TRUTH ABOUT MARCUS HANNA

Life and Character Misrepresented by Malicious Political Opponents.

TIRADE OF INVECTIVE A BOOMERANG

His Relations with His Employes, His Generosity and Charity—Never Had a Strike in His Establishments.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—There is a portrait extant, the creation of a cartoonist. Into its light and shadow have been thrown all the vagaries, the freakish fantasies, of a perturbed, though fertile, imagination. Accuracy has not been a portion of his plan, nor resemblance the record of his achievement. He has not been constant to any individual type of symbol. He is a variable and a versatile gentleman. But mark: One feature of his work has been enduring from crude start to cruder finish—he is an alliterative person. His detail has had to do with dollar marks—dozens of them. They have been his paramount claim for recognition. He has been their dupe, their devotee. They have rendered him ridiculous. The result is not amusing—it is only pathetic. He is more to be pitied than censured. In his mind's eye he is a clever and ingenious individual.

This portrait has been thrown upon the public screen for the edification of the American people. His design has been to deceive and he has labored diligently, but vainly. His prototype is a myth past recognition. The gentleman is the creature of his fancy.

Now the facts about Senator Hanna are not generally known. Although every intelligent man realizes that the major portion of the silly stuff that is written about him every day in the year is mere tommy-rot—without any foundation in fact—and not worthy the credence of any thinking, self-respecting American citizen, yet a very respectable number of people really do believe that if he is not the grinding, grasping, seifish, corrupt combination of unholiness that the newspapers describe, he is, to say the least, an unwholesome type of politician, to be looked at askance and not to be trusted under any circumstances. They cannot reconcile Senator Hanna with their highest and best conception of American manhood and American citizenship; they cannot think of him as an unassuming, modest and kindly gentleman, who has absolutely no designs whatever upon the welfare of the American people, but who, on the contrary, loves his country quite as well as any of them. All of which, however, coincides most readily with the truth.

Malicious Misrepresentation.

Perhaps no man in the United States is more frequently misrepresented than Senator Hanna nor more mercilessly and unrelentingly pursued by his political opponents. And while the storm of invective that is regularly and systematically hurled at his head in nowise ruffles his even and equably poised temper, but leaves him quite unperturbed, yet the impression created is so obviously inaccurate and unjust that even some of the democratic newspapers are beginning to regard the tirade against him with aversion and disgust and are not only exercising the soft pedal in their harangue against him, but occasionally admit that there are more despicable men in America than Senator Hanna, and some of them have even gone so far as to mete out to him a measure of praise, although this latter is a rare concession.

A remarkable condescension of this character was witnessed recently when the man who does the political stunt on the editorial page of one of the prominent democratic newspapers of the east observed that there were at least two men in the United States who were thoroughly capable of getting down on a level with the every-day man with a message that could be best appreciated and understood. One of these men, according to this gentleman, is William Jennings Bryan and the other is Marcus A. Hanna. Think of that. Is it not a comparison without a parallel in the annals of Bryanism? And is not this characteristic of Mr. Hanna rather a peculiar one to be possessed by a man whose want of sympathy for the plain people has been so widely and persistently advertised in the columns of the opposition press? The truth is that his heart-to-heart talks have been one of the surprises of the campaign. No more forceful speeches have been made in years.

It is a fact that nine-tenths of the falsehoods that are so glibly fashioned day after day are inspired in the absence of the most remote reference to the truth, and by men who have not even a superficial knowledge, either personally or through any authentic source, of the man they disparage and abuse with such effervescent gusto. The stories written have absolutely nothing in common with the truth, and it is not intended that they should have. If Senator Hanna can be induced—as is probable—to make a few campaign speeches in the western country, where he is so little known personally, his advent will reveal him in a new light, quite foreign to the conception of the average man. And a large number of newspapers will be rather busily engaged between now and the approaching November explaining divers and sundry estimates of Mark Hanna, the man. For Senator Hanna is a gentleman whose broad sympathies, direct speech and unostentatious manner will appeal with particular emphasis to the westerner, whose candor is proverbial. Senator Hanna will appeal to them even as Governor Roosevelt appeals to them.

