

worth while to note, in passing, the splendid courtesy and admirable restraint evidenced by the southern senators in refraining from a reply to Mr. Heyburn. The provocation was admittedly great, but how honestly thrilling it was that the temptation was refused! It was a fine compliment the southern senators paid their northern colleagues—if we may use an expression in differentiating senators that is, we think, all but obsolete at last, praise be—when the southerners elected merely to pass the resolution to a vote, secure in their faith that their friends of the north would meet the issue in a manly and patriotic manner, and that without one word of argument from the defense! Mr. Thomas Nelson Page, in his 'Life of Robert E. Lee,' relates the following incident, occurring after the close of the civil war: 'On one occasion, General Lee was approached with a tender of the presidency of a life insurance company, at a salary of \$50,000 per annum. He declined it on the ground that it was work with which he was not familiar. 'But, general,' said the gentleman who represented the insurance company, 'you will not be expected to do any work; what we want is the use of your name.' 'Do you not think,' said General Lee, 'that if my name is worth \$50,000 a year, I ought to be very careful about taking care of it?' It is, perhaps, that feature of General Lee's character that Senator Heyburn finds it difficult to understand.'

STATE SENATOR Conger of New York filed charges against Senator Allds, alleging that he had accepted bribes. Investigation resulting from these charges is now attracting widespread attention. The Albany correspondent for the New York World says: "If probed to its logical conclusion, the new evidence of corruption brought out will make possible disclosures of even greater moral obliquity than have been so far brought to light and will involve some of the highest republican politicians who have wielded power throughout the state during the last ten years. There is no possible hope in the minds of even the most practical of the old-time politicians that a general investigation into the alleged corruption and wide range of legislative debauchery can be avoided. The full purpose of the machine leaders, who foresee disaster in any event, is to prevent the investigation from assuming the proportions of a deluge that will engulf and dishonor many names now held in high esteem. Even Conger, the author of the original charges, seems powerless to stay a probing that will literally fulfil his prediction that his own accusation against Allds will be presented in the light of a 'flea bite' as compared to the larger consequences."

R. G. DYERNFORTH, former commissioner for patents of the United States, writes to the New York World this interesting letter: "I was a soldier in the war from '61 to '65 and have never voted anything but the republican ticket. I do not think the democratic party has any more sense now than it ever had, but I think the republican party has less and is responsible for the present miseries—high prices, etc.—so next time I shall vote the democratic ticket. I am satisfied that the next congress will be democratic, and I believe that the next president of the United States will be a democrat. It costs the people too much to live under republicanism. We have to suffer to live. We don't want another rising of the people as in the French reign of terror."

THE WEEKLY Review, the organ of the English speaking Catholics at Rome, has printed an editorial relating to the Fairbanks' incident. The Review says: "Mr. Fairbanks' Protestantism is broad and logical and allows him to put his stalwart shoulder to the wheel to help on every good cause. Though a strong party man in politics, his devotion to party does not make him desire the disappearance of all parties but his own, and he has the same theory with regard to religion. He is a Methodist, but he has no wish that Methodism should be the only religion in America. Mr. Fairbanks is a type of millions of good Americans, friendly to the Catholic church and believing that it makes little difference what a man's religion is provided he does his best to live up to it." After reviewing the incident between the former vice president and the vatican, the Review emphasizes the tolerance of the vatican and points out that a man may spend his whole life working in the vatican archives and galleries without even being questioned as to whether he is a Turk or an atheist. He may even be a diplo-

matic representative to the holy see without being a Catholic. "But even the all-embracing liberality of the vatican," continues the Review, "can not include the Methodist organization here, which entered Rome through the breach made September 20, 1870, with Garibaldi's red shirts. Many animosities have resulted in these forty years, but they have made no change in the spirit or the system of the Methodists. Their organization as established does not minister to the wants of visiting Methodists, here, but is directed toward perverting the faith of the people. Not only that, but the Methodists have always been bitterly and avowedly anti-papal, eagerly welcoming every opportunity to discharge their venom against Catholicism and the holy see. Statistics, compiled by themselves, show that the cost of making a single Roman a Methodist averages 7,000 francs (\$1,400). During the last forty years they have spent twelve millions in this unholy work of proselytizing Catholics, especially Catholic children. Mr. Fairbanks did not know these facts or he would not have given his promise to speak in the Methodist church twenty-four hours before the time fixed for his audience with the pope. Otherwise he would have understood how incompatible was his public appearance in this hot-bed of anti-Catholic proselytism and anti-papal bitterness with an audience with the holy father."

STOCK EXCHANGE gambling was vigorously denounced in an address delivered at Troy, N. Y., by Supreme Court Justice Wesley O. Howard. Justice Howard said: "While the great men of our day are enacting and enforcing the most drastic statutes and ordinances against Sunday baseball, boxing matches, moving pictures and tipping waiters, great cankerous evils are eating at the foundation stones of this republic. While the extremest penalties are being provided for the suppression of penny-ante and kindred crimes, a gambling institution rivaling Monte Carlo in magnitude and audacity, and rivalling it in the wild uproar of its conduct, in the colossal magnitude of its stakes and in its astonishing freedom from official interruption, is said to flourish in the very heart of the metropolis. And while business establishments are being wrecked and innocent stockholders brought to penury the authorities are lulled into repose by the childlike hope of the committee that this giant rendezvous of gambling will reform itself. While subtle and chimerical objections are being made to an income tax the common house owner and the farmer bend their weary backs without hope beneath the galling load of local taxation. And while the doctrine of states' rights debated by Calhoun nearly a century ago is being resurrected and interposed between the plutocrat and a federal tax, no statesman is racking his brain to discover a similar doctrine, ancient and fanciful, to cast between the taxpayer and the taxgatherer at home, although his heart be wrung by the woes of the common people."

