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FRIDAY EVENING, NOV. 26.

And Satan trembles when he sees

The weakest saint upon his knees.

-Wm. Cooper.

POLITICAL CLAPTRAP

They also state it as their belief that Governor Brumbaugh is clearly bound to rid his party of the leadership of Penrose. They say they are willing to give him all the help they can in this work.

PHILADELPHIA DISPATCH.

THIS is the sort of political guff which is being put out by mischievous makers in the Republican party.

"They" in this case refers to an alleged group of leaders in Philadelphia and elsewhere who want to involve Governor Brumbaugh in a factional mixup that will get him nowhere and simply embroil his administration in endless political controversy to the detriment of things worth while.

Governor Brumbaugh is not "bound to rid his party of the leadership of Penrose," or anybody else. He was elected to administer a great office and there is nothing in the situation to justify political turmoil instead of constructive and substantial achievement.

As for Senator Penrose, he was elected in the same year and on the same day as the Governor after an appeal to the people through the open primary. How, then, do these malcontents who are urging Governor Brumbaugh to endeavor to unhorse Senator Penrose reach the conclusion that it is any part of the Governor's duty to undo what the Republican party and the people have done?

We have no patience with the sort of clap-trap political propaganda that would injure and destroy the usefulness of Governor Brumbaugh, whose vision and heart and mind are bound up with the betterment of Pennsylvania and the development of really great policies affecting all the people.

BRYAN-WILSON BREACH

THE long-expected break between Wilson and Bryan took final shape along lines which had been easily discernible.

The President's belated espousal of some policy of national preparedness was expressed in such terms of challenge that Bryan was quick to pick up the gauntlet. The day following the President's speech at the Manhattan Club in New York, Bryan, in Washington, denounced the President's plan as involving a false philosophy, as reversing traditions and policies, as un-Christian, and plainly intimating that the plan had been forced upon the executive by plutocratic pressure.

Nobody here believes that the breach between the two men can be healed. On the contrary, everyone thinks that Bryan will find other sources of differences with his former chief and that the single-term pledge of the Baltimore platform will soon be hurled at the President's head.

Thus far the fighting is all on the side of Bryan. From the White House has come an inspired statement that Wilson will not reply to the Bryan onslaught and that whatever he has to say on the subject of national defense will be "impersonal."

Yet in the Manhattan Club speech Mr. Wilson said: "If men differ with me in this vital matter I shall ask them to make it clear how far and in what they are interested in making the permanent interests of the country safe against disturbance." His purpose not to answer Bryan hardly runs upon all fours with these brave words—but there are those here who recall that his phrases in the German notes did not correspond with his actions. In other words, the suspicion here is that the President hopes that his duel with Bryan may be one of words only.

In the controversy which is now sure to come, Bryan will certainly not lack for words, which he can handle as well as Mr. Wilson can. Nor will he hesitate to employ stouter weapons. He will attempt, first of all, to hold to the cause of pacifism, as many members of Congress as he may be able to influence.

In some quarters there is a disposition to regard the Bryan influence as negligible. Whether this opinion is real or feigned, it is difficult to say.

But it must be remembered that Bryan will not fight alone in this matter. There is a considerable group of Democratic Congressmen, of whom the spokesman is Bailey, of Pennsylvania, who are not in favor of increased armament. These men take their cue from the President's message of a year ago, wherein, they declare, is to be found the real Wilson, the Wilson whom they will follow. This group is large enough to destroy Democratic party solidarity on the defense program and to wipe out all hope of carrying the President's plan through by Democratic votes alone.

However, a defense program will not fail, because patriotic Republicans will furnish the votes to put it through.

When this is accomplished and Bryan has suffered a reverse, what will his policy be? This is a problem which the friends of the Administration approach with consternation. The defense question will be taken up early in Congress and it will be disposed of some time before the nominating conventions assemble. There will be plenty of time for Bryan to organize an opposition to Wilson's renomination if he desires to do so.

Democrats say Bryan supported Parker in 1904 and he has much more reason to support Wilson at this time.

To all of which it is adequate answer Wilson in 1916 as he supported Parker in 1904, no one would ensure Wilson's chances at a thousand per cent premium.

In 1904 Bryan gave Parker a lip-service only. He made some speeches for the ticket, but he could not carry his friends to polls to vote for Parker; and in Kansas alone, that year, there were 60,000 men who had voted for Bryan in 1900, who were too busy on election day to go to the polls for Parker. In Nebraska there were 63,000 Democratic stay-at-homes in 1904; in Indiana, 35,000; in Iowa, 60,000; in Illinois, 76,000, and the list might be extended to all the States.

