

Firebrand Foraker.

It is not a pleasant thing to do, but really we shall all have to change Senator Foraker's breezy and picturesque cognomen of Fire Alarm to that of "Firebrand," which is neither breezy nor picturesque, but lurid.

His inflammatory address to the negro students, teachers and preachers of Wilberforce University, at Xenia, Ohio, was as dangerous a firebrand of demagoguery as this country has heard in many a year.

In its stirring up of race hatred the speech is a menace to the whites of every community in which negroes are numerous, whether it be in Ohio or in a Southern State.

For the negroes, Senator Foraker's teaching is as mischievous and as misleading as any they have received since they were emancipated. Through the educated young men, the teachers and the preachers who heard him, Senator Foraker would incite them to be arrogant and aggressive in demanding concessions which the whites will not grant in Ohio or elsewhere.

The negroes need guidance, and the Firebrand Senator misleads them. Still worse, he poisons the sources from which it has been hoped they might, in time, receive right guidance through enlightened members of their own race.

If there is any element in our negro population which can help the race forward and upward through sound teaching, it is the Bishops, preachers and school instructors.

Friends of the negro in the South have exerted every effort to gain the co-operation of this class in inculcating principles of honesty and industry among the negro masses. They have had little success.

Appeals to race passions, such as Foraker made to the Bishops, the preachers, the teachers and the students at Wilberforce, destroy the hope of success. And unless there is a leaven of progress such as Booker Washington is trying to introduce among the negroes themselves, the race is sure to sink deeper in idleness, vice and worthlessness.

The game of politics has not been played so recklessly with fire in thirty years in this country as Foraker is now playing it. But the torch in this instance is quite as dangerous to the man who carries it as to anybody else.

That Railway Commission is having a fine time while the farmers are paying the freight. The trio formed a lobby, and consequently the law-makers fixed their annual salary at \$3,000 each. Since then the Commission has done nothing for the benefit of any one.

A list of pass holders over the railroads has been filed but what of that? And now we hear that the board will ask the next legislature for an appropriation to pay expenses of investigating and ascertaining what the railroads are worth so that rates may be properly fixed.

In the meantime the common people must continue to pay exorbitant rates. Let us have an investigation of this do-nothing Commission, as it has not obeyed the law.

JUDGE LOVING, who is on trial at Houston, Va., for murder, has doubled his defenses. In addition to the "unwritten law," he pleads that he had been drunk for four years before committing the murder.

THE teacher of the new doctrine who declares that "religion in the past has been made too much of a bugbear and that men have been scared away from worship because of the lugubriousness of the creeds" may be putting the case too strongly, but it is certain that a new church with cheerfulness for its cardinal principle would detract nothing from the value of the sum total of religions.

WASHINGTON advises state that a person in Stockholm, Sweden, by the name of Aktibolaget Obligationskontoret has been denied the use of the United mails because he sold lottery tickets in this country. He doubtless also gave postal clerks a bad case of optical indigestion, since he looks like pied type.

PATRIOTIC celebration of the glorious Fourth of July is proper and laudable. It is the anniversary of one of the most fruitful events in the world's history. As the anniversary of the advent of the United States to a place among the nations of the earth it is right that it should be a legal holiday in every hamlet of the union, and that it should be observed by Americans wherever they may sojourn.

To make the day a memorable one for Young America, it is well enough to celebrate with fireworks, but there is no patriotism in turning the Fourth of July into a day of license for rowdies who delight in noise and reckless shooting.

WHEN a town fellow visits a country home and they sit him down to a table laden with hickory wood smoked ham as sweet as nectar, fried eggs fresh from the chicken factory, home-made bread, butter churned before breakfast, milk and cream that never saw chalk or water, and a score of sweetmeats, pastries and fruits, and then apologize to him for not having something to eat, he cannot help but wonder what they do have when they are expecting company.

THE Charleston News and Courier has discovered something that is a cardinal principle with all Democrats and other honest men which the strenuous "gun-toter" of Oyster Bay will not benevolently assimilate: Mr. Bryan having defined a Democrat as "one who believes in the rule of the people" it is certain that Mr. Roosevelt will perjure the definition for his party, but if Mr. Bryan has said that "a democrat is one who believes in tariff for revenue only" he would at least have given his party something that the republicans dare not steal.

THE old union soldiers and the negroes seem to be making common cause against Secretary Taft on the grounds that he is the "heir apparent" of President Roosevelt. Former Lieutenant-Governor Lyons, of Ohio, a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Joshua Jones, colored, President of Wilberforce University, made speeches at Xenia, Ohio, recently, in which they belong. Gov. Lyons said: "This country has never indulged in the heir-apparent theory, and is now too far advanced in republicanism and democracy to have any use for such a doctrine. I am in favor of Foraker because I want no man at Washington to represent me who has not a mind of his own, and I admire him the more if his judgment comes in conflict with the man with the big stick and he stands by his opinion."

