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THE NEW ERA IN THE PACIFIC.

United States influence in the Pacific has just taken a shape which nobody in the United States was looking for, which is rather disagreeable to England, which will probably be displeasing to Japan, and which will surprise the world. This is Australia's demand for a separate navy, and the demand has been granted by the British government. Ever since the commonwealth of Australia, consisting of the six British dependencies adjoining each other has been established in 1901 there has been a desire on its part to have a navy of its own, but this aspiration did not take concrete form until the United States fleet started for the Pacific, with a program which included a visit to several Australian ports. The invitation to call at the Australian ports was especially effusive, and as the world knows, the welcome which the fleet received was particularly enthusiastic. Australian papers have freely said that their chief reliance in their demand for white domination in the white islands and continents of the Pacific would be the United States. Many things were said by Australian newspapers and public men just before, during and after the fleet's visit which must have been embarrassing to the British government for they were directed against its ally, Japan. No attempt, however, was made by them to spare the feelings of that government, but the visitors, who are booked to call at Japan a week or two hence, were necessarily forbidden by the Washington authorities to touch on the Japanese issue in any shape. The influence of the American cruise to the

Pacific, however, is making itself felt in a rather dramatic way.

The cable dispatch which intimates that the British government was reluctant to grant this independent naval privilege to Australia tells us just what we had a right to expect. England knows that a like request will be soon made by Canada, just as England long ago foresaw that the formation of the Dominion government would ultimately necessitate a like union among the British dependencies on the farther side of the Pacific. Australia's growth in population and in business development has been slow, and this postponed the demand for autonomy for many years after come of the more astute British statesmen expected it to appear. This came in 1901, when the commonwealth was founded. Now that country makes a step toward the development of a national policy which may be relied on to shape itself with a rapidity which will be far from pleasing to England. A navy for Canada will probably be a development of the next three or four years. As the western provinces of Canada are as hostile to Japanese immigration as Australia is, and much more so than the United States, the yellow problem is likely to come up in a rather practical shape in the near future.

To paraphrase the words of the old Farmers' Almanac regarding snow in January, "About this time look out for editorials in some of the London newspapers on the subject of the decline and fall of the British empire." London will see in this concession to Australia a weakening of the imperial tie. And very likely London will be correct. A national consciousness is beginning to take form among the big British colonies of the Pacific, and these developments usually increase impetus with time. Australia has an area almost as large as the United States but has a population smaller than Illinois or Ohio. Its remoteness from the rest of the world has given it a sort of social independence which has made it an experiment station for trying out Utopias of several sorts. In this way it has accumulated an experience, and also a public debt, which are larger than those of many countries which have been on the map several times as long. Moreover as she is some thousands of miles nearer to Japan and most of the rest of Asia than is the United States, and as she is far weaker than us, the yellow peril takes a more portentous shape for her than it does in California or in any other of our communities on the Pacific coast. Her lack of opportunities for laborers, either from the inside of the outside, gives her far less attractions for the Chinese and Japanese than the United States offered, but on the other hand her facilities for resistance are far less potent than ours. England has a larger interest in the doings in the big western ocean than she looked for a few months ago, and so has the United States. London, Washington and Tokyo, and likewise Peking, are watching with a good deal of interest, the drama which is shaping itself over the sea of Balboa and Magellan. By the time that Admiral Sperry's squadron, ten or twelve days hence, anchors off Yokohama the Pacific problem will have begun to take shape which none of those capitals dreamed of when President Roosevelt was bidding it au revoir as it was swinging out from Hampton Roads.

THE NEGRO QUESTION.

The Taft meeting had a sousing effect on that dyed in the wool democrat Tom Study. "Think of Dudley Foulke and eight niggers on that platform!"

This feeling of contempt is typical not only of this distinguished democrat but of the whole democratic party. What could one expect of the party which during the days of the war stood on the side of the slave owners. What could one expect of the party which in Indiana was the "copper head" and "Knights of the Golden Circle" contingent, whose main object was to thwart the efforts of Governor Morton and to turn the state over to the confederacy. Was it not in accord with the southern democracy whose efforts have taken away the suffrage of the negro which the republican party gave them?

The attempt of Mr. Study to cast a slur on the republican party failed. The republican party stood in the past for the liberation of the negro—for the enfranchisement of the negro and stands there today.

The democratic party's record in the past is known and far from changing from it the platform of the party today contains not one word in favor of the negro.

The democratic party is responsible for the very things it finds fault with the negro for. The republican party on the other hand, is responsible for whatever the negro has of civic rights, it has encouraged his efforts for uplift.

Nor was the spectacle of colored men on the platform an incongruous one in Richmond the stronghold of abolition a station in the under ground

LIGHTNING CHANGE ARTIST



railway, the county which bred a war governor and which gave her sons for the cause of freedom and the preservation of the union. Nor was it incongruous that the son of Judge Lorenzo Taft, the great abolitionist should have among his supporters the sons of those men whom Lorenzo Taft helped to free from slavery.