So Bryan and his friends will have the last blow, however the preliminary bouts in Congress and in the national convention may result. That the Bryan men in the Middle West—where the defense program is not setting the prairies afire, to say the least—is becoming evident, both from bits of information that are dribbling in here and from letters which they are writing to their local newspapers. The tenor of these communications is that Bryan has committed only one error in all his political career and that was when he nominated Woodrow Wilson.

HER LIMIT

GERMAN women are patriotic. They have given of their time, their money and of their most dearly beloved men folks to the service of the Fatherland in its present crisis—but they have their limit of sacrifice, and that limit is plain dress.

In Berlin last week a well attended meeting called by women reformers of fashion was held under the patronage of the crown princess. The purpose of the meeting was to appeal to the patriotic women of Germany to cast off French and other foreign fashions and to wear hereafter only a truly German style of dress, which, it was stated, should at the same time be beautiful and dignified, but free from frilleries.

The speakers at the meeting illustrated the proposed fashions and condemned high-heeled shoes and pumps, gauzy stockings, foreign fabrics and cosmetics. Space had been reserved in the program for the evening for an opposition speaker, who produced a number of the latest models of gowns, which ran counter to most of the patriotic theories the reformers had expounded.

The dismayed reformers soon found a majority of the audience had deserted them and were applauding enthusiastically each new gown and drowning out the disapproval of the little minority who favored the truly German modes.

"Disguise our bondage as we will," "The woman, woman, rules us still," And apparently even the kaiser is no exception.

WIDENING THE SUBWAY

WHATEVER else may be done in the matter of providing better crossing facilities between the Hill and the center of the city, no time must be lost in widening the Market street subway. The City Planning Commission in urging this improvement has taken a step that everybody has long realized must be taken. The subway never was adequate, but it was the best that could be procured when it was constructed. Now the time has arrived when the makeshift that it always has been must be transformed into a permanent utility.

In the past, when the project of widening the passage to the full width of the street has been discussed, opponents waved aloft the awful bugaboo of consequential damages. But in the light of recent developments on South Second street, where a full width subway has actually benefited the property owners, this consideration need give the city but small concern. A street-wide subway at Market street would put all of the owners of property there directly on a broad thoroughfare, through which thousands more people would pass than at present, and would give to almost all of the properties affected an additional story.

The wider subway must come and the sooner the better.

FORD'S FOLLY

OF all the idiotic performances of multi-millionaires who have mistaken ability to make money for universal genius, the folly of Henry Ford in dispatching a steamer to Europe to induce the warring governments to make peace at his behest is the worst.

Somebody, commenting on the proposal, has attributed to Ford the object of publicity back of the enterprise, and another writer the hope of

personal aggrandizement. In all likelihood it is neither. Ford, apparently, is merely suffering from the American brand of exaggerated ego, resulting from the common belief that to be able to make millions in money a man must be possessed of a genius that lifts him above his fellows in whatsoever activity of life he chooses to engage. Edison has displayed it, Carnegie is a fine example of a patient in the advanced stages of the disease and even John Wanamaker has not been immune.

Mr. Ford will awaken to the fact shortly that it is one thing to make an automobile that thousands of people will buy and quite another to dominate the politics of Europe.

Nor is his proposed propaganda against preparedness in this country likely to be more successful.

There are indications that something of an extremely embarrassing nature is about to happen to a perfectly good millionaire.

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—And now they are talking of putting up the price of coal because of the Wilkes-Barre trolley strike, evidently on the ground that a poor excuse is better than none.

—You may roast, slice it cold or make hash, as you will, but the flavor of turkey remains with it still.

—Why can't the day after Thanksgiving be Sunday?

—German scientists are studying ways and means of increasing the birth rate. We suggest that the simplest way would be to let the soldiers go back home.

—It has been almost a week since we have heard anything from William Jennings Bryan. Can it be that something has happened to his voice?

—The Presidential candidate who shies his hat into the ring at this time runs the risk of losing it under the pile.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

At this safe distance we now can see just how the railroads, back in the thirties, were playing cat cradle with New England.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Lord Northcliffe observes that "the war-situation is particularly interesting." Even the English are beginning to take notice.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The one big outstanding objection to the plan to hold a poll here at which women are given the ballot they will vote the men into a state of decency.—Toledo Blade.