President Jones, in a passionate speech, added: "I am a christian and a minister of the gospel, but I want to say here that I damn those damned eliminators (Roosevelt and Taft) and all they stand for."

PERHAPS it is modesty that prevents Marse Henry Watterson from naming his dark horse for the Democratic presidential nomination.

THE sunshine and rain are doing more to make the crops than the pessimistic forecaster did to ruin them. At the last moment Nature insists on having an inning.

TAFT was at Oyster Bay Tuesday. Let us hope he did not eat the succulent bivalves out of season nor procure bait to fish for delegates and other suckers next spring.

THERE may be some doubt as to what should be done with Moyer, Pettibone and Haywood, but there is a remarkable unanimity of opinion as to what the fate of Harry Orchard should be.

THE truest patriotism is in the breasts of our children. For example, just notice how the anniversary of the Declaration is anxiously looked forward to by the youngsters and dreaded by their elders.

THE Union Pacific railroad continues its pass list in spite of the law. A recent filing of the list of pass holders, finds about all the newspaper men in the North Platte country holding passes, in exchange for advertising.

AS THE Fourth draws nigh, the small boy with the giant firecracker becomes more and more irrepresible and the duty of the policeman the more difficult—and the more imperative.

THE cat is out of the bag at last and running in the open. President Roosevelt will accept nomination for a third term if he can have the assurance that he would receive the electoral vote of a single Southern State.

A REFORMER insists that the English people will not stand for American trust methods. Why not? The American trusts, by aid of the tariff, sell their goods very much cheaper to Englishmen and others abroad than to home consumers. Our trusts should not be without honor save at home.

THE Columbus Press-Post indirectly intimates that Moses was a nature faker, a liar and a plumb mollycoddle. Here is how it voices its fear and consternation: "There are some animal stories in the Bible that do not read exactly as President Roosevelt would write them. What shall we do about it?"

WHEN reform becomes arrogant its enemies rejoice, remembering that pride goeth before a fall. Arrogance hurts a good cause chiefly in that it disaffects the honest supporters thereof. The most enduring reforms are those which keep their friends and make no more enemies than necessary.

WHEN the inquisitive Milwaukee Sentinel asked to be informed as to whom was the more undesirable citizen, Dr. Long or Mr. Harriman, the Salt Lake Herald answered the question instantly: "We don't see how anybody could hesitate over that point. Dr. Long never contributed largely to a Republican campaign fund."

IN the "Before and After Taking" sting of the presidential bee Cannon and Taft limn out beautifully and artistically and the latter's overdone embonpoint is thus referred to by the Salt Lake Herald: "The Cannon boom, according to an exchange, is causing the Taft forces some alarm. Perhaps that was what caused the Taft stomach-ache the other day. The secretary's big, big 'tummy' hurt him mightily, according to accounts."

DAMON AND PYTHIAS were not real brothers and were white. Down in Alabama there are two negroes, real brothers, wholly unlike as to character and disposition, and who beat the old-time friends all hollow. One is under sentence of death for crime and the other is a preacher. The preacher offers to be hanged instead of his brother, whom he says is sure to go to the bad place while he, the preacher, is sure of heaven. The offer has created a wave of sympathy for the pair and the convict may get a commutation to life imprisonment.

Healthy Condition in Politics.

Every American boy is a possible president, and most of these boys have been told so repeatedly from the platform or the stump or the teacher's eminence. Private conferences at mothers' knees have encouraged presidential hopes, and doubtless many a boy has remembered his ambition in his orisons.

Histories and newspapers tend to diffuse and stimulate the high aims. A thousand contributing influences might be catalogued. The splendid fact that there is always a large crop of available for the presidency, and it would be difficult to count among the developed and rounded products of our fine civilization the number who would actually make good presidents. You might pick dozens of good potential presidents out of each state in the union, men who by the facts of native character, education, training and experience of affairs would in all probability serve their country well in its highest post if chosen for the honor and the task.

This truth is good to consider. The supply of good men is inexhaustible. The good ones do not always get out into the race, but in every race there are always sufficient to offer intelligence a choice. There are those who assert that only a democrat can make a good chief executive, and some of our republican brethren entertain the opposite view; but it will be seen in reviewing the historic line of presidents that the best candidate was in more than one instance selected in spite of party predilections—a superlative tribute to national good sense, which re-enforce faith for what the people may do in future.

Rarely have there been more candidates out for the high honor than now, and, broadly regarded, that is the best of indications. It means a healthy condition of politics and public interest in government. That condition, too, indicates that intelligent selection will prevail in the nominations, so that in no event will the nation's concerns be grossly mismanaged, or the country go to the bow-wows. Here and there is visible a candidate who is identified with the "special privileges" or "interests" against whose inroads the common weal is fighting; and these candidates will likely be weeded out of the situation long before they become a menace. Even they will serve the good purpose of contrasting the availability of better men.

So that upon the whole the popularity of the presidency is a very good thing. The fact that the woods are full of presidential timber promises both interest and beneficial results. The more the merrier, and may the best man win in the end.

