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FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 29

FIRST AID TO DEMOCRACY  
IFFORD PINCHOT and his friends throughout the State must realize before the campaign shall have been fairly started that Mr. Pinchot can hardly figure more in the contest than as first aid to the Democracy. Even the vigorous campaign of Colonel Roosevelt could do no more than increase his friend Pinchot's efficiency as an indirect supporter of the Democratic ticket.

About all that can reasonably be expected from the third party movement in Pennsylvania is a reduction of the Republican vote. This is the hope and prayer of the Palmer-McCormick bosses, who realize that without a split of the Republican vote their cause is desperate. Already they have sought the further aid of President Wilson, but the administration is going to be of little avail in Pennsylvania this year. It is the administration which is responsible for the industrial and business conditions which prevail throughout the Commonwealth, and any appeal for the support of Palmer and McCormick as an endorsement of President Wilson's policies will only serve to accentuate the feeling of resentment which is growing more general every day.

Mr. Pinchot and his running mate, Dean Lewis, the Washington party candidate for Governor, are absolutely without hope of election. If they do not realize it now, those who are responsible for their nomination can hardly fail to appreciate this fact. Their only service in the campaign will be as aids to the Democracy, and Republicans who have been affiliated with the third party movement through their admiration for Colonel Roosevelt are not likely, even to please this magnetic leader, to again bow their backs for the Democrats to walk over them into place and power.

There is no occasion for hysteria or bitterness in discussing the situation. It is a simple proposition. The third party ticket cannot be elected and the only possible effect of a split in the Republican party would be the election of President Wilson's hand-picked candidates.

This is so obviously the fact that we can hardly imagine any considerable number of Republicans being deceived by the holding out of a prospect of Washington party success this year.

LOCAL OPTION

It seems unnecessary to make argument in favor of LOCAL OPTION. Local option stands so perfectly secure on its own square base. It imposes nothing; it restricts no individual liberty. It does not deprive a man of a right to drink whatever he pleases. It simply gives a community the right to declare whether liquor shall be sold within its borders. It simply gives the community the right to determine whether or not it regards strong waters as poison, or, if it does, whether it wants to continue their sale or not.

Local option does not curtail liberty. It increases freedom by allowing the full will of the majority to rule. It is so clear, clean-cut and American; it is so congenial to basic principles of democracy that it is not easy to understand how the Legislature can longer refuse to submit the question to the people.

WILL THEY NEVER LEARN?

FOUR young men of Harrisburg—trusted employees of one of the great express companies—have been arrested on the charge of stealing valuable goods given into their care and have confessed their guilt.

There is nothing remarkable in this. Only a month ago another young Harrisburger was sent to the penitentiary when the theft of large sums of money from the United States mails was traced to his door. The crime is of common occurrence. Most likely these very lines will fall beneath the gaze of one who has been guilty of a similar offense, whose peace of mind has vanished and whose good name and liberty, too, will soon be gone.

The matter becomes subject for comment only by reason of the constant repetition of the crime and the unvarying result. That almost every man brings with it the discovery of

some such offense is apparently no deterrent; points no lesson. The prison cell holds no terrors until the baleful shadow of the jail falls athwart the quaking culprit.

Time and money are as nothing to the government in search of a criminal, and the big express companies operate on much the same principle. Every employee of the postal service or of an express company knows this. From the moment he has crossed the line that divides honesty from dishonesty he knows that always and even a shrewd brain is planning to trap him, a keen pair of eyes are watching for him, and that sooner or later his time will come. It does come to ninety-nine out of every hundred such offenders. The persistent mail or express thief stands no more show of escaping the clutches of the law than does the wily wolf that has tasted of the blood of the farmer's flock and has lost sight of his awakening a response note in the hearts of many residents of Harrisburg and there will be still more cognizance taken of the truly memorial part of the day. More series during the month than before and the city will take a few minutes to recall those gone before. The idea of pausing in memory of the departed, coming when veterans were voicing criticism of the tendency to make the holiday without regard to the object of the creation, received a statewide impetus in a press and articles in the Philadelphia Press, and the suggestion was endorsed by Governor Stuart and the mayors of almost every city and veterans by the thousand. In some places the pause has become an official part of the day. It happens that the suggestion men who conceived the idea were well known here. Richard J. Barnes, a former resident of Scranton. That the suggestion was timely is shown by the fact that "Five minutes for memories" is a phrase known all over the state. This city was one of the first to observe the suggestion and has continued to do so. Over the state people will pause to-morrow about noon to think upon those who have gone before.