A Berlin editor says that the allies are "deafened" but not aware of it. "Dangerous people, these fellows who don't know when they're licked."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Now the Turks protest against violation of the rights of their enemies. The difference between war and massacre is that the latter has no rules.—New York Evening Post.

Mrs. Pankhurst says it is the German Empire that makes them so obstinate. We don't doubt that this will make the matter—the English and the Germans.—Manchester Union.

BUNCOMBE FROM KITCHIN

[From New York Sun.]

Representative Claude Kitchin of North Carolina is talking wildly when he says that the expansion of the navy extending over a period of five years as proposed by Secretary Daniels "will force the world again into an armed camp," and that the "militarists" of other nations "will point to our conduct as a reason why they should renew war preparations on a larger scale than ever before."

In fact, it is difficult to believe that Mr. Kitchin is sincere. American aggression upon any great European Power is inconceivable. Nor would any Asiatic Power have cause to suspect the United States of planning a war of aggression. Such being the case, the whole world would regard American naval expansion as defensive, which it would be.

Furthermore, if the Teutonic allies were to prevail in the great war, the combined fleets, which are now stronger than the battle line and reserves of the United States, would be rapidly expanded by enforced additions from the British and French navies and by new construction to an effectiveness in gun power beyond the attainment of the United States; and if Great Britain and her allies were to triumph, the fleet of Great Britain alone would have a lead over the United States navy that could never be closed.

It is pure buncombe for Mr. Kitchin to talk about the horrible example of the United States if this nation were to strengthen the line of battle as Mr. Daniels proposes and as the General Board has urged over and over again. How much more persuasive the navy would be in the Lusitania controversy if Congress had heeded the General Board!

In commenting upon the national situation, Senator Penrose said: "My name has been mentioned in connection with the Presidency. I appreciate the compliment. At the same time I'm not a candidate and I do not know of any persons who are in any way connected with the Republican nomination."

A number of prominent Republicans have been mentioned in this connection, and some of them will be elected to the Senate; and their names will doubtless be presented at the Republican Convention, and other names will be developed later, and will likewise be presented.

The Republican party is harmonious and the discussion over candidates is entirely amicable. It would not be desirable at this time, and in existing circumstances, to have any final commitment on any particular candidate, even if such were possible.

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Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Public Service Commissioner William A. Magee, one of the biggest political factors in Pennsylvania and one of the men who backed Roosevelt in the historic primary campaign of 1912, but who stayed regular after the nominations were made, last night raised the banner of Brumbaugh leadership for the Democratic party in Pennsylvania. About the same time Senator Penrose declared in Philadelphia that he was not a candidate for the presidential nomination, but intimated pretty broadly that he proposed to take a hand in political matters. It is intimated in Philadelphia that Mayor-elect Thomas B. Smith, who was here to see the President, had received a request on Wednesday, will recognize Senator Penrose as leader, although he does not expect any contest. In other words, the friends of the senator are said to be quietly preparing lines for nomination of legislators and candidates for national delegate.

These were the developments of Thanksgiving Day. The Governor, the most talked about man in the state political situation, remained here, ate turkey and read and listened. He did not say anything.

—Commissioner Magee's statement is an arraignment of "Pennsylvania in the ownership of a generation," to use his own words. He advances criticisms and reviews the movements for twenty years. He says that the leaders of the Roosevelt movement ran it "into a blind alley and criticised some of the leaders indirectly. He also attacks the legislators. Mr. Magee does not pay much attention to the Democrats, but this is what he says about the Washington, D. C., Roosevelt leadership in the state in the meantime, not adapting itself to practical conditions as they arose, finally found itself deserted by the friends who supported it." Regarding the Governor, Mr. Magee says: "The session of 1915 disclosed and developed new Republican leadership in the person of the present Governor. As stout as the old-time Republican policy of protection as there is in the country, imbued with the traditions that are the inspiration of the party, the same time not so radical as Roosevelt and La Follette, Cummings, and not an opportunist endeavoring to obtain power from every popular wave of sentiment, he seems to be the best of the present administration." Regarding the Governor, Mr. Magee says: "The session of 1915 disclosed and developed new Republican leadership in the person of the present Governor. As stout as the old-time Republican policy of protection as there is in the country, imbued with the traditions that are the inspiration of the party, the same time not so radical as Roosevelt and La Follette, Cummings, and not an opportunist endeavoring to obtain power from every popular wave of sentiment, he seems to be the best of the present administration."

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