

Gossip of Washington

Interstate Commerce Commission Assumes Importance of High United States Court—Members No Longer a Laughing Stock—Mr. Roosevelt Hopes Republican House Will Be Elected—Some Campaign Speakers—The Jamestown Exposition.



WASHINGTON—Under the new railway rate law the interstate commerce commission becomes a far more important body than it ever was. It is increased in size from five members to seven members and the salaries have been raised from \$7,500 to \$10,000. The commission assumes the importance of a high United States court. Its membership is only two less than the supreme court of the United States and the salaries are equal to those drawn by the "nine gentlemen in black." The commission now has a specific law back of it giving its decisions force and it will no longer be a laughing stock as it had been for some years because it had no power to enforce its decisions regarding railway rates. That has all been cured now and when the commission designates a certain rate the latter goes into effect and must be observed unless overturned by the courts.

The commission under the new law will have two more members than at present. The old commission consisted of five which, strangely enough under a republican administration, consists of three Democrats and two Republicans. Under the new law there are to be seven commissioners, no more than four of them to be of any one political party. The two new members will therefore be Republican in order to bring the majority of the new commission into alignment with the administration.

The new members of the commission have been selected and are J. S. Harlan, of Chicago, a brilliant young attorney and son of the distinguished Associate Justice of the Supreme Court John M. Harlan, one of them. E. E. Clarke, of Iowa, the head of the Railway Conductors' association, has been selected as the second new member. These two men will probably be appointed upon the law going into effect on August 28.

MEN OF HIGHEST ABILITY AND INTEGRITY.

There is no doubt that the new law raises the standard of the commission and in the future men selected for it will have to be of the highest ability and integrity. In the past this commission has at times been regarded as a very convenient place in which to land some "lame duck" or political "has-been" who had failed of reelection to some other public office. For some years it had been considered as a convenient harbor of refuge for politicians and was regarded as the legitimate patronage of the big political leaders.

This has changed now and with the added responsibility provided for by the new law men of the highest grade will have to be selected. It is fortunate that the members of the old commission of five men are not disturbed, but will go right along serving out their terms. These five gentlemen, or at least four of them, are men of tried ability and their work during the past few months under specific authority of congress in the investigation of big railroad and coal companies demonstrates their fitness for the new law. Messrs. Knapp, Prouty and Clements all have had long experience on the commission and Mr. Cockrell, although a member of but a little over a year's standing, has brought to the commission the painstaking habits of a generation in the senate. Mr. Lane has just been added to the original commission and has his reputation to make.

There is some talk of making young Mr. Harlan president of the commission, and it is understood that President Roosevelt favors that proposition. The election of a president lies with the commission itself, and unless Mr. Knapp, who has been president for some time, should voluntarily retire from the contest, there may be a pretty hot fight over this position. Mr. Knapp has been active and was one of the most industrious advocates of the new railway rate law and feels that he is entitled to a continuation in the position of president of the commission.

MR. ROOSEVELT A GOOD PARTY MAN.

This will be a busy season for the "spellbinders" of Mr. Roosevelt's cabinet. No secret is made of the intention of three or four of the cabinet members actively to engage in this year's congressional campaign. The president feels in a way that his administration is on trial and he looks to the people to endorse it and particularly to endorse the policies which congress enacted into law on his recommendation. He does not desire all that has been said and written about his reform ideas, is a pretty good party man and is honest enough to express the hope that a Republican house of representatives will be reelected. He does not object to his cabinet officers going into the campaign, and it is not improbable that he himself will make one or two speeches of a somewhat political character.

Secretary Shaw of the treasury is the best campaign speaker in the cabinet. There are few men on the stump who can get closer to an audience than he can. He has the old Lincoln faculty of illustrating his points with humorous stories, the application of which is instantaneously recognized. He expects to be right busy and the congressional campaign committee will use him in several states where there are doubtful districts. The old farmer of the administration, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, has a mighty effective way of talking to voters and his services will be utilized very freely.

