidate for office."

It is possible to imagine anything further from the sober fact than that absurd statement? Who composes the "minority" referred to by the insurgent? Is it the entire membership of the majority of the Republicans in the legislature, who compose the "majority" to which the "minority" is supposed to be pining to "dictate in the choice of a candidate for office?" The Democrats in the legislature and a small faction minority of the Republicans, and in this case an actual minority of the whole body of legislators.

A Government of Majorities.

Consider certain controlling primary principles of politics, such as the right to elect the kindergarten, and which our opponents either failed to learn or conveniently choose to forget. Ours is a government of majorities. The rule of the majority is the fundamental principle of our government, the corner stone of the fabric of our institutions. Our president is chosen by a majority in the electoral college; our governors and congressmen by majority vote; our judges by the majority of the United States senators by a majority of the legislature, and our laws, national, state and municipal, are enacted by majorities. Existing institutions are the result of the majority of political parties into which the people freely divide, and sometimes one and sometimes another of these political parties is in power. A political party is a collection of men holding the same general views upon public affairs and acting together for the purpose of influencing those views upon the policy and conduct of the government. The majority of political parties in the government, and sometimes one and sometimes another of these political parties is in power. A political party is a collection of men holding the same general views upon public affairs and acting together for the purpose of influencing those views upon the policy and conduct of the government. The majority of political parties in the government, and sometimes one and sometimes another of these political parties is in power. A political party is a collection of men holding the same general views upon public affairs and acting together for the purpose of influencing those views upon the policy and conduct of the government.

An Indispensable Proposition.

Whitridge arrives at these conclusions not because he sought them, but because he sought them, but because as an honest and intelligent student of political history he could not arrive at any other conclusions. Government by party means government by majority. That is the indispensable proposition. Equally indispensable is it that the principle of majority rule must be extended to the party itself. That is an inevitable corollary of government by majority rule.

First, the majority rules in the government, and, secondly, the majority controls in the party. To dispute these conclusions is to dispute the fact, first, that the majority rules, or ought to rule, in the government, and, secondly, that the minority controls, or ought to control, in the party. This is a fact, and it is a fact to which the arguments of the opponents of the caucus logically reduce themselves.

The Caucus in Congress.

It is loudly claimed by the anti-caucus advocates in their desperate efforts to sustain an untenable position that the Republican party in congress has abandoned the caucus. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are simply confusing two very different sorts of party meetings, in order to throw dust in the eyes of the people. Two kinds of party meetings are recognized by the members of both political parties in both branches of congress. One is a caucus, the other a conference. They are held for different purposes, and to conduct different matters, and the difference between them is as clear and plain as sunlight to all save those who have eyes as not. A caucus is always held to nominate a candidate for office, and it is binding upon every member of the party. The test of party fealty in congress, in both houses and with both parties, consists in attending the party caucus and abiding by the result. This is a plain, simple, unadorned statement of fact—nothing more, nothing less. A conference is held to consider matters of proposed legislation and for that purpose only, and it is always stated in advance that its action will not be binding, and therefore no test of party fealty is involved by a conference. The speaker of the house, the president pro tempore of the senate, and the elective officers of the two houses are invariably selected by a caucus of the party having a majority held in advance of the election. The selections thus made become the candidates of the party, and every member of the party is required to vote for the candidates so named under penalty of loss of party standing.

SAYS CHINA WANTS PEACE

Prince Ching's Comment in Receiving Preliminary Joint Note of the Powers.

LI HUNG CHANG ABSENT

His Credentials and an Excuse Presented by His Colleague—Contents of the Note to Be Immediately Communicated to the Emperor and a Speedy Reply Promised—French Punitive Expedition Has a Brush with a Party of Boxers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Peking, Dec. 25.—The preliminary joint note was delivered today to the Chinese. Li Hung Chang found that he was unable to attend the meeting of the ministers and his credentials and those of Prince Ching were presented by the latter to the foreign envoys.

Prince Ching replying to the Spanish minister, Senor B. J. DeColagon, who presented the note, said he would immediately communicate its contents to the emperor and assured the ministers that a speedy reply was the desire of the court. As it felt that all China wants peace and prosperity.

