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Wickersham declares Glavis is a megalomaniac. Whatever that means, it seems that the country could stand a few more of them on Uncle Sam's pay roll.

President Taft wants congress to pass a law discriminating between good and bad trusts, when in fact, the only possible distinction is between bad, worse and worst trusts.

Mayer Gaynor tied a large bunch of crepe to the tiger's tail when he appointed eight Democrats who were not endorsed by Tammany to offices at salaries aggregating \$67,000 annually.

Having killed specimens of all known animals, Roosevelt has now discovered and slain an entirely new kind of beast, to which the national museum scientists give the name of *Otocyon vergatus*. Like many a nobler being, the *Otocyon vergatus* had to die to gain a name.

THE INSURGENT STATEMENT

It was well enough for the progressives to issue a statement defining their position, though there was no urgent need for such a statement. The country understands that position well, in spite of the efforts of the reactionaries to make it appear that the opponents of Cannon and Aldrich are against the administration and the Republican party. So far as the president's purposes were defined in his message bearing on the railroads and other corporations, the progressives are in accord with them, and the country knows that the obstruction to carrying out those purposes is more likely to be offered by the reactionaries than by the progressives.

Meanwhile, it is well that the treatment of the progressives by Cannon has been such as to force them into a working organization of their own. They need not be alarmed about their status. They are making the fight that must be made if the people are to be delivered from the rule of congress by the power of money. If the Republican party is injured by this formal division in congress it will not be because the progressives have refused to obey Cannon, but because Cannon has made his policies the party's policies by forcing his will through the caucus when he has found it impossible to force it by direct order.—Kansas City Star, Rep.

THE MEETING AT LINCOLN.

The action taken by the insurgent Republicans at Lincoln, in openly condemning the record of Senator Burkett and calling for a state meeting of insurgents to determine on a plan of action is significant, not so much in its bearings on the personal fortune of the senior senator, as in the light it sheds on the state of the public mind in Nebraska. It goes to show, as this newspaper said yesterday, that even if the insurgents at Washington should surrender and make peace with the dominant element of the party the insurgents out on the plains and prairies would still continue to fight. And the reason is that the rank and file of insurgents are not fighting for patronage, or for admission into a Joe Cannon caucus, but for principle in which they believe. They are thoroughly awake to the fact that there prevails, in this nation today, a government by "The System" instead of a government by the people. They propose to keep on fighting to restore government by the people and there is no man or coterie of men so big that by an ukase of excommunication they can make them stop fighting.

Senator Burkett has been the half-and-half, milk-and-water type of insurgent. He has been 49 1/2 per cent insurgent and 50 1/2 per cent standpat. He has pursued the path of

compromise. He has talked one way in Nebraska and another way in Washington. And he has talked one way in Washington and voted another. He has sought, at one and the same time, to be insurgent and regular. He has tried to create the impression that he was representing the people of his state, and in sympathy with them, while at the same time he was cheek by jowl with Aldrich and Smoot.

The failure of this policy to win the approval of the folks back home shows that those same folks back home have enlisted for the war. They do not look on the movement in which they are engaged as a fake warfare, conducted for party advantage, but as a real war waged in the name of good government and popular rights. They have no disposition to compromise, and they know how to fight.

The Lincoln meeting was attended by Republicans like Attorney General Thompson, Mayor Love, City Attorney Flansburg, Judge Frost, former State Superintendent McBrien, former Speaker Clark and others who have spent their lives and won honors in the service of their party. They are no mere malcontents, fighting for personal advantage, or making trouble because they thrive on it. They are earnest and representative Republicans, driven reluctantly, by flagrant acts of betrayal, to take up arms against the unfaithful leaders whom a short time ago they delighted to honor.—World-Herald.

FROM THE BUSY WORLD.

John Williamson of Auburn, Ill., on Tuesday crawled through a hedge dragging a loaded shotgun after him. In the excitement the gun was discharged and John died. Careless, very careless, yet every day it happens. Think it over.

Two men were suspended from the New York stock exchange for short periods for the manipulation of Rock Island stocks a few weeks ago. This stock went up thirty points in a few minutes and then reacted back in a shorter length of time. The men were found by the governors of the board to be guilty of practices detrimental to the welfare of the exchange. We should believe they were.

