

HARRIMAN AND HILL

Quite so. Mr. Henry M. Whitney, of Boston, director in the Boston & Maine railroad, is entirely right. Mr. Harriman and Mr. Hill by the consummation of their monarchical schemes are doing more for the government ownership of railroads than all the writers and orators in the country.

The people are also jealous of the existence of this imperial power in the possession of one or two men. It looks dangerous. The opinion is becoming common that, if economic power must be so concentrated, the concentration should be where the voters can control it.

The fear that government ownership would lead to the creation of a great political machine has also lost its point. Civil service rules together with labor unions put such a possibility out of the question.

THIEVES AND THIEVES

Four Nebraska cattlemen who conspired to steal 200,000 acres of government land have been condemned to pay the penalty for their crimes.

Suppose that these men had been convicted of stealing \$200 in cash or that by force they had held up a citizen and taken a dollar from his pocket they would not have got off so easily.

Whether viewed from the standpoint of punishment or warning the penalty inflicted upon the land thieves is not likely to have a great deterrent effect.

form, is little enough to pay for the use for years of 200,000 acres of land. The government is making a good beginning in prosecuting the men who seize the public domain, but the next convicted criminals should be given the extreme penalty of the law if the practice is to be rendered unpopular.

INLAND WATERWAYS

We have simply failed to realize the possibilities of these three or four trunk streams, their innumerable tributaries and the smaller rivers which Providence has planted as potential highways in nearly every state in the union.

TIMES NOT GETTING WORSE

No one, indeed can view the spiritual life of the time without feeling that it is one of high activity and not of somnolence. This, combined with the practical testimony that we have in all that we are doing both in an official and an unofficial capacity for the general uplift, must bring comfort and assurance that whatever shape passing developments take, there is no decrease of real faith, of real hope, of cheerful endeavor, of high resolve; and no diminution of the spirit of human brotherhood.

THE FAIRBANKS BOOM

Mr. Fairbanks is both nurse and nursed. A neat-fitting nurse's cap is hardly needed to complete the solicitous make-up with which he attends to his own presidential boom.

STAND PAT FOR SHARP PRACTICE

There has never been in the legislation of this country a sharper practice than that of the introduction of the reciprocity feature in the Dingley law and the subsequent repudiation of the whole matter.

VOTES IN FRANCE AND PHILADELPHIA

In France a man may, in certain instances, vote as many as five times. In Philadelphia the number of times depends upon the size of the majority the machine is figuring on and the population of the graveyards.

WHO SAID TALK IS CHEAP!

Congressmen spoke 9,000,000 words and appropriated \$1,000,000,000 at the short session of congress. If congressional words are going to cost \$11 each the country may find it necessary to send a bunch of deaf mutes to the national legislature.

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