The orator in whom President Roosevelt apparently places the greatest confidence is his secretary of war, William H. Taft. The number of engagements the latter has already made indicates that he will be able to keep his avoirdupois down to its present 250 pounds by the arduous traveling he has in view. Attorney General Moody will have a few speeches to make in which he will recount the achievements of the administration in its prosecution of the Octopoli.

CHOICE FOR NOMINATION TWO YEARS HENCE.

It is somewhat amusing to note the jealousy that exists in the little group of statesmen who have their political lightning rods elevated to catch the presidential bolt in 1908. These men who aspire to the presidency are thoroughly human and they are watching each other like hawks. While for public consumption their words and acts are altogether disinterested, in private conversation they indulge in some pretty severe criticisms of each other. There has been great anxiety among these candidates to find out on whom the administration favor would rest. The developments of the past few weeks seem to have settled that point and now it appears to be the field against Secretary Taft, for the latter is looked on here in Washington as President Roosevelt's choice for the Republican nomination two years hence.

There are Vice President Fairbanks, Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, Senator Foraker, Speaker Cannon, Gov. Cummins of Iowa, Postmaster General Cortelyou and one or two others who cannot help gazing on the Taft boom with considerable envy. The idea that Mr. Taft will accept an appointment as associate justice on the supreme bench seems to have been abandoned. His opponents in the presidential race declare that his actions and his public speeches in private conversation demonstrate beyond all question that he is an active and aggressive candidate for the presidential nomination. There is a vacancy in the chief justiceship of the supreme court. To obtain that honored place it is believed Mr. Taft would forego all ambition to be president of the United States.

President Roosevelt recently in discussing the outlook for 1908 was quoted as saying that Secretary Taft in his opinion was the only man who could defeat William J. Bryan, and it looked as though the latter would be the Democratic candidate. The other aspirants for the Republican nomination are not disposed to accept this estimate of the president.

THE NATIONAL EXPOSITION IDEA.

Congress has become resigned to the national exposition idea. It has gone so deep into these enterprises in the past that every new proposition to celebrate some great event by a national exposition is pretty certain to meet with support and favor. Preparations are now under way for a fair which is to be the celebration of the founding of Jamestown, the three hundredth anniversary of which will occur next May. Speaker Cannon, who is of the granting of government aid to this to check the national expositions are somewhat in the nature of public buildings when it comes to getting aid from congress. They are made part of a log rolling scheme and combinations are formed that always insure the enterprises being indorsed.

It was said at the time of the world's fair at St. Louis that this country could get along without a quarter of a century to come, but there immediately followed another big fair at Portland, Ore., last year and now comes the Jamestown exposition. There is no telling how soon another big event in the history of the country will be presented for the fashion that one of the regular committees of the house has been created to take charge of matters relating to them. The government is no way a loser by these expositions, as so relating to them. The government is repaid and in any event it is considered good governmental policy to encourage enterprises that will advertise the commercial greatness of the United States and create a good impression among foreign countries.

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THE LAND OF THE BRAZILIANS

The Sensitive Brazilians Do Not Like to Be Called Spanish-Americans—Different From Typical Latin-American Countries

The particular portion of the globe drawing the eyes of the world for at least an instant's attention is Brazil, the Pan-American conference in Rio de Janeiro giving prominence to the country called by some one "Portugal's Gigantic Daughter."