Tien Tsin, Dec. 25.—A French detachment of one hundred men left here Dec. 20 for Hung Tsai, twenty miles westward, to search for arms. Approaching a village across a frozen creek, a force of Boxers opened fire, killing Lieutenant Cental and wounding another officer. The French burned the village.

MILLIONS TO BE IN SUMATRA TOBACCO

Experiments Show That It Can Be Grown in Connecticut at a Net Profit of \$900 an Acre.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Milton Whitney, chief of division of soils of the agricultural department, reports a successful termination of experiments conducted in co-operation with the Connecticut experiment station in the production of Sumatra tobacco near Hartford. One-third of an acre was planted under a cheese-cloth shade nine feet high, and cultivated and fermented under the direction of M. L. Floyd, tobacco expert of the department. The yield of cured tobacco was seven hundred pounds, making an estimated yield for one acre of 2,100 pounds. The crop has just been sold by L. B. Haus & Co., of Hartford, to Mitchell & Hibbard, of Kansas City, for \$173.07, making an estimated value for one acre of \$1,431. The cost of production, including the whole cost of the shade—the frame for which will last five years—will not exceed \$500 per acre, leaving a net profit of over \$900 per acre. This was an average price of 71 cents per pound. The crop grown in the same field without shade, and fermented in the same way, yielded about the same quantity and brought 27 cents per pound, or at the rate of \$507.57 per acre. Deducting the cost of cultivation, fertilization and treating, this would leave a profit of about \$900 per acre.

The ordinary crop of the Connecticut valley brings the farmer about 20 cents per pound, or \$350 per acre and, deducting the cost of expenses, leave a profit of about \$250 per acre. The Sumatra tobacco, grown under shade, has been submitted to New York and Philadelphia business men, and has been pronounced entirely satisfactory and fully equal to imported Sumatra. These facts—taken in connection with the award at the Paris exposition of two points for the Florida grown Sumatra over that given for the imported Sumatra—show that we can grow Sumatra tobacco of the highest quality in this country and save our farmers between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000, which is now sent abroad annually for the foreign-grown leaf. This work has been submitted to the horticultural department of the Connecticut valley two years ago and similar results can be expected. The soils and climatic conditions are similar to those in the Connecticut valley and Florida.

HANNA PUNCTURES THE LOBBY STORY

No Unfair Efforts Are Being Taken, He Says, to Secure Adoption of the Ship Subsidy Bill.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Cleveland, Dec. 25.—Senator Hanna was informed today of a statement, which is in circulation to the effect that there was a powerful lobby in favor of the subsidizing of American shipping at the Philadelphia convention and in Washington.

"The only lobby of that kind I know anything about," was the senator's reply, "was a lobby of steamship companies, which is trying to defeat the bill. There was no lobby at Philadelphia at all. The subsidy bill is a business measure and there is no desire to force it through congress. We want it to go through on its merits. It has been three years in preparation and has been amended twenty times. The president in all his messages has urged the necessity of some such measure and it was made a plank in the St. Louis platform and the Philadelphia platform. The details are left to congress to work out."

IS THIS A FIX-UP?

Alleged Discovery in Kentucky State House Which Looks Queer.

CHRISTMAS IN MANY LANDS

Interesting Features of Its Celebration as Gleaned in Various Countries.

JOLLITY WORLD WIDE

Wife of the President of France Gave 7,000 Francs to Needy Widows—In Russia Prince and Peasant Dined Alongside in Newly Opened People's Palace—President McKinley Passed the Day Quietly in His Family Circle—Other Ways of Celebrating.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 25.—One of the clerks in the state legislature while searching the vault for old records today, found a cartridge box containing eight metal patched smokeless powder cartridges, thirty-eight fifty-five caliber, corresponding exactly to the bullet found in the tree and which was believed to have passed through Senator Goebel's body.

The significance of the discovery lies in the fact that Henry Youtsey, convicted of participation in the Goebel assassination in October, was a clerk in the auditor's office at the time of the assassination, and had access to the vault where the cartridges were found, and that George Barnes, another clerk in the office, testified he saw Youtsey with a box of cartridges.

FOX HUNTER THROWN AND NECK IS BROKEN

Tragic Ending of a Cross Country Ride to Join the Celebrated Chester Valley Hunt.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 25.—While riding cross country to join the Chester Valley hunt today, Henry L. Wilbur, aged forty-two years, son of H. O. Wilbur, the well-known coach and chocolate manufacturer of this city, was thrown from his horse and killed on the farm of A. J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, near Valley Forge.

