

It is estimated that the advance in wages by the railroad companies will mean \$50,000,000 for railroad employes. It is also estimated that the advance in freight rates will mean \$120,000,000 for the railroads. This is at least one instance where it pays to be "generous." I certainly pays the railroads—and the shippers foot the bill.

Shippers Foot the Bill.

It seems to be generally admitted after a careful reading of the scenes before the arbitration board while John Mitchell was on the stand that the representative of the workmen acquitted himself much more creditably in the role of witness and gentleman than Mr. Wayne MacVeagh or any other attorney for the coal barons did in the role of gentleman and lawyer.

Mitchell as Witness.

Congressman Hepburn of Iowa says that should Mr. Cannon be elected to the speakership, there would be but little necessity for having any other representative in the house than the gentleman occupying the speaker's chair. For many years the speaker in a republican house has dominated the entire body. It would seem that Mr. Hepburn would by this time have become quite accustomed to one man power.

Weary of One Man Power.

A Washington dispatch under date of November 18 says: "It can be stated positively that the Panama canal treaty will not be ready for submission to congress when it convenes. Complications have since arisen over the question of the sovereignty over the canal strip." Can it be possible that the fears of those who protested that the Panama route was favored by certain influential men merely for the purpose of delay are to be justified?

The Panama Complications.

The St. Paul Globe gives the American people a pertinent reminder when it says: "We have played a contemptible part in the Cuban transaction. Our part was, moreover, foolish. But it was dictated to us by the protected interests and we filled the role doubtless to their satisfaction. It will be still further to their satisfaction should it now prove that little Cuba is in a position to refuse our exports and to seek elsewhere a market for her own."

A Contemptible Part.

Abram S. Hewitt was recently asked by a reporter for the New York World if he would express his views on the future of the democratic party. "No, sir," replied Mr. Hewitt, "I have no interest in the matter. I am not a democrat." Mr. Hewitt has made some progress. When he refused to support the democratic national ticket in 1896 and again in 1900 his refusal was based on the ground that he was "too good a democrat" to give support to that ticket. Now Mr. Hewitt is candid—and there are others who ought to be equally candid.

Mr. Hewitt's Example.

It is reported in the newspaper dispatches from Washington that "some of the statehood boomers now are urging the extraordinary strength of President Roosevelt in Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma; they say that this strength insures ten electoral votes for the republican ticket in 1904." These statehood boomers have hit upon the "argument" that will most appeal to republican leaders. Anything that will contribute to the success of the republican party, is interpreted by these leaders as being "good for the nation."

A Happy Hit.

The Chicago Tribune, referring to the riots in Havana, says: "President Palma has taken charge of matters and there may be no further trouble. He has all the men he needs, and will maintain order. He will be all the more determined to do so because the Cuban government is a new one and is on trial. If there were to be continuous disorder in Havana many would jump at the conclusion that the government was unable to protect either persons or property. President Palma is determined that

Building a Republic.

there shall be no just cause for such a conclusion." In other words, the Tribune means that some of the land-grabbing politicians in the republican party might rush to the assistance of Senator Elkins and insist upon the annexation of Cuba. If, however, there were any who imagined that the government of Cuba, or any other new government for that matter, could be built up without difficulties arising, they have not studied their history to advantage. It has not been forgotten that even in our own country, because of the problems with which our forefathers were confronted, there were many who were quite ready to jump to the conclusion that self-government was a failure.

Strenuosity and Addicks.

If Mr. Roosevelt had hunted bear as persistently as he goes in search of trouble he would not have returned empty handed from his southern trip. The Addicks and the anti-Addicks factional fight has raged within the republican ranks of Delaware for many years. By the appointment of an Addicks man to the position of United States attorney for Delaware, Mr. Roosevelt, it is claimed, has recognized the Addicks faction. It is very likely that before he completes his Delaware experiment Mr. Roosevelt will experience all the strenuosity that could be desired by a busy man.

The Hartford (Conn.) Times asks: "Is it not a well-known fact that certain republican leaders in New York and Pennsylvania have gained what amounts to an ownership of the party organization in those states by becoming the repositories of a secret fund amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, with which they pay the cost of political campaigns and elections, thereby securing control of legislatures and of the lawmaking power?" The readers of the Times are perhaps not in a position to answer its question, although it must be admitted that a great many people suspect that that question might be well answered in the affirmative.

Is it Well Known?