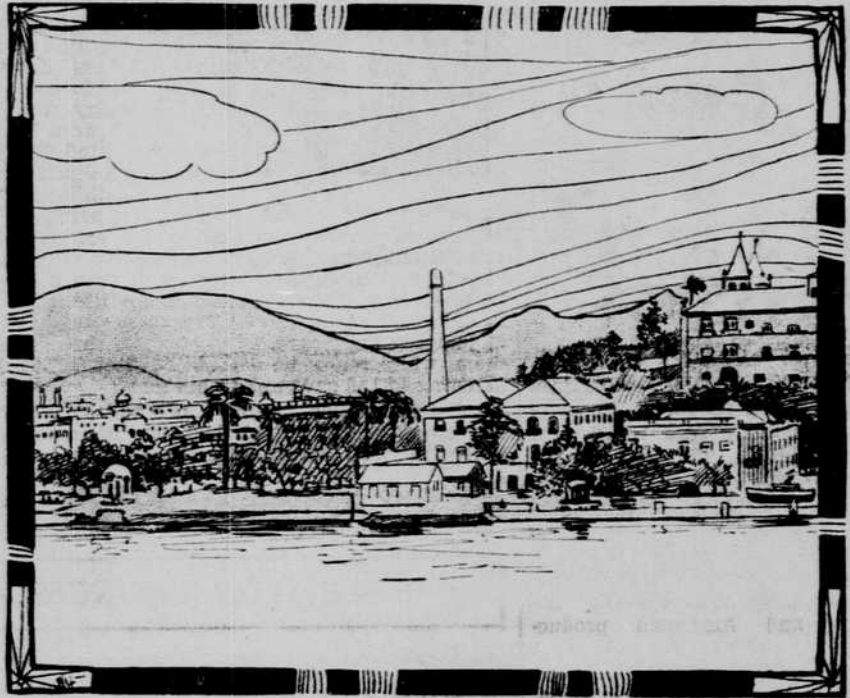
You remember—or perhaps you never knew in this age with its so many things to know—that the royal family of Portugal in 1807 fled to Brazil, that in 1815 the colony was declared a kingdom. A few years later the Portuguese court having returned to Europe, a national congress at Rio de Janeiro chose Dom Pedro, eldest son of the king of Portugal, perpetual defender of Brazil, his title now constitutional emperor and perpetual defender. In 1831 Dom Pedro I. abdicated in favor of his son; Dom Pedro II. reigned until the autumn of 1889. Dom Pedro II. was a wise and tactful ruler, devoted to the interests of his country, but was dethroned by a successful revolution, he and his family were sent into exile, the empire of Brazil was declared a republic, a republic styled the United States of Brazil.

To-day there are not nearly so many Portuguese as Italians in Brazil; the census of 1900 showed 1,100,000 Italians, the majority settled in San Paulo. In the southern Brazilian states there are very prosperous German and Italian colonies in Rio Grande de Sul,

Portuguese, Spanish, Germans, Austrians, Scandinavians, Poles, Russians, English and French, of whom the predominating race, in so far as numbers are concerned, is the Italian. There are nearly four times as many Italians as Portuguese in Brazil, notwithstanding the fact that the country was for so many centuries a Portuguese colony, then a Brazilian empire, and now a Brazilian republic with the Portuguese tongue the official language, and manners and customs and leading families to-day harking back to the mother land of Portugal, as America to England.

Brazilians are not Spanish-Americans, they do not like to be known as Spanish-Americans. "Brazilian" is the only acceptable term.

Brazil is of a bigness, larger than the United States prior to the purchase of Alaska. Bishop Hendrix, of the Methodist Episcopal church, writes of the land as "A Republic in the Tropics;" calls attention to the fact that the wide region is almost wholly in the tropics, and that it is one of the world's largest territories under a single flag. The last to emancipate her slaves, the task was accomplished without bloodshed or without granting compensations to the owners. Immigration followed fast on the emancipation of the slaves, which emancipation was begun in 1871, carried on gradually, completed in 1888.



IN RIO DE JANEIRO.

something like 800,000 Germans. In the seaport towns the principal part of the population is of European descent.