Mr. Wilbur, who lived at Bryn Mawr, started out on a magnificent horse, accompanied by T. N. McCartney, another huntsman. They were too late for the start at Stafford, a suburb of this city, where the thirty-four hounds were released. The two men caught sight of the forward fox hunters on the Cassatt farm and galloped at great speed to catch up with them. On the farther side of the property there is a three-foot rail fence and beyond this a ditch. Mr. Wilbur's horse took the obstruction easily, but in landing beyond the ditch one of the horse's forward legs struck into a small hole, and he was thrown headlong to the ground, where he lay unconscious. He was hurried toward Devoa, but his condition grew worse and he died in a farm house. The exact cause of death is not known, but it is believed to have occurred from a broken neck. He leaves a widow.

STATE DEPARTMENT IS MAKING MONEY

It Collects Fees Nearly Twice Its Annual Expenses—Secretary Griest's Views Upon Ballot Reform.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, Dec. 25.—A summary of the business transacted by the state department during the past two years is furnished by Secretary Griest in his annual report to Governor Stone. During this period 1,439 charters were granted under the corporation act of 1871, and charters were granted to 81 locomotive railroads and 127 street railroads. There were 1,175 commissions issued from Dec. 1, 1896, until Dec. 1, 1900. Secretary Griest says there has been a growth during the past two years in the number of papers filed which nearly doubled the work of the office, all of which was accomplished without an increase in the number of employees. The department is now not only on a secure self-sustaining basis, but is a source of revenue to the state, the collection of fees alone being \$79,000 in excess of the ordinary expenses of the office during the period covered by the report.

The secretary says that corporate actions now pending indicate that during the incoming year the bonus collections through the provisions of the act of May 3, 1896, will be double the collections of the year just closed, thereby making those collections nearly 15 per cent more than the year before. He says an adequate remedy should be devised and applied to prevent errors in transferring bills and that the rooms occupied by the department, although completed for occupancy but seven years ago, are inadequate.

He says also that the present ballot system has been almost wholly unsatisfactory to the state department by reason of the complexity and ambiguity of those provisions which devolve duties on that office and the contrivance of judicial interpretations placed upon them. "Inasmuch, however," he adds, "as legislative consideration will be given this subject during the approaching session, I refrain from comment or recommendation other than to say that a ballot enactment which will combine the simplicity of the old system with sufficient safeguards for an honest result will, in my judgment, subserve the best interests of the people of this commonwealth."

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 25.—D. H. Bacon, of Duluth, who has been president of the Minnesota Iron company for the past ten years, will on Feb. 1 resign his present position to become chairman of the board of directors of the Wisconsin Coal, Iron and Railroad company. Mr. Bacon will reside in New York city and will have the direction and management of all the departments of the company's business.

London, Dec. 25.—The Dowager Lady Churchill, who has been president of the Mansfield Iron company for the past ten years, will on Feb. 1 resign his present position to become chairman of the board of directors of the Wisconsin Coal, Iron and Railroad company. Mr. Bacon will reside in New York city and will have the direction and management of all the departments of the company's business.

Milwaukee, Dec. 25.—Colonel Henry D. Harshaw, former state treasurer of Wisconsin, died in Milwaukee today at the residence of his daughter, Colonel Harshaw's home was in Oshkosh. He served in the iron brigade during the civil war.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today.

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NEWSPAPERS OF NEXT CENTURY

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ISSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY

That Is to Say, One Immense Publishing Concern, Owning Its Own Paper Mills, Ink Foundries, Machine Shops, News Service and Plenty of Labor-Saving Machinery, Will Have Duplicate Plants in Many Cities and Control the Newspaper Field—So Says the Publisher of the London Daily Mail.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 25.—Alfred Harmsworth, editor and proprietor of the London Daily Mail, who is a passenger on the Teutonic, due in New York tomorrow, has contributed to the January number of the North American Review an article on what he calls the "Simultaneous Newspapers of the Twentieth Century." Mr. Harmsworth expresses the opinion that in spite of all the progress that has been made in the development of newspapers hitherto, we are still merely at the fringe of journalistic development.

