

## THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

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## 50,000,000 Displayed Nightly.

New York dispatches state that some fifty million dollars worth of jewels are displayed every night at the two grand operas in that city. Think of it! Fifty million dollars worth of diamonds, rubies, emeralds and what not, worn every evening by the wives and daughters of our wealthiest families. How that grand array of jewels must shine and sparkle under the glare of the electric lights in those two opera houses. How proud the woman with the most costly jewels must feel as she surveys the lesser lights around her. There in the opera house everybody is dazzling but around the corner and down the dark and narrow streets are the results of what those diamonds and other jewels have produced. There in the tenements with their thousands huddled together in space fitted only for hundreds are the people who must pay the price that these society leaders may wear their costly trophies. But these same society leaders won't believe such a statement as that. If you made it to them they would reply that they or their husbands spent thousands of dollars every year on charity for these dwellers in the tenements. They would also tell you that the tenement dwellers are the result of the fight for the survival of the fittest, and that they owed only themselves for their condition. The creed of the survival of the fittest is a splendid one where everyone has a chance. But in this country today it has become the excuse of a lot of murderous financiers for their practices. Eternally after the almighty dollar they break laws, corrupt legislatures, monopolize industries, etc., and charge it all off to the survival of the fittest. The are about as fit to survive as men of the Pat Crowe stamp. They own the railroads and every year the disasters on their under-equipped and over-crowded roads cost thousands of lives. And still they charge it all off to the survival of the fittest claiming that they pay enormous dividends on their over-capitalized and heavily watered stocks and bonds. They own our senate and many other offices of our government, and when we try to introduce laws that will give everyone a better chance in this country, their glorious old senate knocks them to smithereens under the plea that they are not constitutional. They have in the past owned presidents whose greatest care was to see that so-called vested interests were not disturbed. Then when death at the hand of an assassin put in a president who really would work for the people and not for the interests, they did everything in their power to squelch him. But they couldn't defeat the man who went squarely to the people on every question instead of to them. They couldn't dim his popularity by calling attention to his mistakes for the people loved him all the more for his mistakes. They were and are tired of the kind of president who never makes a mistake—that is, a mistake such as not inquiring into the conditions of the packing industry of the country, or the giving of rebates, etc. The people wanted a president who would make those kind of mistakes from the criminal financier's viewpoint and they got one in the person of President Roosevelt. He makes mistakes and the people don't care. They want him to keep right on making more mistakes if it makes the sensational representatives of the trusts grudgingly pass laws which will more and more curb their masters' evil powers. They don't like to do it but the president's "mistakes" force them to. The president has of course made another "mistake" in recommending a graduated income and inheritance tax. Yet when we get at least the latter as a law it will be found to be a most effective way to break up the power of swollen fortunes. And the problem of swollen fortunes is the greatest one we have to do with today. Until it is solved and the wealth of the country more equally distributed we cannot have any faith in our present creed of the survival of the fittest. When we have worked out that problem as Switzerland and New Zealand have, then we can really take some pride in that creed. But we will never be able to work out the problem at all if we permit the mis-called captains of industry to retain control of our government. It is to such men as Theodore Roosevelt that we must look to for help. Men who have the interests of the country at heart and not their own selfish interests. As long as we have swollen fortunes we will have places on one side and hideous tenements on the other with all the evils bothering.

## Another Millionaire Senator.

We are to have another millionaire Senator, Simon Guggenheim, of Colorado, and also of the smelting trust. He talks beautifully, thus:

If I go to the Senate it will not be to represent the smelting company or any other company or any private interest. I will go as Simon Guggenheim, plain citizen, to represent the State of Colorado. An honorable ambition is permitted to every man, even to the wealthiest, and it is my ambition to serve my country.

