

# THE DEMOCRAT

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WHY

DISCRIMINATE?

The New York Tribune printed a dispatch from its Washington correspondent explaining, in detail, the White House threat that if congress censures Mr. Roosevelt for the charges in his message "he will be compelled to show relationship between certain members and certain large interests which made necessary some investigation by the secret service." If this is how the secret service was used, why were its extra-legal activities restricted to members of congress? Why did not secret service men shadow Theodore Roosevelt and Edward H. Harriman while they arranged the details of the \$260,000 campaign contribution which Mr. Harriman boasted "turned 50,000 votes in New York?" Why did not secret service men follow George B. Cortelyou while he was collecting a Roosevelt campaign fund from trusts and corporations which it had been his duty as secretary of commerce to investigate? Why was no secret service man on the heels of Mr. Roosevelt's campaign-fund assessor when \$100,000 was collected from the Standard Oil company and \$150,000 from the great life insurance companies? Possibly it was an oversight on Mr. Roosevelt's part that no secret service men were assigned to spy upon his own peculiar "relationships" with "certain large interests."—The Hoosier.

The Democrat wishes all its readers and everybody else a happy and prosperous New Year.

Democratic banquets are frequent here of late. The one last night at the handsome Delaware hotel in Muncie, and given by the Democrats of Delaware county, was great in many ways. Many speeches were made and a general good time had.

Representative Thurman Gottschalk will leave Tuesday for Indianapolis, where he will remain until after the session of the legislature adjourns. He goes without any strings of any sort and will represent the sentiment of the people without a doubt.

It is safe to wager that the relief given the sufferers in the appalling earthquake disaster by the Decatur members of St. Marys church will not be exceeded by any other like membership. Rev. Wilkins and his congregation are patriotic always, and what is more they give with a free hand to any worthy cause.

Invitations have been received in this city to a reception to Governor and Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, the same to be given them by the citizens of Indianapolis on the evening following his inauguration Monday, January 11. The reception will take place at the Propyleum and will be quite an enjoyable event and attended by many people from Indianapolis and over the state.

J. B. Merriman, representative-elect from Wells county, announces that he will not introduce any new bills but will content himself with objecting to the passage of useless and harmful measures. Mr. Merriman probably will not be an aggressive figure in the legislature, but if he carries out his intention he will be a most useful one. A man with his ideas is badly needed sometimes.—Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette.

Sifted down to facts, Mr. Harriman's

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proposition to spend \$2,000,000 on improvements on the Southern-Pacific is based on the understanding that he can increase freight rates to a point that will add \$10,000,000 to the road's receipts.—Commoner.

Fourteen congressmen are off for Panama for a four or five days' investigation of conditions there. Such are the junketing trips of congress. Imagine the thorough investigations that would result from four or five days in the canal zone. It will be a delightful outing—that's all.

Protests are now counting against the increase of the president's salary to one hundred thousand dollars a year. The objectors rightly state that no better president could be had, while the increased salary would afford a temptation for an executive to practice that extravagance which is not in keeping with the simple life.

The Fort Wayne News wants to know if the sale of Mr. Marshall's home in this city is to be taken as an indication that he is to keep on going at the expiration of his term as governor. The Post does not know what Mr. Marshall's intentions are, but it does know that he is yet the owner of four residence properties in this town and that he would be "welcomed home" four years hence.—Columbia City Post.

According to figures given out from Washington the population of the country has not been greatly increased by the coming of foreigners. The total number that arrived during the year ending October 1st, was 724,112 and those who returned to their former homes was 717,814, making a net gain of only 6,298. This is a small increase, but it is perhaps all we need unless it was of a better quality than hangs around in Lake county.—Rochester Sentinel.

If the local option elections in the two counties which have voted is any indication of the sentiment of the people over the state, it will cause some hesitation among legislators who want the present county option law repealed. The dries won overwhelmingly. Pike county votes today, and the anti-saloon league is planning for twelve more county elections early in January. These elections will greatly influence the action of the legislature.

The local lodge of Elks will give their annual charity show on the evenings of January seven and eight. These yearly functions are not only enjoyable, but they make prominent the one great fundamental principle of their order—charity. There is not another society that so fully and faithfully practices instead of preaches the art of giving. Many of the poor of Decatur can testify to the benevolence of the local Elks. The public is invited and they should be glad of the privilege of helping them distribute charity to those in need.

Facing the new year, the New York World, in its issue of January 1, congratulates the country on the increased strength of the Democratic party, on the growing popularity of Democratic principles, and on the good influence that the party has already exerted, even in defeat. But the most interesting part of its discussion is that in which the paper shows how great is the need for the Democratic party, and how wide its opportunity. The need is revealed in the Roosevelt record, which is set out by the World in great detail. It says the World, we had had a strong opposition party during the past seven years, the country might have been spared some of the worst excesses, extravagances and failures of Rooseveltian government by denunciation. Having been deprived of this restraint and check, we have had the "the Roosevelt record, with all its vituperation, its ignorance of political economy, its instability of policy, its disregard of law, its usurpations, its centralization, and its inability to deal effectively with the problems presented to it for solution."—Indianapolis News.