Moreover, the westerner believes in fair play. And he will want to know where all the fairy tales come from.

As an Employer of Labor.

Singularly enough, although Senator Hanna has for years employed organized labor upon a stupendous scale, strikes among his employes have been conspicuous through their absence. There has been no strike in the history of Mr. Hanna's life. There has been no strike among any men employed by any company in which he has had an interest. The record is clear. It is significant, too, that, during the great street car strike in Cleveland, still fresh in our memories, not a line in which Mr. Hanna was interested was tied up for so long as the fraction of a second. Every car continued to run regularly so far as his employes were concerned. Not a man in the employ of Mr. Hanna could be induced to join the strikers. For all of which there must be a very good reason. There is. It is this: Mr. Hanna may be approached by the humblest employe. There is no more accessible man than himself. He desires, and even invites, his employes to lay their grievances, their complaints, before him. It may be done with impunity. He may be seen personally. There is no formality about the matter. The employe with a complaint walks into his office without even being announced. The door is always open to him. There is no clerk to meet him in an outer chamber and convince him that it is not necessary for him to see Mr. Hanna personally. He walks directly into that gentleman's presence, and when he retires there has usually been an amicable adjustment of the grievance. These complaints are few in number—so few in number that there are almost none at all. Complainant and complaint are treated with the utmost fairness and consideration, and it is appreciated. And therein, in large measure, lies the explanation of his amiable relations with his employes.

Then, too, he interests himself in their welfare and he has their best interests at heart. Illustrative of his kindness of heart and generous impulses, many a motorman and street car conductor can testify to his sympathy and solicitation in their hour of need. He has visited their homes when a wife or child has been ill, or perchance themselves. Busy man that he is, he has found time for that.

Sometime ago Mr. Hanna asserted that he had been employing organized labor since 1878, and that if anyone could bring into his presence a man who would express dissatisfaction with the treatment accorded him, he (Senator Hanna) would be willing to resign his seat in the United States senate. He made this proposition in a previous campaign, and he reiterated it in this one, in the rolling mill district of Ohio. The disgruntled employe is still at large.

Mr. Hanna never discharges a man except as a last resort. This is one of the rules of his life, religiously lived up to. When he employs a man to do a certain amount of work he concerns himself no further in the matter. He takes it for granted that the work will be done. Like David Harum, he takes it for granted, and seems to think that the other fellow will take it for granted. He asks and expects him to attend to his affairs, as he is paid to do. He is always reluctant to lend the listening ear to charges against his men. They are usually made over and over again before he will take cognizance of them, and the employe is given every possible consideration.

Statements to the contrary notwithstanding, the following incident indicates very clearly that Mr. Hanna places no restrictions upon the political opinions of his employes:

One day recently a number of callers and newspaper men were gathered together in Senator Hanna's business office in Cleveland. The manager of one of the branches of Mr. Hanna's business from out of town was a member of the party. The conversation drifted into politics and Mr. Hanna's attitude toward his employes in this regard. Some one observed that as a matter of course the men in the employ of the senator were all republicans. The manager from out of town took occasion, in the senator's hearing, to disabuse their minds of this impression. "I have never voted any other than the democratic ticket," said he, "and I never expect to do so." Senator Hanna, in laughing over the incident afterward, said that he had never given the man's political complexion a thought nor did it concern him in the least. And it is safe to say that he could not state positively the political preferences of a dozen men in his employ.

One would not guess that a man so proverbially greedy as Mr. Hanna could find time to be in the least philanthropic. Strangely enough he is a benevolent man and contributes freely to worthy charities. It is all accomplished in a quiet manner and this feature of his life is not paraded, in accordance with his express wish. His magnanimity is seldom heard of, but numberless charitable organizations can testify to his helpfulness.