The London correspondent of the New York World cables to his paper as follows: "The foreign agents of the United States steel corporation have been instructed to offer finished steel abroad at prices below those quoted here. This plan was tried by the constituent companies of the United States steel corporation three years ago and was very successful. Excess of production over consumption in certain lines is said to be the cause of the reduction." And yet republican leaders are interpreting the result of the recent election as a decision by the people in favor of "letting well enough alone" on the tariff question.

"Letting Well Enough Alone."

The Rochester (N. Y.) Herald says: "The vigorous opposition to the ship subsidy grab waged by democrats and independent republicans for the past three years has thus far borne fruit in the stimulation of a healthy sentiment in favor of the protection of the federal treasury against the more brazen schemes of individual favoritism." Undoubtedly the Herald is correct in its statement; and yet it remains to be seen whether this fact will have any effect upon a republican congress. It did not restrain the senate from passing the ship subsidy bill and recent dispatches announce that Congressman Grosvenor has been at Washington for several days with the view of making a special effort in behalf of this iniquitous measure.

Sentiment and Subsidy.

The town of Hopkins, Mo., boasts of the oldest voter in the person of "Grandpa" Russell who is 100 years of age. Mr. Russell drove several miles from his farm and cast a democratic ballot. There are a number of younger men who might profit by Mr. Russell's example. Those who did not seize the high privilege of casting a democratic ballot do not know the gratification they missed and those who remained at home on election day and would not take the trouble to travel a few miles for the purpose of discharging their duty as citizens may not understand what it was that prompted this 100-year-old man to travel several miles in order to cast his vote. But Mr. Russell has the satisfaction of knowing that he discharged

A 100 Year Old Voter.

his duty as a citizen by voting; and he has the further satisfaction of knowing that he discharged this duty well by voting the democratic ticket.

Something for the farmers to think over is provided by the New York World when it says: "Grain exports for ten months are \$81,000,000 smaller than last year; provisions and live stock have fallen off \$33,000,000. But manufactured goods were sold abroad in quantities greater than last year. The sorry joke is that the farmer gets the same prices for home and foreign sales, while the manufacturer 'extends his market' by charging American farmers and other consumers 50 per cent more than the export price with the aid of the beneficent tariff."

A Sorry Joke.

In his address before the New York chamber of commerce, Mr. Roosevelt said: "It is a pleasure to address a body whose members possess to an eminent degree the traditional self-reliance of spirit which makes them scorn to ask from the government, whether of state or of nation, anything but a fair field and no favor; who confide not in being helped by others, but in their own skill, energy and business capacity to achieve success." Pity Mr. Roosevelt did not have the courage to incorporate something like this in his message to congress with respect to those men who in return for their generous contributions to the republican campaign fund, insist upon obtaining from the government special favors at the public expense?

Make the Message Readable.

Senator Allison made several speeches in Iowa during the recent campaign and some republican papers claimed that the senator was devoted to the "Iowa idea." But in an interview recently printed in the Chicago Tribune Senator Allison says that congress will be too busy at the coming short session to undertake "even an examination of the tariff," and even if an extra session should be called in March or April, Mr. Allison says congress could do nothing because "a long and patient investigation must be made by somebody before congress can be put in possession of the necessary information upon which to act." It begins to look as though the senator's devotion to the "Iowa idea" was for campaign purposes only.

Allison and the "Idea."

The New York Herald says: "What our own country needs is rest—rest from the manufacture of new securities, from flare-ups in Wall street and from 'corners' in Chicago and a chance to pull itself together, find out where it is at, pay off its foreign debts and readjust credits at home after the several years of speculative debauch through which it has passed. This must be done if we are to avoid a crash in financing and speculative circles, which would react to the injury of the legitimate industrial and mercantile interests, which are now so prosperous. This is no time for fireworks." Would the Herald have the American people overrule the decree of destiny? Would it have the United States' prestige as a world power utterly destroyed by penning up the bulls and bears of Wall street within reasonable limits? What has come over the spirit of the Herald's dreams? Does it not know that what it has said on this subject is a very near approach to lese majeste?

Look Out Mr. Bennett

President Eliot of Harvard recently said: "We have lately, to be sure, felt some hesitation whether there were not in our own country powers stronger than our government. We have had occasion to observe that combined capital seemed to regard the government of our country as a secondary power. We have also observed that combined labor seemed to regard the government of our country as a secondary power. But it is not so, gentlemen, and the coming years are going to demonstrate that the American democracy has the supreme authority in the continent it occupies." But what is President Eliot doing to bring about this reassertion of the American democracy? He seems to have many words by way of criticism for laboring men; but if he has yet uttered a vigorous protest against the trust system and the powerful influences that for selfish ends are controlling our government today, such utterances have not been given wide publication.

Some Strong Powers.