The speed of insurgency in the Republican party can be traced by the fact that Jas. M. Mann, member of the congressional committee from Illinois, has been forced to decline a re-election on account of his Cannon views and Congressman McKinley takes his place. The latter is a Cannon man but not so pugnacious as Mann and the latter's retirement is the result of the insurgent agitation.

The expectation that the aviation meeting at Los Angeles, would be the greatest in American history, if not in that of the world, seems destined to turn out correct. On Tuesday Glenn Curtiss, the American aviator, with a passenger made a speed of fifty-five miles an hour, something never before done. In addition he secured records for rising from the ground and for running his aeroplane the shortest distance before rising. Paulhan, the French star, failed in his efforts to establish a high altitude record, reaching but 400 feet.

John F. Fitzgerald, former mayor of Boston, who was defeated for reelection two years ago on account of charges affecting his administration, was last Tuesday once more elected, defeating Storrow, who ran on a good government ticket. As is generally the case about one term of reform administration is all the people of a city want. Usually the reformers turn out to be worse grafters than the people whom they succeed and this seems to have been the prevailing idea in

Boston. Both leading candidates were Democrats, Boston voting now under a non-partisan law.

Louis Paulhan who was overshadowed on Tuesday at the great aviation meeting at Los Angeles by Glenn Curtiss, yesterday redeemed himself and established a new record for height, reaching the unexampled distance of at least 4,600 feet. The judges official record placed the distance at a little under 5,000 feet. He was in the air more than fifty minutes, and came down in seven and one-half minutes. The meeting was a grand one and has aroused the greatest enthusiasm. Yesterday one of the sights of the meeting was when three balloons were in sight, with the big dirigible of Knabenshue and Beachey and Paulhan and his big biplane all in the air at once. Paulhan greeted in turn the balloons and the dirigible flying about, a veritable manbird.

As an additional evidence of the growing strength of Congressman Norris of this state, the fact that he has taken the initiative in protesting to the president on behalf of the insurgents against being classed as against the policies of the administration may be cited. It is said that a lively and highly entertaining correspondence has been taking place between the chief executive and the independent Nebraskan and that Norris has not spared words in stating plainly the character of men with whom the president has aligned himself. That he should have courage enough and conscience enough to place himself squarely on record, is an evidence that he is well fitted to take the place of Burkett in the senate.

The anti-saloon league of Nebraska is stirring itself and preparing to make a hard fight for county option at the coming election. In their organs they are running quarter and half page ads., calling for all who favor that policy to send them a written pledge to that effect. This would indicate that if the liberal element in the state want to maintain what they construe to be their rights, they have to hustle and organize. The principal appeal of the anti-saloon league is to the ministers of the church. They declare an aroused church means a clear-cut issue. In connection with this fight it is announced Mayor Dahlgren of Omaha is to make a tour of the state in an automobile and speak against county option and prohibition but the authenticity of this state is questionable.

Owing to the continuance of cold weather and the heavy snows over the corn belt, corn yesterday made another sharp advance and gives every promise of reaching unheard of figures by next spring. The great quantity of corn caught in the fields by the wet weather of November and held there by the sudden descent of winter is influencing the market and it gives promise of soaring to the top of the list. While the crop last season was a good one in the total there is a great quantity estimated from one-quarter to forty per cent of the crop still in the field with small prospect of being gathered before April and the loss must be very heavy. Wheat, on the other hand gives promise of going down to bed rock as compared with the price of the past few years.

Illinois is about to pass a law permitting cities in that state to adopt the commission form of government. This system which had its origin in Galveston, Tex., after the great flood and tidal wave has grown steadily in favor and many cities in many states now operate under it. It does away with the councilmanic form of government confiding the care of the city to a board of commissioners consisting of three or five members. It does not abolish ring rule or graft, however, contrary to general belief, but it does reduce it to a more exact science. The right of the people to rule under it's operation, however, is reduced to a minimum. The so-called "better element," usually a synonym for rich grafters, generally profit by the commission system, hence they all favor it. In many cases it has ac-

complished real good. In many other cases it has operated the other way.

