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— and Sun-Telegram —

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WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

Although it is generally assumed that Theodore Roosevelt has no more worlds to conquer and that he has left nothing for his successor, Mr. Taft to do, there is one problem near at home to an occupant of the white house which lies in wait for any reformer with the temerity to tackle it.

That is the condition of Washington society. Many people are not aware that there is a crying need for reform and have rested secure in the belief that only Gotham and Newport are in need of the muck raker to uncover startling things for the public gaze.

The advent of many new men and their families to Washington occasioned by the recent election and the change in the administration, makes comment on the social life in the national capital pertinent.

Does any one remember why it was that congress took upon itself the task of removing the recognition of any one as the head of the navy? It was because one could decide the high arose between Gen. Nelson A. Miles and Admiral Dewey, as to which had the right to come down stairs first.

Do many people know that it is a matter still undecided, which has the right of precedence—the vice-president or the speaker of the house of representatives?

Does any one know that the speaker never attends a function of a social character when the vice-president is known to be there for fear the question will come up and the matter of precedence changed into one of precedence?

It is almost safe to say that it is a question of more importance in the minds of senators and representatives as to who will sit at the right and left hand of the host and hostess than it is concerning the passage of an important bill.

Many a woman who has set her heart on being a factor in Washington Society (large S please) has found on arriving, that with the exception of a few perfunctory calls paid by the members of the congress and their wives from the state from which they came, she is left painfully out in the cold. And however great the social position of the family in Podunk where there is one and only on Hon. in the town, the national capital spends little thought on the new arrivals unless there is much money to be expended in entertainment. Even then it has come to be recognized that these newcomers are fair game and many is the time that invitations are accepted and paid back with the faintest of nods when a great function is at hand. In fact it was wittily and truthfully said, that no one in Washington who was in official life ever thought of having any thing to eat at home as long as the season afforded a plenty of free lunch.

All this talk about reorganizing the rules of the house is as piffle beside the crying need of social reorganization. The Western man is able to hold his own in society and so is the western woman. That they should fall down and worship and allow themselves to be patronized, is apt to stick in the Westerner who sees it going. That the refinements of cultivated life should not be noticed, nor that the niceties of society are to be despised but that the advent of a new set of men in Washington should be fraught with such humiliating scenes as do actually occur and that the Westerner should lie down and worship before the Golden Calf or allow the Idol to be drawn over his prostrate and worshipping body, is a little disgusting.

There is need for reform.

Too often the Western man who does rebel from the treatment he receives, or is angry because he does not receive, goes his oppressors one better and becomes rude and despicable boor, he sees the amenities of social existence, the people right and left and infers a constituency that he has been abandoned. Never he says has he put on "nickel plated evening harness," he boasts of the snubs he has given those who perhaps out of pity for his loneliness have

tried to be nice to him. Either picture is quite the rule. It seems to the bystander that one is as bad as the other.

It is to be hoped that the representative of the people was not sent to Washington for the express purpose of being an ornament to society. He was sent there neither to bow down and worship people who appear in the Social Register and the Blue Book nor to be a rude and impolite and unapproachable man who makes an exhibition of himself on every occasion and brings the manners of his constituency out in Podunk into disrepute.

With these two extremes both the rule in Washington society it is no wonder that the ambassadors of European potentates are amused at any pretensions Americans may have for gentle breeding and conduct at the National Capital.

Gentlemen muck rakers here is a fine field for your operations.

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RED CROSS CHRISTMAS STAMPS.

People are gradually getting acquainted with the pretty little white and red 1-cent stamp now being introduced with its "Merry Christmas" greeting and a bright cross among holly leaves. People know in a general way that it stands for a philanthropic movement, but not many understand its origin or significance. Some have wondered what "new Yankee notion" it represents. There they are mistaken, for it is not a Yankee notion.

We borrowed the idea from Denmark, where it originated about four years ago. In that country much is made of Christmas, and it is celebrated in a spirit of charity as well as of gift giving.

Some four years ago a postal official of Denmark suggested the issue of a special government stamp at the Christmas season, the net proceeds of which should go to some deserving charity. The suggestion was taken up by a number of charity workers, and an arrangement was made by which the postoffice department agreed to issue such a stamp, the only stipulation being that it should not be good for postage and should be different in size and shape.

Thereupon the government printed 2,000,000 stamps and they were placed on sale at one-half cent each, the net proceeds to be used in building a hospital for tubercular children. It was fitting that this new form of Christmas charity, originating in Hans Christian Anderson's country, should end in its inception with

The Christmas stamp became popular at once and had a great sale. The first issue of 2,000,000 was soon increased to 4,000,000 and then to 6,000,000. The holiday sales the first season were over 4,000,000 stamps netting the hospital fund a handsome sum. The experiment has been repeated every year since and the hospital is now a success.

