

CURRENT TOPICS

THE NEW YORK HERALD recently interviewed a number of prominent men asking, in their opinion, if Mr. Roosevelt ought to become a candidate for a third term. The Herald summarizes the views expressed in this way:

- Senator Cullom (rep.), Illinois—Yes.
 Senator Elkins (rep.), West Virginia—Yes.
 Senator Patterson (dem.), Colorado—No.
 Henry Watterson (dem.), Kentucky—No.
 Governor Hoch (rep.), Kansas—Yes.
 George C. Pardee (rep.), former governor of California—Yes.
 Champ Clark (dem.), representative, Missouri—No.
 John A. T. Hull (rep.), representative, Iowa—Yes.
 Senator Davis (dem.), Arkansas—No.
 John S. Wise (rep.), former congressman of Virginia—Yes.
 John A. Sullivan (dem.), representative Massachusetts—No.
 Chas. H. Grosvenor (rep.), representative, Ohio—Yes.
 J. Warren Keifer (rep.), representative, Ohio—Yes.
 W. J. Conners (dem.), chairman New York democracy—No.
 J. N. Adams (dem.), mayor of Buffalo—No.
 Charles A. Fowne (dem.), former representative—No.
 John Wanamaker, merchant—No.
 C. W. Post, merchant, Battle Creek, Mich.—Yes.
 E. C. Simmons, merchant, St. Louis, Mo.—Yes.
 H. A. Garfield, educator, Princeton, N. J.—In doubt.
 David Starr Jordan, educator, California—Yes.
 Goldwin Smith, publicist, Toronto, Canada—In doubt.
 Russell E. Gardner, publicist, St. Louis, Mo.—No.
 D. N. Parry, manufacturer, Indianapolis—Yes.
 William M. Hoffman, inventor, Buffalo—Yes.
 A. K. McClure, editor, Philadelphia—Yes.
 John Burroughs, naturalist—No.
 Nicholas Senn, M. D., surgeon, Chicago—No.
 Samuel Untermyer, lawyer, New York—No.
 Richard Mansfield, actor—Yes.
 David Warfield, actor—Yes.

THE NEWSPAPERS are having considerable to say these days concerning presidential nominations for 1908. The Washington correspondent for the New York Times says: "Advices from the West, telling of polls taken of republican members of legislative bodies, have caused an unusual amount of speculation today as showing the strength of Secretary Taft. Everybody has known that the republicans of the West were demanding the nomination of Roosevelt in 1908, but Washington has believed that the Roosevelt vote could not be diverted to Secretary Taft. Dispatches say that the poll taken of the South Dakota legislature, eliminating Roosevelt from the calculation, showed a larger vote for Taft than for all other republican candidates combined, and LaFollette ran an easy second. The straw vote showed: Taft, 46; LaFollette, 17; Hughes, 10; Root, 7; Shaw, 7; Fairbanks, 3; Dolliver, 3, and Moody 4. In Nebraska Taft received 38 votes; Root, 8; Beveridge, 7; Fairbanks, 6; Cannon, 3; LaFollette, 3; Cummins, 2; Dolliver, 2; Hughes, 2. In both legislatures the republicans declared by practically unanimous vote in favor of giving the nomination to Mr. Roosevelt, provided he would accept it."

DESPITE what the Times correspondent calls the "juggling and manipulation at the national capital" he says that the reports received from all sections of the country show that the great masses of the republican party are unwilling to take a backward step in the matter of corporation control as indicated in the policies which have been urged by the president. It is furthermore the opinion of this writer that the great body of republican voters have never abandoned the idea that the president could be induced to accept a re-nomination. This correspondent adds: "Letters to the Kansas delegation indicate that the people of that state at the present time are determined to send a Roosevelt delegation to the National convention. Other delegations from western states report the same political condition. Supporters of Mr. Taft here are convinced that just as soon as the nation becomes convinced that Mr. Roosevelt cannot be induced to accept the nomination the Roosevelt strength will shift to the secretary of

war. It is recognized here that the revelations made through the investigations of the interstate commerce commission will have a far-reaching effect in strengthening the Roosevelt sentiment in the republican party. Mr. LaFollette is bound to be strengthened in the same way, but the conservatives would gladly turn to Mr. Taft rather than take Mr. LaFollette. Mr. Harriman apparently has played havoc with the plans of the reactionaries. The railroad interests had entered on a systematic plan for checking the anti-railroad sentiment throughout the country when the Harriman explosions occurred. The conservatives in the senate were congratulating themselves on the progress being made in various states through favorite son candidacies, and Mr. Harriman has kicked the fat into the fire. The members of the house who must be re-elected recognize the situation. If it had not been for the disclosures made by Mr. Harriman the ship subsidy bill would have gone through that body in jig time."

THE FORAKER BOOM is on the way. A Jackson, Miss., dispatch to the Cincinnati Enquirer follows: "The negroes of Mississippi and Louisiana are preparing to do something for Senator Foraker, of Ohio, in the way of delegates to the national convention. A number of prominent negro politicians have been talked with in the last few days, and most all of them seem to be for the Ohio senator for the presidency. While none of those talked to will acknowledge that there is any concentrated effort among the negroes of the United States to boom Foraker, letters are being sent from the North by well known negro politicians asking that the negroes of the South support Foraker. The white republicans of Mississippi do not propose to give up without a struggle, and they are expected to put up a stiff fight to prevent Mississippi from sending a Foraker delegation to the next national convention."