That has the true Washingtonian ring. Mr. Guggenheim only wants to serve his country, and that is, as he says, "an honorable ambition." It is an ambition that should not be denied to rich any more than to poor men. But after all, one should be careful about the steps one takes to realize it. In a statement made to Ridgeway's Magazine this new candidate for senatorial honors throws some light on his campaign. It seems that he contributed largely to defray the campaign expenses of members of the Legislature, which is to elect him. We quoted him yesterday, but his words are so interesting that they will bear repetition:

There is nothing wrong about it. It is merely conducting political campaigns as they are conducted in these days. The money I have contributed has helped to elect these men, and, naturally, they feel under obligation to vote for me. It is done all over the United States today. I do not consider that it is wrong, and neither do I think that it can in any sense be called bribery.

In other words, he gets a United States senatorship as pay for services that he rendered to the men who are to elect him. If he had not "put up" liberally he would never have been thought of. Perhaps the transaction is not bribery, but what is it? The method is the same as that used by Matt Quay in Pennsylvania and Gas Addicks in Delaware. Though there may have been no pledge, there certainly was an understanding. Guggenheim admits it himself, when he says, "the money I have contributed has helped to elect these men, and, naturally, they feel under obligation to vote for me." He created the "obligation" by his gift of cash. But he is most innocently frank. He says, in response to the question whether he thought he could have been elected had he been a poor man:

I would have the same chance of being elected that any other poor man would have. (Is not that delightful?) Because I am wealthy and because I have contributed to Republican campaign funds I have more prominence than I would have had if I been poor. I suppose if I had been a poor man I would not have stood as good a chance to be elected as my wealth gave me.

What poor man, had he been a Webster, a Clay, or a Sumner, could have stood against Guggenheim? Clearly none at all. He is to be Senator because, and only because, he financed the campaigns of members of the body that is going to elect him. The interesting thing about it all is that Guggenheim is honestly unable to see anything wrong or discreditable in the deal. He thinks he is being criticized because he is a man of wealth, because the people object to having men of wealth, as such, in public office. And so he says that an ambition to serve the country "is permitted to every man, even to the wealthiest." So it is. So it ought to be. But the people have a right to demand that wealthy men shall stand on their merits, be elected on their merits, and compete with poor men on this basis alone. They have a right to say that no rich man shall be sent to the Senate merely because he has money which he is willing to use, and does use, to pay the campaign expenses of those charged with the duty of electing a Senator. No one objects to Guggenheim's ambition. But every right-thinking man will object most decidedly to the methods which he has employed to gratify it. He is at least short on moral sense. We hope his deficiency in this regard may be the result of mere ignorance — and of an ignorance which it may be possible to enlighten.—Indianapolis News.

## Rowdy Passengers.

The problem of what to do with rowdy passengers on the interurban cars is proving to be a hard one for the officials of the roads just at present. The greatest trouble it seems is experienced on Saturday and

Sunday nights. On these nights men who have been paid their wages go to neighboring towns, become drunk and cause considerable trouble to conductors and motormen on their return to the city on the interurbans. Not only are the conductor and motorman bothered but the passengers as well are annoyed and disgusted by the actions of these intoxicated men. It seems to us that the best way in which the traction line officials can handle this question is to prohibit drunken and naturaly passengers from riding on the cars. Every railway in the country prohibits such characters from riding on the steam cars and though such action is drastic, nevertheless it is effective when it comes to making other passengers more comfortable on their journey by keeping from them the sight of the disgusting antics generally indulged in by intoxicated men. If railroads can thus secure their decent passengers from drunken men the interurbans can do so likewise.

There are far more decent passengers patronizing the interurban lines than there are drunken men, and the interurban officials should take steps to protect the comfort of the majority. Just because a Richmond man goes to some small town nearby and gets drunk is no reason why the interurban lines should allow him to return to Richmond in that condition. Probably if such men were refused the privilege of return, at least on the interurban lines, while in an intoxicated condition, there would be less of this emigration to surrounding towns in search of liquor. Incidentally if these same men imbibe too much in the city they know they will be taken by the police, a fact that may have the effect of making them a little more temperate to their drinking. But one thing is sure. The interurban officials should not let the new year get very much older without taking steps to end at once and for all time the drunken man nuisance on the cars. The less of his fare will more than be made up in the good words passengers will say about the pleasant trips they have had free from annoying features.