ADDRESSING THE National Press club at Washington Speaker Cannon talked about "hobbies." An Associated Press report says: "Among other 'hobbyists' who spoke during the evening, 'Uncle Joe' being reserved until the last, were Willis L. Moore, F. Weatherbro, Dr. Harvey Wiley of pure food fame, Gifford Pinchot, 'still chief of the forestry of the United States,' according to the introduction given him by Henry Hall, presiding officer of the evening; Commander Peary of north pole renown and Champ Clark, minority leader in the house. Speaker Cannon, who during the evening sat listening with close attention to the other speakers and smoking big, black cigars, declared that his 'hobby' was in 'watching other men's hobbies.' The men of one idea, he declared, are all good men and we wish them success and long life, although he said that it makes one uncomfortable often in watching other men's hobbies.' Taking up those who had preceded him, he declared that Dr. Wiley was all right, but that if he had been allowed to have his own way entirely he would have had everybody afraid to eat anything for fear of being poisoned, that conservation was a good thing, but that he was not afraid of all the coal being consumed or all the timber being used up, and that much had been done in the way of conservation from a practical standpoint for many years, and as for Commander Peary, he was glad a Caucasian had reached the north pole, but while Commander Peary had the glory Dr. Cook had the money. Commenting on the coming congressional campaign in Illinois, Champ Clark having

referred to the question of close votes which had decided issues, Speaker Cannon declared that he did not know whether he would go back to congress or not. Then, hesitating a moment, he added: 'Anyway, there will be a lively time of it.'

MR. TAFT'S INJUSTICE TO HIMSELF

On the 22d of September, 1908, Mr. Taft, then a candidate, said at Chicago:

"The revision of the tariff which republicans desire is a revision which shall reduce excessive rates and at the same time preserve the industries of the country * * * I wish there to be no doubt in respect to the revision of the tariff."

On the 16th of December, 1908, Mr. Taft, then president-elect, said in New York City:

"Unless we act in accordance with our promises * * * we shall be made accountable to the American people and suffer such consequences as failure to keep faith has always been visited with. It would be better to have no revision at all unless we are going honestly and fairly to revise the tariff on the basis promised by our party."

On the 30th of June, 1909, Mr. Taft, then president of the United States, said in New Haven:

"Now I venture to say that if the republican party does not live up to its promises, and what the people expect of it, it will be relegated to a position like that of his majesty's opposition."

On the 5th of August, 1909, when President Taft signed the Payne-Aldrich bill, he said:

"This law is not a perfect tariff law or a complete compliance with the promises made in the republican platform, strictly interpreted."

On the 12th of February, 1910 (last Saturday), speaking again in New York, President Taft said:

"Nothing was expressly said in the platform that this revision was to be a downward revision. * * * I therefore venture to repeat the remark that I have had occasion to make before, that the present custom law is the best that has ever been passed."

The president is doing his best for Messrs. Cannon and Aldrich, but he is strangely neglectful of himself.—New York World.

TRYING TO EXPLAIN HIGH COST OF LIVING

The reason for the rise in the cost of necessities can easily be traced to the increase in our measure of values, the precious metal gold, and possibly in some cases to the combinations in restraint of trade.—President Taft, at the Lincoln dinner, February 12.

I am gathering proof now which will demonstrate that the food products of the American farms are being sold in foreign countries cheaper than in the United States. This is not due, as some have said, to the excess of production over consumption and the necessity for getting rid of the surplus abroad. It is due to the trusts—just to the trusts.—James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, January 24.

You can eliminate the packers entirely from the situation and high prices will remain. Prices are high by the laws of nature, and natural laws can not be changed. The best we can do is to comply with them. Increase production and prices will fall.—J. Ogden Armour, January 11.

The cost of living is due to the cost of living high.—James J. Hill, January 24.

There is a widespread belief that among the causes of the high cost of living combinations and conspiracies to stifle competition and advance prices figure largely. This belief apparently is justified by the enormous difference between the prices paid to farmers and other producers and those paid by consumers to dealers.—Judson Harmon, Governor of Ohio, January 12.

It costs me more to keep my family than it did three years ago. The cost of living has been going up steadily for fifteen years, and it is the maladministration of the republican party that is to blame.—Representative Fitzgerald of New York, January 17.

I do not know how far trusts and monopolies have caused the higher cost of living, but that feature of the problem should be carefully scrutinized. The exact extent to which they have added to the people's distress and embarrassment should be determined.—United States Senator Elkins of West Virginia, January 15.

The people of the west know where to place the blame for the present high cost of living. They know the republican party broke faith with them when it promised a downward revision of the tariff and then revised it upward.—Norman Mack, Chairman Democratic National Committee, February 2.