Mrs. James Hunt of Chicago and Howard G. Cole also of said city, have started tongues wagging because, forsooth, they committed matrimony at Jacksonville, Fla., on January 7. He it remembered, Mrs. Hunt was divorced by Mr. Hunt because he suspected Mr. Cole was unduly intimate with her. Also, be it remembered, Mr. Cole was divorced by Mrs. Cole because he had been seen with a "woman in a pink gown" and when said divorce was granted an injunction was issued restraining Cole from marrying inside of two years unless he re-married. Now, they have gone and done it and the man Cole says he will stay in Jacksonville for some time to come. From what the court says, it will be well for him to do so as he surely is in contempt for his actions. Just what can be done outside of Illinois is doubtful but Cole and lady are exiles for a while at least. The case seems to have the good people of Chicago in some sweat. Incidentally, the first Mrs. Cole who was an intimate friend of the second Mrs. Cole is some scandalized over her conduct and will probably make a "scene" when she meets her. She also may disturb Cole's serenity of mind at said meeting. However, little we worry!

The Macedonian cry is raised from the white house at last. President Taft has definitely decided to call for help. Yesterday's Chicago Tribune has an official pronouncement of the president's position, as he views it, given to the country through the medium of it's able Washington representative. Without question the Tribune knows whereof it speaks, it represents the greatest and most up-to-date news service in this country. We are told that the president is bent on securing the legislature reforms to which he pledged himself in the national campaign. We are also told that he intends to maintain the strength of the party of which he is the titular head. Now, let's see the program:

First, He intends to secure the enactments to the interstate commerce law as recommended in his message several days since. These recommendations in the main, are good.

Second, He wants the federal incorporation law enacted. As the Nebraska state Journal says he creates "A Zone of Lawlessness" for the big corporations. His federal incorporation law means exemption from state control of every big trust in the country. In effect it is a license to plunder the people, menace to the few rights remaining in their hands.

These then, we are told, are the two pet measures he advocates, the one of deception and the other a downright betrayal of the people. The first to blind them, the second to loot them. No legislation at all is better than this program.

Further in this authorized statement from the white house, comes the statement that "the president naturally is impatient at the action of certain senators and members of the house in imputing motives to him which are discreditable and are circulated, he feels, only for the purpose of doing him injury in the eyes of the people &c." "The hand is the hand of Taft but the voice is the voice of Cannon." Let any calm dispassionate man read the paragraph printed and say what it means. It means that La Follette, Clapp, Cummins, Bristow and even Dolliver in the senate are beyond the pale—that Norris, Murdock and the rest of the insurgents are outlawed and no longer persona grata at the white house. In the Republican party it is war—grim, implacable, red-visaged war. The President casts his lot with Cannon and Aldrich. He takes the place he agreed to take when he accepted at their hands the presidency. He is "safe and sane," and from the jungles of Africa, comes no word.

"The jungles are silent." Yet from their depths may come salvation of the Republican party. Over the national capitol and the white house looms a figure inspiring and bold to

honest Republicanism. It is the spectre of a man whose record looks good to the Republican who is such from principle. It is the dim ghost of the man who has initiated reforms which were made for the people. It is the terror to New York and Wall street—one terror to New York and Wall street—Theodore Roosevelt.

Politics as played today is a strange game. Largely it is money, but in the end it will be justice. Roosevelt has his faults. They are many and grievous. At times he transcends the law, at times he is like unto an autocrat. Yet never has he been accused of being owned. A clever politician, has oft turned his sails to meet the favoring breeze of public opinion but, more oft, he has loosed all sails and rode out on adverse wind landing in a fair harbor. Today he and his policies stand discredited in the house of his friends. In Africa he is a companion to the lion and the elephant, and he gives no word. But he will return. Will he on his return, will defend his policies or will be eat from the hand of Cannon and Aldrich? Time alone can tell.

No sensations took place yesterday at Los Angeles in the great aviation meeting but the availability of the biplane for carrying passengers received an impetus as nearly every machine in the contest carried at least one or two passengers and did it with ease. The way toward aerial transportation seems to lie open and within a very short time there will be regular passenger lines operating machines for transportation without doubt.

Yesterday another big storm had the country in its grasp and old winter has been playing havoc with travel and communication in the eastern states. Coal carrying roads have been badly crippled and indications are for a lot of trouble with a coal famine in many eastern and middle west cities. The traffic of the railroads in other commodities has also been diminished and the result will show in decreased railroad earnings for the month.