## The Power Behind the Throne.

Yesterday's papers were filled with alarm headlines telling how Harriman is an absolute railway czar. He is shown as being the owner through the Union Pacific railway of half a dozen other railway systems. To Harriman is given the credit for owning all these lines. But the inquiry has not yet gone deep enough and when it does it will show looming behind Harriman the far greater power of the Standard Oil crowd. Harriman is a skillful general and the Standard Oil people don't mind his getting the credit for being the railway czar as long as they receive the dividends and wield the real power behind the throne. Of course, Harriman is by no means a mere dummy leader. On the contrary, he is one of the brightest and most daring of our modern financial pirates. It's rather amusing and at the same time furnishes food for thought to see that in every investigation into the industrial conditions of our country, the Standard Oil octopus is invariably mixed up in it in some way or other. Pure Food, Rebates, Packing house conditions—in all of these we find the Standard more than an interested onlooker.

## SIXTH DISTRICT EDITORIALS.

We are peppered and pestered with letters and circulars from investment firms and alleged specialists in mining stocks, soliciting the use of our columns to exploit their schemes, and offering liberal commission on business obtained through such advertising and our personal efforts to secure dues. All such propositions find immediate and secure resting place in the scrap basket.

We concede the usual allegation of the letters that the rank and file of the speculative horde have turned from their old loves, grain and pork, to mining stocks, and more's the pity. We have noted with alarm the mining stock mania that seems to be taking possession of the country, and dread the outcome, which is sure to bring financial disaster unless conservative influences are exerted and prevail.

Existing conditions are the result of our extraordinary prosperity. So many ventures have turned to gold that people are losing discretion and jump wildly at the shining bait. Panic and ruin are daily invited in, and as sure as fate they will come and rule at no distant day unless these wild investments and this frantic indulgence in speculation can be stopped.—New Castle Courier.

It is quite evident that there will be some exciting times in the Indiana Legislature within the next few weeks when the different interests get to work. Among these, the attempt to raise the liquor license to a high water mark will probably be one of the foremost.

Those who are preparing this bill have lately met a very strong opposition in an unexpected source, the Prohibition party. Of course they have expected to fight the liquor interest but to find the prohibition workers lined up against them is to say the least quite a surprise. But if this bill fails to be come a law because of this "Prohibition" opposition, it will be a sad commentary on the party that professes to be the arch-enemy of that "awful demon, rum."

Their argument, which looks good from a superficial standpoint, is very flimsy and not worth quoting, yet there is no denying it will have some weight and influence with those members of the Legislature, who, looking for a good excuse to side in with the saloon interests.

What better excuse will some sly, week-end member want than to say, "Boys, I can't vote for this here bill for the Prohs are agin' it. She can't be much good or these fellers will be thrown up the hills for it."

Just imagine how the "beer trust" is smiling all over his face because he has by mere chance of luck, or hook or crook, captured one of the bravest cohorts of the enemy. Not only has he captured but he has enlisted them in his ranks, and they are now on the skirmish line beginning the battle with colors flying.—Shelbyville Republican.

Last month Secretary Root gave the states of the union some fatherly advice. He said the only way in which they could maintain their power and authority under existing conditions was by "awakening to a realization of their own duties to the country at large." He said that the state which was maintaining laws promoting the overcapitalization of corporations, or facilitating the creation of trusts, or permitting the existence of child labor in an objectionable form was given aid to the tendency of the people to seek relief from the national government. Power which is not used or is misused will pass inevitably to the agency that will use it properly.

Many state legislatures meet this month. It will be interesting to observe the extent to which Secretary Root's sound advice is heeded. The natural tendency of legislatures is to devote themselves to matters which are of purely local concern, but this year some of them, taking notice of the agitation for a national child labor law and national legislation in reference to insurance and other matters, may take a broader view of their responsibilities and duties.

President Roosevelt intends to press upon congress the necessity of increasing government control over transportation corporations to prevent excess capitalization. To permit them to water their stock is equivalent to permitting them to overtax the producers and consumers they serve. Gov. Warner of Michigan, in his message to the legislature, recommends the enactment of a law giving the state railroad commissioner power to scrutinize and approve all proposed issues of railroad stocks and bonds. It is not enough for states to pass such laws. They must be enforced when passed to be of any use. If the states would do their duty in this particular there would be no call for national legislation.