NOT LONG AGO the Cincinnati Enquirer printed a story concerning a seven dollar bill. W. C. Moore, 120 Wentworth avenue, Wyoming, Ohio, writes to the Enquirer to say: "Referring to your article under the heading of 'Seven dollar bill,' in the Enquirer of February 28, 1907, will say I also have a \$7 bill, dated July, 1776. The one owned by me is similar to the one owned by Mr. Lowry, of Norwood, but must be in a much better state of preservation, as each side of the bill is equally plain. The front is similar to your description. The back of the bill shows in a bordered square a large maple leaf, above the words 'Seven dollars,' below 'Philadelphia, printed by Hall and Sellers, 1776,' the whole surrounded by a deep border. The word 'Serenabit' is on the border of seal in front instead of 'Serenarit,' as erroneously stated in your article. You gave the date as July 4 as that when congress authorized this bill. This is again an error, as date should be July 22, 1776. The face of the bill I possess bears the words 'United Colonies,' also 'Continental Congress.' You state Mr. Lowry's bill is signed 'William Webb.' I presume this is an error growing out of the condition of the bill, as no such person was authorized to sign such bills. The bill I have came into my possession through my grandfather, Dr. James Moore, who was born at Sadsbury, Pa., August 8, 1761, and has been in my possession for over sixty-five years."

GEORGE M. VICKERS, Philadelphia, Pa., has written a fifth verse for the Star Spangled Banner. The new verse follows:
 My Country, for thee, thou hope of the free,
 My heart thrills with pride and with loyal devotion:
 In union of States shall our strength ever be,
 One flag and one country from ocean to ocean.
 All our rights we'll maintain, all our laws we'll sustain,
 And our franchise as sovereigns no power shall restrain:
 And the star-spangled banner forever shall wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

COLONEL JOHN F. FINERTY, the talented editor of the Chicago Citizen, takes the Inter-Ocean to task because of a "hands across the sea" editorial. Colonel Finerty insists that the Anglo Saxon in this country are not numerous, adding: "There are of German birth and blood in the United States 20,000,000 souls. The Irish number as many. That makes 40,000,000. There are 10,

000,000 negroes; the Slavic nations, Poles, Bohemians, Russians, etc., are at least 4,000,000; there are 1,500,000 Hebrews and as many Italians; there are 2,000,000 Swedes, Norwegians and Danes and of French (old French and Canadian French) fully 1,000,000. Then there are Belgians, Hollanders, Swiss, German-Austrians and others, not less than another million. There are, to be brief, sixty-one million people out of 80,000,000 who are not 'Anglo-Saxon' either by direct or collateral descent, and of the 19,000,000 not accounted for only a miserably small percentage are English by blood or birth. Many renegade Celts, debauched by greed and ignorance, call themselves Anglo-Saxon. Take Whitelaw Reid himself—the Reids are Scotch Gaels with hardly a drop of Anglo-Saxon blood (if there is such blood) in their veins. Bryce's real name is MacBryce, often Anglicised to Bryson. He's as Pictish as a bunch of thistles."

CONCERNING the expatriation measure proposed at the recent session of congress, Thomas H. Brodwater writes to the Paris edition of the New York Herald as follows: "If it be true, as has been stated (see your Open Column of last Saturday) that a special commission has been appointed by the state department in Washington (which must mean by and with the consent and approval of the president and his cabinet) to recommend a bill before congress providing for the expatriation of any American citizen who voluntarily exiles himself for a period of five years, and that citizens residing abroad must register themselves once a year at the nearest consular office, does it not seem strange, in view of the fact that the supreme court of the United States has settled this matter by declaring that the power of congress by the constitution is to confer citizenship and not to take it away (beyond whose decision there can be no appeal except by an amendment to the constitution), that persons so high in authority should show so little knowledge of the laws governing this question as to propose such a measure, which in itself would be indirect opposition to the ruling of the highest tribunal of the country. The president might be excusable, owing to the fact that he has lately been much worried and concerned as to the welfare of his friends in the far East (see San Francisco), to say nothing of the little unpleasantness down in Texas (see Senator Foraker), but for a man occupying the high and responsible position of secretary of state—one who professes to be at the head of his profession—law—should ever have conceived such an idea, is not only inexcusable, but incomprehensible. If, as I have stated, this matter is correctly reported, then, in my humble opinion as an American citizen, independent in thought as to politics, I would say that the time has come, and none too soon, to have not only a new deal, but at same time an entirely new pack."

EXTENSIVE PREPARATIONS are being made for the national peace congress to be held in New York, Sunday evening, April 14. Announcement sent out by the committee says: "There will be a great musical consecration service under the leadership of Mr. Damrosch. Brief addresses will be made at that meeting by Bishop Potter, Cardinal Gibbons, Edward Everett Hale, and others. The congress will be continued through Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the following week. At the meeting on Monday, which will be presided over by Andrew Carnegie, addresses are expected from James Bryce, the new British ambassador, Senator d'Estournelles de Constant, the leader of the arbitration movement in France, and Count Apponyi of Hungary, one of the foremost statesmen of Europe, all of whom are to be in this country at the opening of the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburg, on the eleventh of April. During the two following days there will be a great women's meeting, a meeting of representatives of colleges, a meeting for wage-earners, a meeting for business men, and one to consider the legislative and judicial aspects of the peace movement. Some of the speakers at these meetings will be Hon. Richard Bartholdt, Hon. Theodore E. Burton, Hon. William J. Bryan, Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell, Presidents Charles W. Elliot, Nicholas Murray Butler, Woodrow Wilson, and David Starr Jordan, Miss Jane Addams, Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, Mrs. Edwin D. Mead, and Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer. The principal meetings will be held in Cooper Union and Carnegie Hall, with overflow and other meetings in different parts of the city. There will be one mass meeting for school chil-