



Fred Nye, one of the associate editors of the New York World, was killed in a street accident in New York City. He was 51 years of age and was formerly a newspaper man in Nebraska.

Eight American soldiers, members of the hospital corps, were stricken with yellow fever in Cuba.

President Roosevelt was urged to intervene in the telegraphers' strike, but he declined.

The Pope manufacturing company at Hartford, Conn., has gone into the hands of a receiver. Albert L. Pope has been appointed receiver. This company was a large manufacturer of automobiles and bicycles.

Secretary Taft delivered the opening speech of his campaign Monday, August 19, before the Buckeye Republican club at Columbus, Ohio.

The Georgia legislature has passed the so-called negro disfranchisement bill.

In convention at Baltimore the Maryland republicans made the following nominations: For governor, George R. Gaither of Baltimore; for attorney general, Hammond Urner of Frederick; for comptroller, James P. Baker of Kent county; for clerk of the court of appeals, Thomas Parvan of Calvert county.

An Associated Press dispatch from New York says: "Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, according to the Times, has decided again to come to the relief of the money market, and distribute government funds to aid the movement of crops this year. The plan pursued last year is to be followed with some modifications, but in general it will be that adopted by Secretary Shaw in his regime. One of the ideas in the minds of the officers of the treasury department is that the government should place its funds in the banks, subject to withdrawal by check. It is not expected that anything like the amount needed last year will be called for this season. If it is the treasury will be in better shape to meet the call, as under an act of last congress customs receipts may be deposited in the banks. Under the new method the customs receipts will be used for the relief of the smaller institutions, while the larger fund will be sent to the centers of distribution."

Secretary of War Taft delivered the "opening speech" of his presidential campaign at Columbus, Ohio. Concerning this speech the Associated Press makes the following synopsis: "Secretary Taft declares the railroad rate law to be one of the best enactments of the last congress, opening the way more fully to stop discriminations, rebates and other railroad evils. He answers some objections made to the bill by Mr. Bryan and admits that amendments are necessary. Mr. Taft says he is opposed to government ownership, and tells why. He discusses the trust question and defines unlawful monopoly. He would not eradicate trusts, but would restrain unlawful combinations, and believes that imprisonment of one or two of the chief promoters would have a healthful effect. Federal license of corporations, he thinks, is worth a trial. State

legislation is competent to deal with the question of swollen fortunes. The secretary concurs absolutely in the policies of President Roosevelt, and denies that they tend toward socialism. He pays considerable attention to W. J. Bryan's theories of government. He favors change in tariff schedules, but says that any attempt to change the present system to a free trade basis will lead to disaster. He gives the president credit for present day reforms."

On the tariff question Mr. Taft spoke as follows: "I come now to the question of tariff revision, and its relation to the unlawful trusts. The Dingley tariff was adopted immediately after the election of McKinley. Since that time we have passed through the Spanish war and have had a decade of prosperity and an increase of expansion of trade unexampled in the history of this or any other country. The republican principle of the protective tariff is, as I understand it, that through the customs revenue law a tariff should be collected on all imported products that compete with American products, which will at least equal a difference in the cost of production in this country and abroad, and that proper allowance should be made in this difference for the reasonable profits to the American manufacturer. The claim of protectionists, and it has been abundantly justified in the past, is that protection secures a high rate of wages and that the encouragement it gives to the home industry operating under the influence of an energetic competition between American manufacturers, induces such improvement in the methods of manufacture and such economies as to reduce greatly the price for the benefit of the American public and makes it possible to reduce the tariff without depriving the manufacturer of needed protection and a good profit. It is the duty of the republican party, however, to see to it that the tariff on imported articles does not exceed substantially the reasonably permanent differential between the cost of production in the foreign countries and that in the United States and therefore when changes take place in the conditions of production likely to produce a very large reduction in the United States, it is time that schedules be re-examined and if excessive that they be reduced so as to bring them within the justification for the rule, by which the amount of tariff to be imposed under the protective system is properly determined. Whenever the tariff imposed is largely in excess of the differential between the cost of production in the two countries, then there is formed at once a great temptation to monopolize the business of producing the particular product, and to take advantage of profit in the excessive tariff. This denies to the people altogether the economies of production that competition under a protective tariff should develop. In the enormous progress in the manufacturing plants and the improvements in methods which have been brought about in the last ten years in this country, there is the strongest reason for thinking that in many industries the difference between the cost of production in this country and abroad has been reduced."