A few more decisive "dry" victories in Indiana may make Allen county

look a whole lot less like the Gibraltar of booze than it does now to a good many on either side of the issue.—Fort Wayne Sentinel.

It is a far cry ahead to 1912, but it is intimated by some of James E. Watson's friends that he will again try at that time for the governorship. Chas. W. Miller, one of his chief competitors for the nomination last spring, will probably be the next United States district attorney, succeeding "Big Chief" Keating. Mr. Fairbanks' manager, William L. Taylor, who was another strong competitor with Watson, is not likely to be hampered by a federal job, and it is probable that he will be up again for the governorship. There are many former Watson men who declare that their party made a mistake in not nominating Taylor the last time.

Considering the fact that the Democrats have been excluded from the legislative offices for more than a dozen years, they are acting decidedly fine about the matter. There really is no great rush for appointments—not nearly as many men are seeking places as might have been expected. The number is not more than half as great as the Republican have been accustomed to face on like occasions when they were sole dispensers of patronage. This fact has made a good impression on the public mind and gives added strength to the statement of the Democrats that instead of hungering for offices they are more interested in doing the things that will make for the general welfare.

Everyone familiar with the state's financial affairs understands that all appropriations made at this time will have to be carefully considered. That they are going to be closely scanned by the public is beyond question. Besides, it is a very serious question as to where enough money is coming from to meet the obligations already saddled upon the state. The loose practices which have characterized the management of state affairs for many years have brought about a condition that will embarrass the government for a long time. Just how grave that embarrassment will be is bound to be revealed before the present legislative session is over.

Indianapolis, January 6.—The state fair is to be held the week of Sept. 6 this year, the state board of agriculture having so decided at a meeting of the board yesterday. The gates will be thrown open to the public on Monday (Labor Day) the fact of the holiday proving a big factor with the state board in the naming of the date. It was also taken into consideration the week of Sept. 6 will not conflict with the state fairs in Ohio, Michigan and Illinois, assuring exhibits otherwise difficult to obtain. The sentiment of the board is to make the fair this year the biggest and best—in fact, they would have it measure up to the term of "exposition." The board selected officers for the coming year as follows: Oscar Hadley, treasurer of state, Plainfield, president; I. Newt Brown, Franklin, vice president; Charles Downing, Indianapolis, secretary; J. W. LaGrange, Franklin, treasurer; E. H. Peet, Newcastle, superintendent. President Hadley named to serve with him on the executive committee David Wallace of Indianapolis, Knott Porter of Hagerstown, Mason J. Niblick of Vincennes and I. Newt Brown of Franklin. The retiring president is E. S. Tuell of Corydon; vice president, Clem Graves of Bunker Hill; and the retiring members of the board are Frank Nave of Attica, succeeded by Dan C. Reed of Attica, and C. W. Travis of Lafayette, succeeded by J. L. Van Natta of Lafayette.

Congressman and Mrs. J. A. M. Adair, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. T. S. Johnson, left on the morning train Monday for Washington, D. C., where he will resume his duties as representative of the Eighth district. Donald Hall, who will act as private secretary to Mr. Adair, left on the same train for Washington.—Portland Sun.

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As a result of a conflagration of unknown origin, the comfortable home of John Kirchner, of Preble, was entirely consumed this morning together with an amount of furniture which had been stored upstairs. The Kirchners were preparing for dinner when neighbors rushed into their home and notified them that the roof of the house was ablaze. The fire alarm soon percolated through the streets of the village and the population of Preble in its entirety turned out to aid in stopping the devastation threatened by the roaring flames. A bucket brigade soon formed and by heroic work saved the surrounding buildings, although the Kirchner home is nearly a total loss. Household goods on the first floor was saved, however. The loss is practically covered by insurance. Mr. Kirchner is foreman of the Indiana Pipe Line company with headquarters at Preble.

## LEAVES ARMY FOR WEALTH

Washington, Jan 5.—Capt. Edward B. Cassatt, of the Thirteenth Cavalry, U. S. A., has tendered his resignation and it has been accepted by the president. The reason Capt. Cassatt assigned for desiring to retire from the army was his great wealth left him by his father, the late A. J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railroad. Capt. Cassatt stated in his application for leave to resign that among the property left him were stock farms and other enterprises, which he found it impossible to manage while serving in the army. Capt. Cassatt is now stationed with his regiment at Ft. Myer, just across the Potomac from Washington.

Rudolph Schug and several other Berne business men were here today appearing before the commissioners in regard to the subsidy election for the Bluffton, Berne & Celina Traction company, who propose to build a line from Bluffton to Celina.

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