TAFT, THE MAN.

It is safe to say that of the large crowd which came to see Taft yesterday, everyone felt the sincerity of the man. One couldn't help feeling that here was a great man, a man who had toiled all his working life in the service of his fellow citizens and not for himself. He gave the impression of being a tower of strength on whom the people might rely to see their interests taken care of.

As one man said: "I have heard Bryan and Roosevelt and now I have heard Taft. Bryan gave me the impression of talking then thinking. Roosevelt gave me the idea that he thought and he talked at the same time, but this man Taft—why he thinks and thinks many times before he speaks."

The air which Taft carried was one of confidence in himself and he made his audience feel confidence in him. He gave the impression of a performer of honest deeds.

And the most conspicuous thing was not his honest smile, but the thoughtful and intellectual look about the eyes.

Above all this man was not a "moon man, shining by reflected light" but the man of accomplishment and performance who had been not a moon, but a guiding star to two republican administrations.

Here was a man and not a weakling; here was a statesman and not a demagogue; here was a man of performance and not a dreamer and here was the friend of the people and the enemy of wrong doing.

Pointed Squibs

They call these things whirwind tours because the candidate feels like he had been in one.

Isn't it shocking to have the reputation that the Standard Oil has? And it is fortunate it has the money to ease its situation in an embittered world.

No one seems to be taking presidential votes on railroad trains. What's the use?

Now for football, the game we love but never can understand.

Think we must have surely "shown" Taft in Missouri.

It is rather mean to make Bryan do all his own campaigning. Where are the Democratic wheelhorses—loafing around in the pasture?

Theodore must be satisfied, as there is nothing proceeding from the white house but silence.

More sipping in Wall street because of the European war cloud. Those Wall street fellows are more or less inclined to be slumps.

St. Petersburg is not as well govern-

ed as Manila; in the latter they are decreasing the cholera cases.

There is a disposition not to leave the young Turks much of a country to rule over.

If we had only hurried up matters we might presently dig the deep waterway without any interference from water.

William R. Hearst is a yellow journalist and he shows up a pretty broad yellow streak in a number of yellow statesmen.

Heart to Heart Talks.

By EDWIN A. NYE.

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ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

A strange man, a strong man, a man of heroic mold, is Anthony Comstock of New York.

Whatever may be said of his methods, the sincerity of the man and his fidelity to his mission cannot be contradicted.

At tremendous personal cost he has devoted his life to the suppression of vicious literature.

Comstock began his career in 1873. The business of painting and distributing obscene books and pictures at that time was highly organized and flourishing. In a single campaign in New York he seized and destroyed the plates of 160 vice books and pictures.

The readers of moral cancer then began their work of misrepresentation and slander of Comstock. They have persisted ever since in their abuse and ridicule. They resorted to personal violence.

But Comstock has never flinched. Once he got a score of the sellers of filthy stuff in Ludlow street jail. Influential friends offered bribes. Failing in this, they caused smallpox scars to be sent through the mails to his home. At this time he narrowly escaped being blown up by an infernal machine.

One night at Newark a man whom he had in custody drew a knife at the jail door and severed five arteries in Comstock's face.

At one time he was assaulted and beaten into insensibility. On several occasions hired assassins have tried to kill him on the street or at his office.

For years this staunch cleanser of society's sewage has refused to speak of himself generally. Not long ago he gave his first interview. Speaking of the desperate encounters of his career, Mr. Comstock said:

"Solid blood, broken bones, assaults, ridicule, obloquy and libel have been my portion. I am content. . . . In thirty-four years I have made 2,691 arrests and seized more than ninety-eight tons of vice literature and pictures." It reminds me of St. Paul's recital of his life's perils.

Anthony Comstock may have made mistakes. At times he may have been indiscreet or finical. His conscience is the Puritan conscience. He cannot abide even the appearance of evil.

But—One cannot read the history of his grim persistence in well doing, his patient, almost pathetic bravery, and withhold respect for the man and his accomplishments.

WHERE BULLETS FLEW.

David Parker, of Fayette, N. Y., a veteran of the civil war, who lost a foot at Gettysburg, says: "The good Electric Bitters have done me more than five hundred dollars to me. I spent much money doctoring for a bad case of stomach trouble, to little purpose. I then tried Electric Bitters, and they cured me. I now take them as a tonic, and they keep me strong and well." 50c, at A. G. Luken & Co's drug store.

Kodol For Indigestion. Relieves sour stomach, palpitation of the heart. Digests what you eat.

WILL CUT LOOSE IN HIS MESSAGE

President Roosevelt to Strike Straight From the Shoulder.

NATION NEEDS THE TRUTH.

PRESIDENT WILL ENDEAVOR TO TELL IT IN HIS LAST APPEAL TO LAW MAKERS—YEAR'S EXPENSE ESTIMATES MADE.

Washington, Oct. 24.—While awaiting the verdict of the American people at the polls next month, President Roosevelt is hard at work on the last annual message he will send to congress. The final tone of the paper will be determined, of course, by the results in November, but much of the laborious work can be done now as well as after the election.