On the Brownsville affair he said: "The attitude of the president and the war department and the reasons for the action taken in respect to

the Twenty-fifth infantry were sufficiently set forth in the communications by the president and by me, sent to congress with the evidence then taken. Since that time, the senate committee on military affairs has taken 3,200 printed pages of evidence in the same matter, and the hearing is not concluded. Until the hearing is closed and the committee makes its report, it would be premature for me, in view of my official relation to the matter, to express an opinion as to the effect of the senate evidence on the issue which the president decided."

LOSS OF LIFE BY RAILROADS

The loss of life by railroad accidents in the United States is twenty times as great as it is in England.

Statistics have just been issued in Washington showing that during the first three months of this year 20,563 persons were killed or injured on American railroads. There were 2,078 collisions and 1,913 derailments. The damages to railroads amounted to \$3,536,110.

There is no excuse for this great loss of life and property, which are due almost exclusively to negligence on the part of railroads. Failure to have installed safety appliances is the direct cause of almost every one of these accidents, and this failure is attributable to the policy under which too many American railroads are run. Railroads are, first of all, money-making institutions in this country, and everything is sacrificed to the demand for dividends. Employes are over-worked and underpaid, and the expense of procuring safety too often prevents it from being obtained.

The block signal system, if carefully carried out, will enormously lessen the danger to life in railroad travel, and some of the great railroads use it. But it is costly, and hence nine-tenths of the railroad track in the country lacks such protection.

Railroads should be compelled to install the block system on all lines.—St. Joseph (Mo.) Gazette.

MACHINERY AND LABOR

There is one phenomenal feature in our American upward and onward rush in material development. The inventive genius has been pre-eminent and the devices for eliminating individual labor has been one of the striking things about the many inventions. When the McCormick harvesters were first put on the market the farm hands made a very effective protest by burning the machine as it stood in the field. The more labor

is dispensed with in one line of work the greater the demand for it in some other. What would the farmer do today if he had no self-binder and buncher. If dependent upon the old methods of harvesting, his grain would go to waste in the field. It is more difficult to get hands in the limited way by the farmers than when all farm work was done by individuals. Machinery has multiplied the demand for mechanics faster than the consuming element and farm producing labor. But this is not true any where to the extent it has attained in the United States. The European farmer uses some modern farm machinery, but nothing like we do in the United States. Those who do this among them are the few who farm on an extensive scale. The small farmer can not afford to buy machinery to do what he and his children can well do by hand and then have plenty of time hanging on his hands. The great extent of farm acreage as the element with us that makes the demand for increasing farm machinery.

In the future the time will come when there will be a re-adjustment of farm labor conditions in the United States. The immense foreign population all the time coming to this country with the fast increasing home population will eventually reach the limit of expansion in land ownership on a large scale. The time will come when division and partition will go on to the extent of putting a family on every 160 acres or less. This will be greatly to the saving in farm products as compared with the present. We do not believe the time can ever come when landed estates like those of Great Britain France or even Germany can become a permanent American policy or institution. The very spirit generated by the national government in putting the lands into the hands of the people will in the end demand the same to be true of any large landed estates that may be. There will come a time when there will be a limit to the demand for more men and women in manufactories and a call back to the soil. This is not coming tomorrow but is one of the possible and final inevitable conditions which will not be for the worse but for the betterment of social and economic conditions. Society will adjust itself to all new rising conditions. Machinery new and improved will still be invented to take the place of labor. Labor hours will be shortened in all the most toilsome and over-burdened toll callings of mankind. The adjustment will be made to give each one more time for mental and artistic culture and for those enjoyments that enhance the individual happiness and make for the general good of all.—Lincoln, Ill., Daily Courier.

Tools of Accuracy



Tools for the workshop, farm or home must be tools of accuracy. A Plane, for instance, to smooth a board properly must have a keen blade, carefully adjusted—its surface must be true and it must fit the hand.

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