It may be, as has been asserted, that the decalogue and the golden rule have no place in a political campaign and that the tirade against Senator Hanna, in all its bitterness, will be continued indefinitely. But in spite of it all people are beginning to better appreciate and understand him. And one of the most democratic men in America, in the limelight of the public eye, is beginning to be estimated at his true worth. Which is as it ought to be.

L. E. W.

TELEGRAPHY WITHOUT WIRES

Marconi Surpasses Former Efforts in Sending Messages Through Space.

MASTS REPLACED BY SMALL CYLINDERS

Results of Experiments Conducted for Months—A System that Always Works—Description of the Apparatus.

Probably the most important step in the advance of wireless telegraphy toward practical use is that which has just been made by Marconi. Only those who have followed the new telegraphy in its development can realize what this latest success means to the world. What has been done in wireless communication previous to this fall is pretty generally known. The old system—for it may be called old now that an entirely new one has replaced it—consisted of an elaborate set of instruments and apparatus, the chief external evidence of which was an aerial wire suspended from a tall mast. It was in the height of the mast that the virtue of the system was supposed to exist. Marconi discovered early in his career and yet only a few years ago that if he doubled the height of his mast he could send messages four times as far. It was the so-called law of squares for ether wave effect. For example, he found that he could telegraph 100 miles if his aerial wires were 150 feet high at the terminals. It was easy to compute the height required for crossing the Atlantic with ether waves—a wire suspended 750 feet above the transmitting station would, according to the calculation, send a message 2,500 miles—and extravagant predictions were made, based upon the possibility of establishing the invisible communication between the Eiffel tower in Paris and a huge structure in New York or Washington. Some thought that, if the average height of the two aerial wires were 750 feet, messages could be exchanged. This was the theory of a number of German and English scientists, and thus a working plan seemed possible between the Eiffel tower and the Washington monument. But alas for scientific prediction that is not based on experiment! No one tried the proposed plan, not even Marconi, who succeeded in proving the law of squares in every attempt he made, but it may have been noticed that Marconi was not one of those who made the Atlantic crossing prediction.

Facts About the New System.

Now all this has been changed. The aerial wire and the tall masts are done away with, just as static electricity was replaced by chemical electricity and chemical by electro-magnetic. Marconi has already telegraphed sixty miles with a cylinder four feet high instead of a mast and wire 125 feet high. And we may be sure that if Marconi lets the world know that he has telegraphed sixty miles with a four-foot cylinder he has done more than that, for Marconi is a man who never lets the public catch quite up to him.

As long ago as last January Marconi began to work on the cylinder plan. The experiments begun in his laboratory at Poole Harbor, first, from room to room with receivers only one one-thousandth part as sensitive as the one he used for regular work between France and England; then he took his apparatus out of doors and, for several weeks along the beach, he went through hundreds of experiments with the utmost patience, gradually approximating the proper relation between receiver and transmitter until perfect messages were finally sent across the Isle of Wight, eighteen miles away. He did not tell outsiders of this success, because he felt that he must first perfect his apparatus and plans and demonstrate conclusively that the new system was better than the old.

In essential arrangement and working the cylinders plan is not greatly different from that of the aerial wire. The transmitting instruments are practically the same, a battery, induction coil, earth wire, etc., the only change in this part of the apparatus being the introduction of resistance coils where needed and an arrangement for sending "tuned" messages (which may be explained later.) But on the outside of the room which contains these nothing is to be seen. The cylinder stands close at hand, upon a table, it may be, insulated from any earth connection except through the transmitting instruments when in action. The receiving station presents the same appearance; indeed the stations are all alike, being fitted to send and receive messages in the same room. When a message is being received the wire leading to the cylinder is disconnected from the transmitter and attached to the receiver. This arrangement is used, of course, only when a single installation is in operation. With the apparatus for differentiating between messages which Marconi has worked and a number of installations may be working together in the same room or building and then it is possible to send and receive just as many different sets of messages as there are instruments, differing in capacity. But this is a further step, and just now Marconi is busy with the perfection of the cylinder plan on one installation. The duplex and multiplex systems are as sure to come as they have in the case of ordinary wire and cable systems.