Gov. Folk, of Missouri, asks for the enactment of a rigid child labor law. Gov. Hughes, of New York, recommends additional legislation on that subject. The attention of the legislators of several states has been called to the insurance question and to the need of stronger pure food and anti-trust laws.

Secretary Root's speech was a direct challenge to state legislatures to show that they can think nationally—that they can refrain from permitting practices or enacting laws which work injury to the people or sister states. If they prove equal to the test the national government will rest content with the authority it has and let the states keep all they have—Chicago Tribune.

## Wound Was Fatal.

Fayette, Mo., Jan. 5.—Arthur F. Davis, mayor of Fayette, and president of the Farmers' and Merchants' bank, who accidentally shot himself while looking for burglars, died of his wound.

## Hotel Burned.

Belleville, Ill., Jan. 5.—The Bay of Quinte, one of the finest hotels between Toronto and Montreal, was destroyed by fire. Many guests had narrow escapes. Loss, \$8,000.

## Dead in His Office.

Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 5.—James Lissombe, a prominent insurance man, was found dead in his office.

## King Oscar Gaining.

Stockholm, Jan. 5.—King Oscar continues to gain strength. He is able to sit up and sleep well.

Receivers for Wire Company.

New Haven, Conn., Jan. 5.—H. S. Hotchkiss and F. T. Farnsworth were appointed permanent receivers of the National Wire corporation. The liabilities of the concern are placed at \$3,000,000.

Ore From Goldfield.

Vallejo, Calif., Jan. 5.—A consignment of ore valued at \$1,000,000 arrived at the smelting works from Goldfield. It filled three box cars and was guarded by eight express messengers.

Chain Works Damaged.

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 5.—The plant of the Columbus Chain company was damaged \$60,000 by fire, fully insured. The fire started by an explosion of natural gas caused by the carelessness of a Hungarian workman who tried to light the gas in a kiln.

Heavy Rain Causes Destructive Avalanche on Mt. Vesuvius.

Carpenters' Union at San Francisco declared boycott against employing or patronizing Japanese.

Failures in United States during the week, 185; same week last year, 220. In Canada, 16; last year, 32.

Henry Carter of Ontario, his daughter Mabel, 28, and C. E. Abbott, ate canned beans and died at Los Angeles, Cal.

Federation of Labor in Washington state adopted strong resolutions condemning Roosevelt's stand on Japanese question.

George D. Emery company of Boston wants United States warships to protect its interests in Nicaragua, trouble over which is soon to be arbitrated.

R. C. Flower, alias C. G. Dalney, fugitive from New York since 1903, arrested in Philadelphia. Wanted for alleged mine swindles aggregating \$1,000,000.

Protest of advisory board of the Jamestown exposition, signed by Carroll D. Wright, Rev. Edward Everett Hale, Cardinal Gibbons, John Mitchell, Jane Addams and others, is made against "diversion of the exposition to the service of militarism."

## DINNERS GALORE

## AT WASHINGTON

President to Give the First One in Honor of Speaker Joseph Cannon.

## THEN ONE BY FAIRBANKS

## MUCH POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE ATTACHES TO THE EVENTS IN THAT THEY BEAR ON PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES.

Washington, Jan. 5.—(Spl.)—In these feverish days of ante-convention political skirmishing, aspirants for Presidential honors needs must have unblemished records as trenchmen. There is to be a veritable orgy of political dinners within the next few weeks, and incendiarily much importance is being put to the one given at the White House in honor of Speaker Cannon. It is the first time that President Roosevelt has given a dinner in the Speaker's honor. Political wits will go a long way toward shaping coming political events. Following close on the heels of the White House dinner will come the one to be given by the elongated Mr. Fairbanks, whose yearning for the Presidential chair is well known. Practically everybody who is anyone in Washington has been invited, and among the guests will be seen a number who are entertaining Presidential dreams themselves. There is no doubt that Mr. Fairbanks' guests scarcely will be in good trim again before they are summoned to the revels planned by the portly Mr. Taft, and, not to be outdone, Mr. Foraker probably will have a function. The silent Secretary Shaw also is expected to entertain within the month, and Uncle Joe will not let his light remain long hidden beneath the bushel. From present indications the next Republican Presidential candidate will be decided upon at some one of these feasts, although the decision, of course, will not be made known. Uncle Joe may lead in the political handicap with the appearance of the blue points, but before the entree is served Mr. Foraker or Mr. Fairbanks may be contesting for his place. In the number and importance of the feasts this season, Washington may well be compared with the palmy days of imperial Rome.