MORE STUPIDITY  
AFTER the seizure of Vera Cruz we were told that the crisis had been hastened by the determination of the Wilson administration not to permit the landing of a shipload of small arms, ammunition and rapid-fire guns consigned by a German firm to Huerta. The fight that followed cost some twenty American lives, but the country felt that the step had been wisely taken—that it would have been folly to permit Huerta to acquire this potent means of carrying on possible war against the United States.

So we took Vera Cruz and we still hold it.

Now comes word from Washington that the Wilson administration has held more than a score of big war vessels swinging idly at anchor while these same arms, over which we previously fought, have been landed down the coast a few miles and are now in the hands of President Huerta.

The flashing of the electric lights in the red globes on the new standards along Market street which is to call officers is something which is not understood by many people and furnishes an amusing incident last evening. A group had gathered about one man, who apparently had recollections of the days when the police chased away people who loitered along the curbs, called out: "Say, better move on, the red's flashin' for a cop."

Three more Sunday excursions to the State Capitol are schedule for the month and the chances are that Sunday pilgrimages to the House will become popular and regular events. When the battle flags are installed the rotunda will be a still greater point of interest for visitors. The guides are on duty on excursion Sundays and have their hands full, although as one guide put it, "They seem so much interested and so glad to get in." Sunday that we are not kicking about having to work seven days a week. We'll make that up somehow."

Speaking of the battle flags, Adjutant General Stewart says that the number of organizations for which the committee in charge of the transfer has had to select standard bearers is rather larger than expected. In many cases there was lack of an official designation made as a result survivors had to be asked for suggestions.

A number of Harrisburgers have received invitations to attend the annual picnics given to the school teachers and pupils of McKeesport by J. Dennis O'Neill, county commissioner of Allegheny. The best known figure in the political and social life of the western end of the State, O'Neill gives these picnics every year at Olympia Park and last year 45,000 people attended. It was the greatest gathering of the kind known in that part of the country and prominent citizens from near and far attended the picnics a long time ago when they have grown and grown until they are looked forward to by thousands. He pays all the bills and gets as much fun out of them as any kid. Newspaper publisher, merchant, politician and public official, Mr. O'Neill is a big man in every line.

Another gathering which attracts much attention is being given to-day at Wild Cat Falls, along the Sinquehanna. While this is pre-eminently a Lancaster county affair, it is attended by many men of prominence in Dauphin, York, Chester and other counties, men even going from Philadelphia.

Such is the undying love of a woman, and those who know Apple Mary are quite sure that she will be back in her old place watching the ships for her hero of the seas.

A FRIEND OF THE POOR

JACOB A. RII, friend of the children, is dead, but his devotion to the children of the poor will not be lost upon New York and the nation. He started his great work of reform as a newspaper reporter. One writing of him says:

He knew how to write so as to bring men's hearts when his news of oppression, poverty and hopeless ness. He compelled indifferent city officials to concede the reforms he suggested or approved them.

It was Rii who forced the destruction of rats, tenements, and thus relieved the hideous darkness and density of life among the dark tenements.

He forced the obliteration of Mulberry Bend, the worst tenement block in the city, and had the space turned into a park. He spoke the words that caused Roosevelt to abolish the police lodging houses. He fought for and secured a truant school. He drove bakeshops out of tenement basements and he demanded light for dark tenements thus illuminating the hiding places of dirt, filth and crime.

He worked for the abolition of child labor, and when a law was enacted compelled its enforcement. Playgrounds for schools and the opening of schools to boys and girls. He started the movement for flowers for the healthy, as well as for the sick poor.

Another wrote of him:

Jacob A. Rii was a power for good not only in this community, but throughout the entire nation as he was by birth and humble of antecedents. Such a struggle from obscurity to honorable usefulness made him a better citizen, and there was no better citizen than this Danish emigrant.