Some Scientific Problems.

Just how the messages are sent is more of a puzzle now than ever. Formerly no one doubted the statement that ether waves constituted the element of communication. Now this is being questioned. Why not earth currents? suggest some, and the inquiry is not easily answered. The production of these high tension impulses might easily disturb the electric equilibrium of the earth, it would seem, and the very sensitive receiver in electric harmony; so to speak, with the transmitter would record this disturbance just as it occurs—in long or short impulses, or in dots and dashes as they appear on the recording instrument. Of course, if this be true, any properly arranged receiver can "take" the message provided it is within range, but the same fact is evident in the old system. That difficulty is obviated, however, by the syntonic apparatus, which makes it impossible for a receiver not exactly in tune with the transmitter to receive the messages sent. One may judge of the difficulty in finding the right electric "time" when one realizes that these high tension vibrations vary from millions of vibrations to trillions per second. It is interesting to note that 400,000,000,000 vibrations in the ether per second produce light and some trillions per second produce the X-ray. To the theory that this wireless telegraphy is carried on through the earth, that is, by disturbing the earth's electric equilibrium, the objection arises that such disturbance would affect near-at-hand wire or cable telegraph systems, dynamo power houses and all sorts of electric operations. Not so, necessarily. Sound waves and light waves do not conflict because their rates of vibration are different. These high tension vibrations of millions per second should not disturb vibrations which are lower, as are telephone vibrations, for example, or light vibrations which are higher. It is true that any disturbance of the earth's electric equilibrium will to an extent affect electric operations on the earth surface, but this is not a large factor and the difficulties can probably be easily overcome.

But it is not best to be too sure as to the nature of the operation. Marconi has given months of thought and experiment to just this problem, and it is doubtful if he, even, is sure of what the force really is. Tesla has made many predictions in connection with transmitting electric power in just this way. His plan meant simply that he would "kick" the earth electrically and the power put in the blow could be picked up anywhere on the surface of the earth, if the proper detecting and collecting apparatus was used. A French scientist has recently come forward with another plan quite similar, and the French government is trying to carry out his ideas. He proposes to test the earth's surface at a large number of places in France and find spots equal in electric capacity, or, by digging down far enough in the necessary places reduce all of these spots to an equal capacity. Then a disturbance at any one will be noticeable at all the others. It is a simple matter, then, to create a disturbance of long and short duration, as desired, and thus reproduce the Morse code. The difficulties here are also very great. A rain storm, for example, in one section of the country would be sure to change the electric capacity of the earth in that neighborhood.

It is with relief then that we turn to a plan such as Marconi's which seems applicable to all conditions. Whether it works through the ether above the earth, as we have been led to believe, or through the ether in the earth, or by a disturbance of electric equilibrium in the earth, does not matter so much as the fact that results are actually obtained.

"It works," says Marconi, "and that is enough."

Description of the Apparatus.

The present apparatus is very simple. The whole of it can be placed on an ordinary table. The cylinder, the new feature, is of metal, and its function is to radiate ether waves, if we hold to the Hertzian theories, or to provide a sort of balancing capacity, if we believe in the electric equilibrium disturbance theory. In either case it removes most of the difficulties of the vertical wire system. If the law of squares still holds good, a cylinder twenty-five feet high will be all that is required for transatlantic messages, a thirty-five-foot cylinder will send messages from England to South Africa, or from San Francisco to Manila.

If the result is brought about by the disturbance of the earth's electric equilibrium, then it will only be necessary to make a greater disturbance in order that the effect may be detected at greater distances than are now covered. This latter plan is necessary because of the varying capacities on the earth's surface and the loss of electricity at various points. It is something like pouring a little water into a pail that is already full; the water will overflow at the weakest point of resistance on the edge. A proper receiver open for the electric disturbance will detect the effect on the earth's equilibrium. In the receiver there is no change save that of sufficient resistances to bring it in harmony with the transmitter. The usual Calzecchi Onesti principle of detecting electric waves is used.