Unofficial intimation is conveyed that this last annual message of the president's will in many respects be the most memorable state paper which has ever emanated from Mr. Roosevelt. Plain speaking, it is declared, will characterize the document. There are many things the president has long wanted to say in a message, but divers considerations have deterred him. One of these considerations was that he was anxious to avoid doing or saying anything that would prove an obstacle to the election of a republican as his successor. The possibility of more seriously disturbing business also has kept him silent on some subjects.

He is profoundly convinced that the nation needs to be told the truth about some things concerning which it is now in error. The telling of some of these truths might have been taken as campaign material by the democrats. The telling of others might have served as a pretext for "big business" to still further tie up the industrial and financial situation. But next December Mr. Roosevelt's successor will have been chosen and political considerations need no longer make him silent. Also he will be within three months of the end of his term, and business could not well profess to fear a man within three months of yielding the sceptre.

Information is whispered about, therefore, that the president intends to "cut loose" and the message he sends to congress in December ought to make mighty interesting reading. The president can hardly hope that many new projects of legislation will be undertaken between the first Monday in December and March 4; but he will be well satisfied to set up some sign-posts that will point the way to legislation in the future.

The various executive departments of the government are engaged just now in preparing their estimates of expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1 next, and the paring knife is the instrument most in demand. From the white house the order went to department heads that estimates must be "cut to the bone," and from the department heads it percolated down to the bureau and division chiefs, thereby causing much agony of soul and perturbation of mind.

If there is one thing more than another in which bureau and division chiefs "revel" it is making estimates. They never are disturbed by such trivial facts as that a dollar contains one hundred cents. Indeed, the existence of such things as cents are wholly unknown to them—when it comes to spending the people's money. A thousand dollars is the smallest unit in which they can think; and, say, maybe they are not the generous souls when it comes to scattering around the thousand-dollar bills.

The result is that before a department head sends his estimates to Congress he always has to lop a few million dollars off the amounts asked for by his subordinates. Then the House appropriations committee gets busy and lops off a few million dollars more.

Despite this double lopping, the government's expenditures keep piling up at a rate calculated to stagger the man to whom "million dollars" means something more than two words of seven words each. Just now the deficit in the Treasury is being increased at the rate of two or three

million dollars a day. Doesn't take long to say it, does it? But a deficit of two or three million dollars a day would make a pretty sizable hole in time. Now, Mr. Roosevelt is not anxious to go out of the White House leaving a yawning deficit in the Treasury, therefore he issued the order to cut, slash and chop. That's why the bureau and division chiefs are not mentioning the name of Roosevelt when they count their beads these days.

When the farmer of the not-distant future has shucked and cribbed his corn, he will strip the leaves and husks from his corn stalks to feed his cattle. Then he will sell the bare stalks for almost as much as the corn is worth. That is the promise held out by the government scientists who have discovered that the making of paper from corn stalks is a commercial possibility. It means a lot to the farmer and to the users of paper and it means also that the ruthless destruction of forests will be at least checked.

Announcement may be expected at no distant day that the making of paper from the cotton plant is also a commercial possibility. This will mean as much to the Southern planter as the corn-stalk project does to the Western corn grower, and each will supply a strong argument to those who believe in a paternal government.

NOT A UNITARIAN.

Editor Palladium—In your issue of yesterday in a communication (as I judge) respecting the religious views of Judge Taft, the writer gives a long list of eminent people who have held the Unitarian faith. In this list is the name of Miss Frances Willard. I have personal knowledge that the writer is mistaken in the case of Miss Willard. Miss Willard was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and accepted the teachings of her church. If she ever expressed dissent from these teachings it is unknown to her closest friends. Referring to her reception into the Methodist church, Miss Willard says, "Those were solemn vows we took. I almost trembled as our voices mingled in the responses to the questions asked us." One of those questions was, "Do you believe in the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as set forth in the articles of religion of the Methodist Episcopal church." Can one believe that Miss Willard would have falsified in her answer to this question. It is true that she did say that she had "mental difficulty" concerning the doctrine of the Trinity, while she accepted it. She says, "While I will not judge others (Unitarians) there is for me no final rest except as I translate the concept of God into the nomenclature and personality of the New Testament, what Paul said of Christ is what I say."

My object in referring to this matter is not to reflect in any way, or cast the slightest stigma upon those who hold the Unitarian view of the Deity, but simply to defend the reputation of this peerless Christian woman from the implication of duplicity in professing to believe what she did not believe.

It is to be deplored that the exigencies of a political contest call for an undervaluation of the religious views of the candidates so that they are a matter of honor and probity. But if such must be the case, care should be taken that injustice be not done to those whose lips are forever silenced. Mr. Taft, as a Unitarian, has plenty of good company, living and dead, without associating with him in religious faith, one who could not be thus placed without casting a shadow upon her sincerity and lowering the estimate in which she is held as a woman of transparent purity and nobility.

GEORGE H. HILL.

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