The idea was first introduced in this country by the Delaware branch of the Red Cross Society, about a year ago, as a means of raising money with which to fight tuberculosis. The experiment inaugurated by "little Delaware" was so successful that the national Red Cross Society took it up, and this year Christmas stamps for "sweet charity" are being sold all over the country. They are issued by the Government bureau of engraving and printing and printed by the American Bank Note Company, but the Government does not father them except by permitting them to be placed on any mail matter—letters, postal cards, newspapers, packages, anything mailable.

They do not pay postage, but one may place any number of them on a letter or package. It might be said of them that while they do not carry any kind of mail matter, any kind of mail matter will carry them.

Much of the work connected with their issue, circulation and sale is done gratuitously, and the net proceeds of the sales go to the Red Cross Society to aid its work against tuberculosis. The national society prints the stamps and supplies them to the State branches, but claims no part of the revenue beyond enough to pay for the printing. The profits from the sales in each State go to the Red Cross branch society of that State. At 1 cent each the net profit will be large, depending, of course, on the sales. Their use probably will become a permanent feature of the holiday season, and not the least of their benefits will be moral and educational. There is a double benefit in giving even one cent to a good cause.—Indianapolis News.

RAILROADS AND STATE COURTS.

Since the fashion has been set among state legislatures to fall in line with the rest of the states in making the two cent fare universal in this country, there has been much litigation concerning the matter. The railroads have almost invariably tried to arrange matters by applying at once to the federal courts. By a decision handed down from the United States Supreme court the other day, the railroads will have to exhaust the possibilities of the state courts before going

into the federal courts and only then when the state courts have refused it.

The railroads are much put out with the decision of the Supreme court, for they insist that it is unfair. About the truth of the matter is that the railroads, when a legislature gets busy, want to fly to a federal court and get that useful institution to issue a restraining order until the thing is decided by the court. Owing to the delays incident to the large amount of business of these courts, the railway can go on almost indefinitely doing as it pleases and the state is powerless.

However much this may inconvenience the railroads, it is a good thing that the decision has so been handed down. The citizens of states have very naturally resented the implication that their tribunals are unfair, and not to be trusted. Moreover, it has given birth to the feeling which is strong in many hearts, that the federal courts are the friends of corporate wealth and monied interests.

There is one point, however, that will not escape the ordinary mind. That is that the railroads have plenty of money with which to fight their battles, whether they be right or wrong. It is by no means certain that this will do away with the great delays which have taken place in cases of this kind. The only reason that the much injured public has reason to hope that things are for the better, is the fact that the railroads are displeased. However cynical that view of it may be, in this age, when corporations do pretty much as they please with legislatures, and even courts, it is sometimes the only encouragement the public gets.

Therefore if this action will (as it bids fair to) clear up the situation of delays and unnecessary restraining orders, it will be for the good of all parties concerned. However much the public service corporations may scorn the dormant public, it will be better in the long run if there is no serious friction between them.

THE LIVE STOCK SHOW.

A great stock show is going on in Chicago, called the International Live Stock Exposition. It is a great overgrown country fair, along lines commensurate with the greatness of Chicago as a live stock center. In this show there are 3,000 entries, valued at \$2,400,000, with an average value of \$780 a head. These entries consist of cattle, sheep, hogs and horses. The products of the farm are gathered here where most of their kind which are ultimately sold go to Chicago.

Of course, many people will say, "all very well as an advertisement of the stock yards." But the real reason for the show's being is not this alone. It is an educational affair.

The promoters of the scheme went through a process of reasoning something like this: "An improved and increased live stock production is necessary to prevent a scarcity of animals and meats. Present conditions are bringing a decrease in the exports of the country. Present conditions are resulting in a decreased fertility of the farming land of the country."

Hence the Stock Show.

Early in 1890 a conference was held in this country in which the "scrub stock" was doomed. It was agreed that the stock men of the country must be shown the folly of raising anything but thorough-bred stock. And so it has been the labor of the Pure Bred Live Stock Record associations since that date, to educate the farmer in the advantages of good stock and pure breeding.

This movement has been along lines parallel with the work of the various agricultural colleges which are also engaged in a similar work of education. And so above everything the show represents a rapidly growing idea which is in the future to more than double the wealth of those farmers who are wide awake enough to embrace it. It costs no more to raise good stock than poor stock and so the story has gone forth.

The show is in truth a "Feast of Fat things," as the Biblical prophet Isaiah has it. The men who have the thoroughbred stock did not feel the panic and it is safe to say that they ride behind the fast trotters and in automobiles.