At the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science considerable attention was paid to a wireless telegraph plan which would work provided wires were laid at the terminal stations parallel to each other. Imagine trying to use such a system on ships at sea. If the wires are stretched through the water the length of the ships, messages may be sent when the ships lie parallel to each other and a limited distance apart. The inventor admits that his system will not work if the ships are not parallel. But how often will ships miles apart at sea be parallel? With the present Marconi system the ships may be in any position, and, no matter what the condition of weather, he can send messages from one to the other. With the apparatus which he can stow away in his cabin the captain of a ship can communicate to any other equipped ship or to a land station many miles away. His command of space is wonderfully multiplied, he becomes a master of wind and wave.

On land what a change can be wrought in communications. The simplified apparatus can be carried about almost as easily as a trunk. For railway trains, news distributing bureaus, war maneuvers, etc., it should be most useful. Army movements could be accomplished and campaigns carried on many miles from the seat of war. The apparatus could be set up and put into working order in half an hour.

Heretofore a large part of the expense of an installation consisted in getting and erecting proper masts for the aerial wire and it always took several days time. With the new plan the expense is about one-half of what it was. Our own government is opening negotiations with Marconi for the use of his system on our battleships and cruisers. Some forty English ships are at present being equipped as rapidly as the apparatus can be constructed and put into working order.

A great advance has been made. Marconi is only 26 years old and with the years of work which he has planned out ahead the imagination is taxed in the effort to put a limit on the possibilities of his future in the field of wireless telegraphy.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

Galveston's export trade amounts to nearly $40,000,000 a year.

An electrical horsewhip gives the animal a shock instead of a cut.

Minneapolis, Minn., boasts of a dressmakers' union with a large membership.

In Germany 544,283 children under 14 years of age are employed in various industries.

American manufactured articles sent abroad during August amounted to $35,783,000.

The government of Norway has decided to introduce the eight-hour day in all public institutions.

American coal arriving at Kronstadt, Russia, is quoted at $4.12 a ton, and experts declare that it is in no way inferior to Cardiff.

Every day the dispatch works of Glasgow dispose of 1,370 tons of garbage; 1,300 men and 300 horses are employed by the cleaning department. The cost of the operations for the year ending May, 1899, was $585,000; the revenue, $750,000.

The bona fide membership of the American Society of Engineers on September 1, 1900, was 86,517, a gain during the last month of 431.

Reports to the bureau of labor statistics of New York for the last quarter show that active organization work continues and that a gain of 15,000, embracing 151 unions, was made to the membership of labor bodies for that period. New York now has 1,603 labor organizations, with an aggregate membership of 247,902.

The prices obtained for the labor power of convicts in Georgia penal institutions last year varied from $98 to $102 per head. Out of this amount the state feeds and clothes the prisoners, furnishing healthy men for those whose energies are exhausted. Ninety per cent of the coal brick and lumber industries of Georgia is controlled by contractors of convict labor.

Since 1862 there have been only twenty-one strikes in France in the building trades. In all the cities of France the employers of the various branches of the building trades are organized into what are called syndicates, and the trade syndicate in turn sends delegates to a central building trades' syndicate. The same plan of organization is adopted by the workingmen.

American machinery will hereafter handle the coal and iron received and shipped in the harbor of Alexandria, Egypt, with a reduction in the cost per ton from $1.50 to 50 cents or less. An expert was sent to this country to study the problem, and the result is the construction of an elevated tramway on the American plan. American bridges and locomotives had been previously introduced in the land of the Pharaohs.

The largest order for equipment ever placed was taken by the Pressed Steel Car company of Chicago and Pittsburg last week. The order embraces the manufacture of some 6,000 steel cars of 100,000 pounds capacity for an eastern trunk line. More than 100,000 tons of steel will be required in making the cars, or twice the weight of the great Tay bridge structure. Work will be furnished to about 5,000 men for six months at the three plants of the company. The bill for this contract is reported to exceed $6,000,000. Night and day turns will be run until the contract is filled.