The returns of the census of 1900 were not adopted, considered fallacious as they reported a decrease in population. The census of 1890 gave the total population as 14,000,000; some 6,000,000 whites, more than 4,000,000 metis (half-breeds), about 2,000,000 negroes, and 1,200,000 Indians. The population to-day is put, in round numbers, at 17,000,000. The Indian element preponderates in the northern provinces, the negroes are numerous in Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco and Bahia. Brazil has a larger population than any country in America save the United States; less than one-half are whites, one-third are half-breeds, one-seventh negroes, and the Indians are less than one-tenth.

Ethel Armes, writing in the National Magazine, says: "As in this country so there is in Brazil the same fusion of races and of nationalities; Italians, Portuguese, Spanish, Germans, Austrians, Scandinavians, Poles, Russians, English and French, of whom the predominating race, in so far as numbers are concerned, is the Italian. There are nearly four times as many Italians as Portuguese in Brazil, notwithstanding the fact that the country was for so many centuries a Portuguese colony, then a Brazilian empire, and now a Brazilian republic with the Portuguese tongue the official language, and manners and customs and leading families to-day harking back to the mother land of Portugal, as America to England. Brazilians are not Spanish-Americans, they do not like to be known as Spanish-Americans. 'Brazilian' is the only acceptable term. Brazil is of a bigness, larger than the United States prior to the purchase of Alaska. Bishop Hendrix, of the Methodist Episcopal church, writes of the land as 'A Republic in the Tropics;' calls attention to the fact that the wide region is almost wholly in the tropics, and that it is one of the world's largest territories under a single flag. The last to emancipate her slaves, the task was accomplished without bloodshed or without granting compensations to the owners. Immigration followed fast on the emancipation of the slaves, which emancipation was begun in 1871, carried on gradually, completed in 1888.



BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES.

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HOW TO KEEP COOL.

Ice Water Really Makes One Warmer—Best Drink Water Just Chilled with Lime Juice Added.

"Nothing could be worse than the quantity of ice water which people drink in the hope of cooling off their temperature. Cold water only chills the stomach," says a southern woman in the New York World. "The reaction makes one warmer. The best drink for the summer is plain cold water, not chilled, but just cold. I drink a great deal of this, but never forget to add to each glassful a little lime juice. This gives it the refreshing tart taste and also counteracts the effects of bad drinking water."

"When it gets really hot, there are a few simple ways of cooling off the blood which many people know, but hardly anyone practices. I keep cool by using all these little resources, and when it is very enervating, and I have work to do, I don't hesitate to go about with wet cotton behind my ears. A piece of cotton dipped in cold water and placed behind the ears so that it touches the big artery, will cool one off wonderfully. A drop or two of ammonia may be added to the water in which the cotton is immersed, and will make one feel deliciously refreshed. When the nights are very hot and breathless, the hot water bag filled with cold water and placed at the back of the neck will let the cold water run over one's forehead."

"Of course we southern women wear our fischus and low collars in the house, and you have no idea how we dislike even the shirt waist, with its dimity or lace collar band, not so much for the heat of the material as for the structure around the throat. If it is uncomfortably hot a cold compress around the neck is delicious, and everyone knows that to let the cold water run over one's wrists for any length of time will cool off the warmest individual, and a restful and soothing besides."

"Where it is not possible to take two or more dips during the day, the feet at least should have their proper amount of care and ventilation night and morning. The thinnest kind of straw slippers or mules are to be had now for little or nothing, and when possible in the privacy of one's own room stockings should be discarded and the feet allowed a certain amount of freedom after being refreshed by a foot bath."

WHEN COOKING CABBAGE.

Cook in Boiling Water, Slice and Add Sauce Made as Directed—How to Overcome Odor.

Drop the prepared cabbage into enough water (boiling) to completely cover it; if the heads are small, use whole; if large, halve or quarter them. Keep the water boiling briskly for half an hour; then lift into a colander to drain, after which slice finely, season with pepper and salt to taste. While the cabbage is cooking, prepare in another vessel, a sauce made as follows: One teacupful of vinegar (if very strong, weaken a little with water); add butter the size of a hen's egg; two tablespoonfuls of sugar; bring to a boil; set off the fire and stir in a well-beaten egg. Pour this over the cabbage, stirring thoroughly with a fork, and serve hot.