What greater work than this. "Even as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Jacob Rii has set an example for the world and his life will be an inspiration and help for others who would serve their fellowmen.

AN EVENING THOUGHT  
Human improvement is from within outward.—Froude.

## EVENING CHAT

While Decoration Day is a holiday and there are many events of athletic or picnic character which appear to be specially reserved for that day, there is nevertheless observable a disposition to take more note of the real object of the day than was the case a decade and even fifteen years ago. In the nineties and, indeed, for several years after 1900 the observance of the day was confined to the veterans of the Civil War with the younger men who fought in the later wars and the men active in military affairs. This day had a distinctly military flavor and respect for the ringing of the chimes of old Zion, the individual decorating of graves and the holding of a few services but little else beside the program of the veterans marked Memorial Day. But in recent years the protest of the veterans and the public has been that the object of the day is being lost sight of has awakened a response note in the hearts of many residents of Harrisburg and there will be still more cognizance taken of the truly memorial part of the day. More series during the month than before and the city will take a few minutes to recall those gone before. The idea of pausing in memory of the departed, coming when veterans were voicing criticism of the tendency to make the holiday without regard to the object of the creation, received a statewide impetus in a press and articles in the Philadelphia Press, and the suggestion was endorsed by Governor Stuart and the mayors of almost every city and veterans by the thousand. In some places the pause has become an official part of the day. It happens that the suggestion men who conceived the idea were well known here. Richard J. Barnes, a former resident of Scranton. That the suggestion was timely is shown by the fact that "Five minutes for memories" is a phrase known all over the state. This city was one of the first to observe the suggestion and has continued to do so. Over the state people will pause to-morrow about noon to think upon those who have gone before.

THE PROHIBITION PARTY

REPUBLICANS May Not Adopt at the Meeting to Be Held Here Next Wednesday

PALMER PASSES IT ALONG

Makes Morris the Burden-bearer For the Importunities of the Democrats

This year the resolutions to be adopted by the State committees will take the place of the platforms which used to be adopted by the State conventions, now done away with, and naturally there is a great interest being taken in them. The Washington party, it is understood, will rest on its declarations at the January conference and the Democrats will probably adopt a series of resolutions declaring for Wilson and the tariff without a platform ready at any time.

Just what will be done about the Republican platform is problematical and there is gossip that the adoption of resolutions may not be taken up at the meeting of the State committee next Wednesday.

Three State committees will meet here on Saturday and on Thursday. The Prohibitionists will meet at 10 a.m. in Ridge Avenue Church; the Republicans at 11:30 a.m. in Chestnut Street Hall, and the Democrats at 2 p.m. in the Board of Trade.

Thursday the Washington party committee will meet.

The locust blossoms are appearing on all sides of the city and these days is a delight to take a ride through the country roads, which are lined with the beautiful white flower of early summer. The locust blossoms profusely in this part of the country, there are farms which are bordered by the tree, the old idea that locust trees draw lightning apparently not counting for much who people consider the shade and appearance of the trees and their value for posts.

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NEWS DISPATCHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

From the Telegraph of May 29, 1864]

Shelby Moves North

Fort Smith, May 25.—Shelby crossed the river a few days ago at Paulsboro, and is moving North. General Steele has sent a force after him, and Thayer is driving him out in this section.

Army Crosses Pumunki

Washington, May 29.—A dispatch from General Grant, dated yesterday at Hanover town, has just been received by the War Department. It states that the army has successfully crossed over the Pumunki and now occupies a front about three miles south of the river.

ALWAYS INVITING

That noon-hour luncheon that is specially prepared for the busy men of Harrisburg at the Columbus Cafe is a delicious luncheon for 40 cents. The food is nicely cooked and faultlessly served. Try one of these luncheons to-morrow noon. Hotel Columbus, Third and Walnut streets.

MAYOR MCCLAIN TO BE ORATOR

Special to The Telegraph

Columbia, Pa., May 29.—Major Frank B. McClain, of Lancaster, Republican nominee for Lieutenant-Governor, will be the Memorial Day orator at Mountville, where Grand Army veterans and various secret societies will hold exercises in the cemetery.

## PLATFORMS HOLD MUCH ATTENTION

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