While the Republican leaders are skirmishing over the viands for the honor of heading the ticket in 1908, the Democrats are somewhat at a loss. In the South there has been a well-defined and extremely popular boom for Representative John Sharp Williams, the leader of the minority in the House. Mr. Williams this week put a quietus on the movement by declaring that he had not taken any steps whatever toward securing the nomination at the hands of his party, and added that it might be stated that he had decided not to take the place were it offered him. This droll way Mr. Williams said that his principal objection was the fact that the White House is too damp and that Mrs. Williams declares she is irreversibly opposed to risking the health of their daughters, Kit and Sallie, in the Chief Executive's home.

Secretary Root is said to be preparing a statement supplementary to his New York speech on the subject of centralization. It is reported that the Secretary of State is decidedly disgruntled at the manner in which the country received his recent New York address. He had not intended it to be revolutionary in any way, and he believes that it has been thoroughly misinterpreted by the press.

It is explained that the Secretary meant only to arouse the country to a realization of the short-comings in the individual state governments, a condition which is arising through the great growth of commerce and the consequent reorganization in the lines of general business. He especially desired to call attention at the time to the danger of enacting laws that would conflict with the federal laws or with legislation enacted by neighboring states.

Because of the wonderful and rapid growth in all lines of business, organizations of men, known as corporations, have come into existence in order to reduce expenses and cheapen the cost of production, to the end that the nation may capture its share of the world's trade. These big corporations properly conducted, have made the United States one of the greatest commercial nations in the world. Practically all their business is interstate, and because of the so-called "trusts" violating the laws of the land, the States have endeavored to remedy what should have been left to the national government. Consequently there has been a conflict in authority that endangers the commercial structure, not of the individual State but of the nation at large. The Secretary believes that the danger of this situation to existing prosperity is evident, and he was seeking to point out this legislative error in his New York address. He undoubtedly will seize upon the earliest opportunity to discuss further the subject, and make clear what he believes has been misinterpreted.

The Panama cocktail, according to the report of President Roosevelt, who says that it is drunk with coffee at dinner every evening by the great majority of families in the canal zone, will hardly become popular here. It is really a health cocktail, to which not even Carrie Nation could object, since it consists entirely of liquid quinine and is taken not for pleasure but to ward off those ills to which Panama flesh is heir. It is not much of a compliment to the Panama climate, but that is liable to continue indefinitely.

as a matter of discussion. Some of the visitors who return to Washington from the Canal make remarks about this same climate which are lurid, to put it mildly. Minister Squiers, on the other hand, who has now occupied the post for two months, has had nothing to say against it. His Washington friends have been grieved to learn that since going to Panama both Mrs. and Miss Squiers have suffered illness, but the Minister loyalty refuses to attribute the cases to the climate, saying that it has not been a factor. Mr. Squiers' whole family is with him, with the exception of the younger children, who are in school here, since he has certain ideals, now perhaps rather old-fashioned, to the effect that to whatever post one may be sent by his country, personal inclinations should be made secondary to duty. This belief may perhaps have come from Mr. Squiers' training in the army, where he served for fourteen years before entering the diplomatic service.

The Navy Department has been advised that James B. Connally, the author whose stories of the Gloucester fishing fleet have made him famous, has enlisted as a yeoman in the United States Navy. Mr. Connally has been assigned to the battleship Alabama, and it is said that he will be accorded certain special privileges so that his work of preparing a novel in laudation of the naval service will not be impeded. It is Mr. Connally's ambition to do for the American Navy what Kipling has done for the British