Mr. Harmsworth takes exception to the hopelessly clumsy shape of the ordinary newspaper, "With the newspaper of the whole civilized world before me," he says, "each week I look in vain for any great and impressive stroke of originality or daring. We still cling to the clumsy and awkward shape in which our newspapers are issued, and the man who has attempted to manipulate one of them on a windy day will best appreciate the force of my remarks. By the use of improved machinery it would be possible to issue the newspaper of the future in a form—small, simple and neatly indexed publication."

Power of the Press.

The power of the press is not what it used to be, is Mr. Harmsworth's opinion. This, he says, is especially true of England, where the editorial or leader, which was formerly read and quoted by all men of intelligence, is now scarcely glanced at. The great cry is for news.

Mr. Harmsworth pays a high tribute to the press of the United States, as being, in one respect, far in advance of the press of his country. "The question," he says, "what to put before the public and in what manner to place it before them is one that calls for the keenest acumen and best judgment on the part of the newspaper director. Here, undoubtedly, the press of the United States is in advance of that of Great Britain. The instinct that tells what is news, and how the public will best take it, is not given to every writer. There is a great art in feeling the pulse of the people."

Journals of the Future.

Predicting what the journals of the twentieth century will be, he says: "I feel certain that the newspaper of the twentieth century will be drawn into the vortex of combination and centralization. In fact, given the man, the capital and special facilities, and the occasion, there seems to be no reason why one or two newspapers may not presently dominate great sections of the United States, or almost the whole of Great Britain. In other words, where there are now a multitude of papers, each with its own independent, there will then be one or two great journals. The method by which such journals would be established would be precisely those employed in the formation of the ordinary trust. Possessing its own cables, wires, dispatch boats and special trains, the simultaneous newspaper concern would soon have its own paper mills, printing ink factories, machinery shops and the like.

"The simultaneous newspaper would represent a standard of excellence which has never before been attained, and with its vast resources it would be able to carry out on an unprecedented scale enterprises outside of the strict newspaper field.

Influencing Public Opinion.

"Mr. Pulitzer's wonderful stroke of journalistic genius in connection with the bond issue, Mr. Hearst's successful appeal to the people on the war issue between the United States and Spain and the work of British newspapers in connection with the South African campaign go to show what can be done in the direction of influencing public opinion even under existing circumstances. Imagine, then, the influence which would be exerted if an overwhelming majority of the newspapers in the United States spoke with the same voice, supported the same principles and enunciated the same policy. Such a state of things would be a terror to evildoers and to the supporters of anything inimical to the commonwealth."

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Paris, Dec. 25.—Christmas-tide was favored in France by bright, cheerful weather and Parisians celebrated it in characteristic fashion. All the restaurants and cafes were crammed with festive supper parties, which did not disperse until early this morning. At midnight masses with special musical attractions filled the leading churches to overflowing. The charitable side of the festival was represented by numbers of free meals and seasonal gifts to poor families and outcasts. Madame Loubet gave 7,000 francs to be used for the relief of widows in necessitous circumstances.

In Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—The Prince of Oldenburg, president of the government temperance committee, at noon today declared the People's palace open to the public. After the inaugural ceremonies, the prince and twenty of the higher army officers, including commanding generals along with high officials, noblemen and ladies, dined side by side with peasants and the families of workmen.

President McKinley's Christmas.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Christmas was generally observed here, all of the churches holding special services. At the white house the president and Mrs. McKinley had with them as guests at dinner this evening Surgeon General and Mrs. Stevenson, Dr. and Mrs. Rice, Mrs. O. S. Hirston, General Corbin and Secretary and Mrs. Cortelyou. The president did not go to church, but he and Mrs. McKinley took two drives out into the country during the day. Secretary and Mrs. Hay, Postmaster General and Mrs. Smith and Representative Payne, of New York, called on them.

The government departments were closed and until late in the day the streets presented an almost deserted appearance.

Salvation Army Dinner.

New York, Dec. 25.—One of the chief features of Christmas day in New York city and its vicinity was the fine weather. Of all the set Christmas feasts that of the Salvation Army at Madison Square garden this evening was the largest. A bountiful Christmas dinner was served to about 4,000 persons, men, women and children. The cost was defrayed from a fund of about \$2,000, collected by the army chiefly through the efforts of which several weeks have hung from trincles in various parts of the city, to receive contributions "to keep the Christmas pot boiling."