An alleged "confession" of Ray Lamphere is printed today in a St. Louis paper. The confession describes in detail the many murders which this man claims to have participated in, in company with Belle Gunness at La Porte, Ind. The story is a gruesome one and doubtless in its details would make reading anything but pleasant, yet it will doubtless sell the paper in great quantities. There is a serious question as to whether or not it is merely a well written piece of fiction and much doubt exists as to whether he ever confessed or not. As he is dead, it will be hard to Drcookize him.

A Washington dispatch to the State Journal calls attention to the sudden leap into fame of George W. Norris of the Fifth Nebraska district and in an extended article much praise is given him. The article also states that it is only a question of time when Norris will announce his candidacy for senator to succeed Burkett. As Busy World has said before, if it must be a Republican from Nebraska by all means let it be Norris. He stands for something and he can be located when one wants to know where he is while the present senator is colorless and plays both ends against the middle at all times. Norris would be of sufficient calibre to make his name and the name of his state known as a member of the upper house.

The Kansas City police have unearthed a great, big, sensation in the death of Col. Thos. Swope and his nephew Christian Swope, both of whom recently died. The authorities did not at first suspicion but the deaths were natural but later developments aroused suspicion that the two men were murdered for the many millions which Thos. Swope possessed. It is said that a man who would have inherited the rich man's estate tried to inoculate the entire Swope family with typhoid bacteria so that death might come in that way without throwing suspicion on him. This failing, he resorted to poison to accom-

plish his ends and succeeded. The vague outline of the story which has reached the public furnishes the foundation for a tale rivalling the most gruesome novels. As is nearly always the case, however, there seems little likelihood of the villain escaping and the hand of justice is upon him.

Ex-Chief Forester Pinchot yesterday issued an extended statement to the people which touches the question of conservation of natural resources and in which he defends his course and criticizes the policy of the administration in no uncertain tones. Pinchot also reiterates the belief that the resources are in peril and that the right of popular government is no less in peril. He declares that he stands ready to back the government policies when they are right and to oppose them when they are wrong. The document on the whole is an able one and sounds like Pinchot was all he has been credited with being—a sound and true friend of the public and a patriotic official. Despite this he was decapitated and his overthrow which was sought for so long by the interests, was finally accomplished. Really the oft-reiterated charge that the government does not want conscientious officials seems to bear fruit in this case.

The merry hades which is enveloping England has received an additional boost in the shape of a solemn warning issued to the electorate by Joseph Chamberlain. Chamberlain, who is the dyed-in-the-wool leader of the English protectionists, comes out strongly for a high protective tariff and for the abandonment of the policy of free trade which has been the policy of the government for so many years. He is an advocate of the policy of protection as connected with its colonies and believes in raising a high trade wall about all the colonies as against other nations. The adoption of the Chamberlain policy by England would probably lead to a tariff war between the nations which would have disastrous and far-reaching effects throughout the world. However, the indications are that the Tories cannot win and that the present government will be returned, although it may be by a reduced majority.

President Taft is said to have been appalled at the extent of the row he has raised in the Republican ranks and to have an appeal to the Republicans to get together and cease their fighting. He denied that he intended to hold patronage from the insurgents unless they continued to fight the speaker and oppose party measures. This proviso about fighting the speaker will probably be a stumbling block toward a settlement of the trouble. Then again, what is to be done on the Pinchot matter? This may result in more grief for Pinchot is the one man of all others who has brought matters to a crisis and the insurgents cannot conscientiously desert him now. Then again the insurgents have almost burned their bridges behind them so far as the people are concerned. They have shown the public the true inwardness of the Republican policies and the party control. They have exposed the tendency of the party legislation toward favoring the "interests" and have plainly developed that the party machinery is in the hands of the Aldrich-Cannon crowd. How they can swallow all they have done and quit their fight, is a mystery.

\$100 Per Acre.

Harry Smith and brother A. W. Smith today closed a deal by which a Mr. Nelson located at Carson, Ia., becomes the owner of the eighty-five acre tract of land lying north of Mr. Smith's property and owned by J. M. Roberts of the Plattsmouth State Bank. The consideration is stated to be \$100 per acre or \$8,500 for the tract, a handsome figure and yet quite reasonable. The Messrs. Smith have located a number of Iowa farmers in Cass county lands, they being able to secure good land cheaper here than and in their own locality is selling.

For Sale—An 80 acre farm in Otoe county, 40 acres adjoining Plattsmouth; also small acreage tracts. Windham Investment & Loan Co.