AN exchange tells the following tale, showing the depths of infamy into which Kansas politicians sometime sink: A Kansas politician was asked by his wife to lay aside politics long enough one day to dig the potatoes in the garden. He consented, and after digging for a few minutes he returned to the house and said he had found a coin. He washed it off and it proved to be a silver quarter. He put it in his jeans and went back to work. Presently he went back to the house again and said he had found another coin. He washed the dirt off of it and this time it was a silver half dollar. He put it in his jeans. "I have worked hard," said he to his wife. "I guess I'll take a short nap." When he awoke he found that his wife had dug all the rest of the potatoes. But she found no coins. It then dawned upon her that she had been "worked."

THE tariff is a scheme by which a good share of the property of eighty millions of people is practically confiscated for the benefit of the three or four millions who participate in the profits of such confiscation. Protection for the sake of protection is a dogma in a republic fit only for a highwayman, a fool or a drunkard.—John Bigelow.

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THE political enemies of Mr. Bryan, of the Rodger Sullivan stripe, are not worrying the great commoner in the least in their efforts to bring to the front as a presidential candidate Governor Johnson, of Minnesota. If the democrats want the Minnesota governor for a candidate they will nominate him, and Mr. Bryan will support him with all his might and strength. He is a democrat—not a dissensionist—and the masses of the people love him because he is the greatest living representative of the common peoples' interests. He is just the same Bryan every day, whether a candidate or otherwise, and a greater man than anyone who has occupied the presidential chair since the days of Washington, Jefferson and the immortal Lincoln.

A MINNESOTA contractor recently dug up a ship's anchor of a pattern used by the Norseman in the tenth century. This serves to prove that Columbus was not such a pioneer as history would have us believe, and also that the United States was not as big a country ten centuries ago as it is today.

STOCKS dealt in on the New York stock exchange have decreased \$2,000,000,000 in value in the past six months. The ingredient that was squeezed out might be moved to the West and used for irrigation purposes.

Labor Commissioner

John J. Ryder of Omaha was appointed deputy labor commissioner yesterday by Governor Sheldon, the appointment to become effective immediately. Mr. Ryder will succeed Don C. Despain, who resigned to accept the management of a manufacturing company. The salary of the deputy labor commissioner is \$1,500 a year. Mr. Ryder is an old-time newspaper man of marked ability. He served one term in the state senate of Minnesota and was reading clerk in the Minnesota house of representatives. He removed to Omaha a few years ago and was employed on the Omaha Bee until recently, when he accepted the position of clerk of the board of commissioners of Douglas county.

Bad sick headaches, biliousness or constipation are quickly relieved by DeWitt's Little Early Risers. Small pill, sure pill—prompt and pleasant in action. Sold by F. G. Fricke & Co.

Objects to the Title of "Prof"

The Nebraska City News says: "R. V. Pepperburg, assistant geologist at the state university and who objects to the title of 'Prof.' who has been here arranging for the taking of all the datte for the deep well to be sunk by the Otoc Development company, at this point, returned home this morning. Mr. Pepperburg will visit in this city often during the time this well is being sunk and will endeavor to get a specimen of all of the streaks of earth, rock, minerals or other things which they pass through while drilling into the bowles of the earth with the big drill."

A Repeater

The Northwest Post editors and devil again visited the catfish grounds below the dam on Friday night and came home early Saturday morning with another even dozen fine channel catfish—the same number as caught before—but aggregating only 24½ pounds, where the prior catch was 27½ pounds. The largest in the bunch tipped the beam at 8 pounds flat and it was packed in ice and expressed to W. C. Benfer, editor of the Lead Register, and which he informs us by 'phone was fine and dandy, and greatly relished.—Northwest Post.

We are pleased to note that these former Plattsmouth boys are enjoying fishing and outing occasionally and are having good luck, especially Messrs. Fellows and Kirkham, to the extent that they can send Billy Benfer a good one occasionally—for Billy was never much of a fisher, anyway.

Operated on At Hospital

L. McVey, from near Murray, came up this morning and took the early Burlington train for Omaha where he will meet his wife, who he had taken there Saturday and left at a hospital. Mrs. McVey has been troubled with a tumor for which she has tried many ways to obtain relief and as the local physicians of her town were unable by reason of the disadvantages under which they labored to offer the relief, the only recourse was to go to a hospital and submit to an operation. So today has been selected as the day for the operation. In this all her many friends will be more than pleased to know that she has a chance to obtain relief from her sufferings and a promise of a return to her former good health.

It is Superintendent Farley

At the meeting of the county commissioners this afternoon, there were five applicants for the position of county superintendent, and there were three to receive votes, who were: Profs. Opp, of Avoca, Gaines of Louisville, and Farley of Plattsmouth. Willits of Weeping Water, and DeBolt of South Bend, did not receive any votes. The vote stood a tie until the last, when Geo. L. Farley received the unanimous vote of the board, which elected him.

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