The water in which cabbage is boiled should not be poured into the sink unless you flush the drain at once with some disinfectant, as the odor is so strong and lasting. If you have a garden, the better way is to pour it on the earth. To get the smell out of the kitchen, keep the windows open and roast a few coffee beans on the stove.—The Commoner.

Herring Salad.

Herring salad may make a pleasant change as a supper dish on a warm day. Heat through by boiling, or in the oven, three smoked herrings. Then tear off the heads and pull the skin away; split, take out the backbone and cut up into small bits, or to shred them is better. Put in a salad bowl, add one small chopped onion, two hard-boiled eggs, chopped, and one boiled potato; cut fine with a teaspoonful of chopped parsley; season with a teaspoonful of salt, one of pepper, three tablespoonfuls of vinegar and two of oil; mix well, and if you have it, decorate with a boiled beet.

About Corn Meal.

To prevent corn cakes and bread from having a raw taste, I mix the meal with milk a few hours before baking the bread. When ready to bake it, add the salt, egg, a spoonful of flour and last of all the soda, or if sweet milk be used, add baking powder. Mush, to be good, must be boiled a long time. Having neither time nor inclination to stand by the mush pot, I boil the mush thoroughly, being careful not to make it too thick, then place closely covered in the oven, where it is kept at boiling heat for several hours.

Cabbage Salad.

For one quart of finely chopped cabbage, use a dressing as follows: Boll together one-half cup vinegar, two tablespoonfuls sugar, one-half teaspoon each of salt and pepper; rub one-fourth cup of butter to a cream with one teaspoonful flour and add it to the boiling vinegar; boil five minutes then stir in one well beaten egg; pour while hot over the cabbage.

Breakfast Chocolate.

Take six tablespoonfuls scraped chocolate, or three of chocolate and three of cocoa, dissolve in a quart of boiling water, rich milk, let scald, and serve hot. This is enough for six persons.

History of the Bell.

The first bell was invented by Paulinus, bishop of Nola, in Campania in 400. In England, the first bell was used in Croyland abbey, in Lincolnshire, 845. Musical bells are a Belgian invention, dating back to 1407.

Women to Erect Window.

A stained glass window is to be erected in St. Mary's church, Bulphan Essex, England, to be known as the "Mary" window. It will be subscribed for entirely by women bearing the name of Mary.

ARE REUNITED BY A PIECE OF NEWSPAPER

SON AND DAUGHTER LOST TO MOTHER 25 YEARS.

TAKEN AWAY BY FATHER

Parent Accidentally Sees Marriage Notice of Girl and Traces Her Through Witnesses—Happy Ending of Long Quest.

Louisville, Ky.—After a separation of 25 years, during which she tried every means that money could devise to find them, Mrs. Thomas O'Byrne has been happily reunited to her two children, Ruth and Charles. When she lost them they were babies, the boy four, and the girl two years old; when she found them, Ruth was a tall, beautiful girl, no longer Ruth, but Mrs. William Ipher, while Charles was a full grown man and wealthy farmer of Harrods Creek.



IN A FIT OF RAGE HE CARRIED THE CHILDREN AWAY.

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Mrs. O'Byrne was a happy young wife 25 years ago in the little town of Memphis, Ind. She was the wife of Thomas O'Byrne, proud in the possession of two beautiful children, Charles Thomas, four years old, and Ruth, two years old. One day there was a quarrel, and in a fit of rage the husband seized the two children while his wife was visiting a neighbor and carried them away. He brought them to this city, and placed them in an Episcopal orphan's home, while he disappeared and was never heard of again. When Mrs. O'Byrne returned, she found her children gone, and for 25 years they were as completely lost to her as if the earth had swallowed them.