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Mr. Harmsworth takes exception to the hopelessly clumsy shape of the ordinary newspaper, "With the newspaper of the whole civilized world before me," he says, "each week I look in vain for any great and impressive stroke of originality or daring. We still cling to the clumsy and awkward shape in which our newspapers are issued, and the man who has attempted to manipulate one of them on a windy day will best appreciate the force of my remarks. By the use of improved machinery it would be possible to issue the newspaper of the future in a form—small, simple and neatly indexed publication."

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The power of the press is not what it used to be, is Mr. Harmsworth's opinion. This, he says, is especially true of England, where the editorial or leader, which was formerly read and quoted by all men of intelligence, is now scarcely glanced at. The great cry is for news.

Mr. Harmsworth pays a high tribute to the press of the United States, as being, in one respect, far in advance of the press of his country. "The question," he says, "what to put before the public and in what manner to place it before them is one that calls for the keenest acumen and best judgment on the part of the newspaper director. Here, undoubtedly, the press of the United States is in advance of that of Great Britain. The instinct that tells what is news, and how the public will best take it, is not given to every writer. There is a great art in feeling the pulse of the people."

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"Mr. Pulitzer's wonderful stroke of journalistic genius in connection with the bond issue, Mr. Hearst's successful appeal to the people on the war issue between the United States and Spain and the work of British newspapers in connection with the South African campaign go to show what can be done in the direction of influencing public opinion even under existing circumstances. Imagine, then, the influence which would be exerted if an overwhelming majority of the newspapers in the United States spoke with the same voice, supported the same principles and enunciated the same policy. Such a state of things would be a terror to evildoers and to the supporters of anything inimical to the commonwealth."

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POSTAL EMPLOYEES STRIKE BUT LOSE

Overworked Registry Clerks in Chicago Take This Method of Calling Attention to Grievances.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—A strike among the clerks of the registry department of the postoffice department yesterday menaced for a time the prompt delivery of thousands of Christmas gifts. Extra hundreds of work were required of a score of operatives, who during the holidays have been compelled to labor fourteen hours a day. The trouble was quickly adjusted by the postoffice authorities, who suspended the leader of the strikers. The rank and file of the protesting clerks returned to their labors. Superintendent Marr, of the registry department, said:

"The mails were flooded this year and there is no other way than to make the clerks work. We are handling 10 per cent more mail than we were a year ago. I would not like to see the regular force, and I would add more but for the fact that there are no experienced hands available and I cannot break in green ones. Some of the employees complained but later returned to work and I anticipate no further trouble. The leader of the strikers refused to work any longer and of course he had to be suspended."

CAPE COLONY IS IN THE BALANCE

Energetic Steps Have Been Taken to Stem the Invasion—Danger That the Boers Will Get Through.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, Dec. 25.—The position of Cape Colony is hanging in the balance. According to the Morning Post's Cape Town correspondent, everything depends upon the quantity of ammunition in possession of the disloyal Dutch residents, 1,500 of whom have joined the Boers in the Phillipstown district alone. Energetic measures have been taken to stem the invasion, but there is unquestionably danger that parties of Boers will get through into parts of the colony and gradually raise the whole Cape into rebellion. Reinforcements can arrive none too soon.

Most of the dispatches from Cape Town, however, describe the raiders as doing little harm and as being rapidly encircled by Lord Kitchener's combination. Lord Kitchener is in the heart of the disaffected districts. He has the advantage of being personally acquainted with local conditions. Last March he supervised the suppression of the rising which occurred then. He is bringing down thousands of troops from the north.

The Standard's Cape Town correspondent says the local loyalists demand that martial law shall be proclaimed throughout Cape Colony, but adds: "Such a step is now impossible, owing to the lack of sufficient troops to enforce it."

Cape Town, Dec. 25.—Fighting is going on near De Aar. Particulars are unobtainable. Two hundred Boers have left Britstown, after commandeering all supplies available.

PROMOTION FOR D. H. BACON.

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WEATHER FORECAST.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Forecast for eastern Pennsylvania: Fair Wednesday and Thursday; probably preceded by snow. Wednesday morning in northern portion; colder in northern portion; fresh weak and dry winds.