THE FOURTH CLASS.

The action of President Roosevelt in placing all postmasters of the Fourth Class under civil service rules and making them places of life tenure is a step far forward. These small postmasterships are not worth trouble which they usually cause. The small postmaster who gets, say a hundred dollars a year for his services and the benefit that he occasionally receives from having the post office in his store, should not be made the

shuttle-cock of a presidential election. The examination idea will increase the efficiency of the postal service. The more government positions which fall into the civil service list, the more efficient service the public will receive and the more chance the public will have for entering the service of the country without performing yeoman service for a political boss.

It may be hard for Mr. Bryan to reconcile this action of the president with the pre-election charges which he brought against Mr. Roosevelt and the Republican Party in general as to using his patronage to assure himself a political future.

It is refreshing to see that the men who years ago were laughed at as being impractical dreamers, Roosevelt, Taft, and other men who were engaged in the business of the Civil Service Reform League are now coming to the front and having their innings. It is to smile.

WATSON MAY GO
TO TERRE HAUTE

Desires to Leave Sixth to Practice Law.

Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 4.—James E. Watson, defeated republican candidate for governor, may take up the practice of law in Terre Haute, forming a partnership with James E. Plety, who a few days ago gave up the Vigo county bench. Said Mr. Plety last night:

"Mr. Watson says he wanted to move to a larger city. While in congress, of course, he could not think of leaving his district, but now he wants a larger field to engage in the practice of law."

According to Judge Plety Mr. Watson has been in Terre Haute considering a location and he is said to have spoken favorably of the proposed partnership.

POISON THAT KILLS
MAN SENT IN MAILS

San Francisco Man Succumbs To Powders.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 4.—Poison conveyed in a letter mailed in this city yesterday is believed to have caused the death of Henry Boas, a salesman for an electric company who was discovered in a dying condition in his apartments here.

A communication purporting to be from a physician, but which displayed ignorance of the primary principles of medicine, was sent to Boas by special delivery and the evidence in possession of the police indicates that the letter, penned by a woman, contained two powders, which the recipient was urgently advised to take as a remedy for indigestion, but which were in fact of a poisonous character.

A Man May
Eat Any Meal

And Digest It Easily If He Will But Try.

FREE DIGESTIVE TABLETS.

Don't be afraid of your meals. The reason you have dyspepsia is that something is lacking in your digestive apparatus necessary to the stomach's work.

A perfect stomach loves to work. Perfect digestion is not afraid of any meal and benefits by its consumption of food the whole machine of man.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets make easy the work of digestion, because they combine active fruit and vegetable essences which are needed by the stomach.

These essences are so powerful they digest food without and from the stomach. They have done this with meal encased in a glass tube.

We will send a trial package to any one for his name and address.

Eat what you will or when you will then take a Stuart Dyspepsia Tablet and see how you will digest that meal. In a short time your stomach will have a natural supply of gastric juices and your whole system will be able to take of digestion easily.

Ask any druggist about Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. His answer will tell more than we can say. Ask him how they sell. If you want to buy them give him 50c. But if you want to test them write us and you will receive a trial package by mail without cost. Address F. A. Stuart Co., 150 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich.

MASONIC CALENDAR.

Saturday, Dec. 5.—Loyal chapter No. 49 O. E. S., stated meeting.

.. Henry W. Deuker ..

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SEVENTEEN DIE
IN FEARFUL STORM

Elements Lashing Newfoundland Coast.

St. John's N. F., Dec. 4.—Seventeen persons have perished in a storm which has lashed the Newfoundland coast for forty-eight hours. In all, ten fishing vessels have gone ashore, most of them breaking into fragments on the rocks. The victims of the gale were members of the crews of three of these craft. The storm began Tuesday evening and developed into a blizzard.

WED IN WINTER
OF THEIR LIFE

John Denlinger, 75, and Mrs. Stockmyer, Aged 70.

Eldorado, O., Dec. 4.—John W. Denlinger, aged 75, of Trotwood, O., and Mrs. Elizabeth Stockmyer, aged 70, of this county, were recently married at the home of the bride by Rev. Samuel Miller. They will reside at Trotwood. They are the oldest couple to secure a marriage license in Preble county in many years.

COMPLETE EVACUATION
OF AMERICAN TROOPS

No Reason to Change Cuban Plans, Says Wright.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Secretary Wright of the war department says he knows of no reason to change the plan for the complete evacuation of Cuba by American troops. This statement was made after a conference with Governor Magoon, who arrived here yesterday.

Dress Well

Be well dressed. There is a certain correct style about suits made by