She sought everywhere in the country, but could find no trace of her children. Personals were placed in every newspaper in this part of the country without success, and the police were asked to look for them, but it was of no avail.

She came to Louisville after getting a decree of divorce, and continued her search. The children meanwhile, were received by the home and reared. The girl was called Amanda Jane, while the boy was rechristened Sol. They were brought up as all the rest, with-

FAITHFUL ANIMAL KEEPS LONG VIGIL FOR OWNER

Dog Patiently Remains in Doorway Waiting for Master Who Never Comes.

St. Joseph, Mo.—"Have you seen the dog?" said Frank M. Atkinson, whose office is on Francis street, to a visitor. "I have not," was the reply. "Come to the window. See him over there?" continued Atkinson, pointing across the street to the doorway of the United States Express office, where lay a small dog furred like a shepherd, with black-and-tan markings.

"I don't see anything remarkable about him," said the visitor. "Well, there is something remarkable about him. Watch him for a few minutes and see what he does."

The dog was evidently in need of sleep. His head sank upon his paws and his eyes closed.

Then several persons approached. The dog leaped to his feet and stood in the middle of the sidewalk, looking into the face of each man who passed.

But the face that he was looking for was not in the crowd and he went back to his place in the doorway apparently dejected.

Bull Tosses Boy to Safety.

Washington, Pa.—Howard Leyda, aged 15 years, is dying at the Washington hospital as a result of injuries inflicted by a mad bull owned by his father. The boy was attacked by the animal while crossing a pasture field. Tossed once on the brute's horns, he was practically uninjured and started to run. Then he was caught and gored and trampled by the bull, his life being saved temporarily when the animal tossed him over the fence. His father found him several hours later, with his clothes completely torn off and many wounds inflicted.

Mislaid Socks Wreck a Home.

Pittsburg.—The fact that shemishaid a pair of socks that her husband intended to wear caused Mrs. William Reed, of Sharpsburg, to bring suit for divorce. Mrs. Reed, in her petition, declares that six months after their wedding, in 1898, she mislaid the socks. Her husband was furious, and from that time on, she says, made her life a burden. She declares that every time he became angry he would bring up the question of the mislaid socks, and that on various occasions he tried to shoot her.

A Musical Plant.

In Nubia there is a strange plant called "sofar." When the wind blows it sends forth musical sounds closely resembling those of the flute. The natives, who are ignorant, superstitious people, regard the plant with dread. There is no reason for this, for the plant gives forth its unusual sounds because of certain thorns at its base. These are pierced with tiny holes by insects who search for the gum in the plant.



Wit and Humor.

A woman. "My husband is a man who has wonderful self-control," said Mrs. Sniggley. "Has he? I'm surprised to hear you say so. Somebody told me that he lost his temper completely while he was playing golf, the other day."

"Oh, that may be, but he can sit in church and keep from either coughing or sneezing all through the sermon."

Nature's Sermons. "Every grass-blade is a sermon." I heard our pastor say. A sentimental idea that I thought of it each day.

One eye our pastor mowed his lawn, And as I watched I thought How strange it was to see him cut His precious sermons short.—Judge.

One on the Man. Female Lecturer (very much excited)—You men claim superiority in everything. You say there never was a great woman painter sculptor, poet

or historian. Well, let me ask you, what man ever gave birth to triplets?—Chicago American.

LINES OF THE POET BROUGHT UP TO DATE. They were about to take summer boarders. The woman, for the eternal feminine will not down, could not forego a touch of sentiment, and she was writing out a rustic sign, which she purposed nailing up by the well: "The old oaken bucket, The iron-bound bucket, The—"

But her hand faltered. "There's no moss on our bucket," she said, looking very blank.

The man seized the crayon, and with a bold flourish, finished the verse: "—sterilized bucket, That hangs in the well."

"That's more up-to-date, anyway," he said.—Puck.