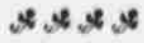


cast for him in Georgia. The south needs to be educated in the proper way to vote."

Nothing about the rights of man; nothing about liberty and justice; nothing about morality, progress and enlightenment; nothing but greed. If the south wants or hopes to share the spoils of plutocratic protection and privilege why does it not vote that way? The only answer that a southern republican could give was that the people of that section must be "educated in the proper way to vote."

How would it do to educate the tariff beggars in the old American idea that honesty and self-reliance are cardinal virtues?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.



#### MR. ROOSEVELT IS INDIGNANT

President Roosevelt has vetoed the bill providing for the taking of the next census. He bases his veto on the clause providing that appointments shall be made on the basis of non-competitive examinations instead of through the civil service.

In closing his veto message the president protests against permitting the great census undertaking "to be marred by permitting it to be turned into an engine to further the self-interests of that small section of the people which makes a profession of politics." And then the president refers to "the evil effects of the spoils system and of the custom of treating appointments to the public service as personal perquisites of professional politicians."

This must have sounded well in the ears of those candidates for the republican nomination for the presidency who had not the favor of Theodore Roosevelt. He used the entire federal brigade to further the self-interest of that small section of the people which makes a profession of politics and is known as the Roosevelt-Taft coterie. He treated appointments to the public service as the personal perquisites of Theodore Roosevelt than whom no more professional politician has ever performed before a de-lighted people.

Is it possible that with all his experience Mr. Roosevelt can not see himself as others see him? Does he imagine that the people are simple enough to regard as genuine his pretended indignation lest the federal brigade "be turned into an engine to further the self-interests of that small section of the people which makes a profession of politics?"



#### WHY NOT PUBLICITY?

A reader of the New York Evening Post covers the situation in a nutshell when he writes: "If the president had (as we must suppose) what he considered adequate proof of the alleged necessity of the coal and iron merger, what conceivable reason can he have for refusing to communicate that proof to the people of the country? I know not what technical claim we may have in this respect, but there can be no question that every man who has an interest at all in the conduct of the government is interested in knowing just why the executive suspended or violated a federal statute. As a practical man he can not very well expect the people to be satisfied with an ipse dixit; if he does, he must have peculiar notions of their intelligence or of his own obligations."



#### PAWNED HONOR

Newspaper dispatches say that Broughton Brandenburg, under indictment in New York for grand larceny, has disappeared and has forfeited his bail bond.

Now who is Broughton Brandenburg and what was his offense?

During the late national campaign every newspaper that was fighting the democratic ticket made much of a letter printed first by the New York Times which letter, it was declared, had been written by Grover Cleveland. This letter purported to be a denunciation of Mr. Bryan and an endorsement by the late former president of Mr. Taft.

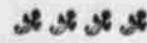
Henry Watterson of the Louisville Courier-Journal was the first to question the authenticity of that letter. Mr. Watterson finally ran it down and as a result of the investigations he began Brandenburg was arrested.

Not one of the newspapers that wrote profound editorials giving character to the Brandenburg letter dares now speak in defense of their fugitive from justice.

But not one of these newspapers—from the highest to the lowest—has ever offered to its readers an apology for the publication of this

fraudulent letter or for the editorial assuring its readers of the letter's genuineness. Not one of these newspapers dare say a word for Brandenburg the fugitive, but not one of them has spoken in defense of its own integrity.

Brandenburg is a fugitive but who will question the statement that the honor of the newspapers that stood sponsor for the Brandenburg letter is yet in pawn?



#### "NEW LAND OF PROMISE"

Day by day it is becoming more clear that the trust magnates knew what they were doing when they threw the weight of their powerful influence on the republican side. Mr. Flagler, one of the founders of the National Tube Works, a part of the steel trust, says of Mr. Taft:

"Now a wiser man in law and administration than Mr. Roosevelt, will be the nation's head. Never in the history of our government has one so well equipped for the presidency been sent to the White House. He can be called the product and producer of the best in American life. He has given confidence to us all and will lead us to new lands of promise."

What will the Roosevelt republicans think of this praise of the president-elect at the expense of the president? And what will the anti-monopoly republican think of this new promised land into which Mr. Taft is expected to lead the trusts? The republicans "worked both sides of the street" during the campaign but Mr. Taft will have to take one side or the other.



#### THE RECALL

Calvin E. Keach of Troy, N. Y., writes: "I was pleased to see in this week's issue that Nebraska has already started on a right course to obtain, as near as can be under our present methods of choosing United States senators, by having introduced a bill by one of its representatives in the house, to follow the lead set by Oregon. Now, let another one be introduced giving the people in their several assembly districts, as well as state senatorial districts, the power of 'recall,' and then if any pledged representative dare violate his promise under his 'Statement No. 1,' he must face the danger of being displaced by a more faithful and trustworthy man for his district."



#### THE CROMWELL MYSTERY

Sooner or later the William Nelson Cromwell mystery will be solved. Sooner or later the American people will learn how it happened that this lawyer had such enormous influence with the Roosevelt administration, with the republican congress, with the Panama republic and such large concern for everything relating to Panama affairs.

The charges made upon the floor of the house by Representative Rainey of Illinois can not be overlooked. Plainly, the American people are becoming solicitous for publicity with respect to the Cromwell matter.



#### WHY NOT?

If the president really thinks that the government can be libeled in such a way as to lay the libeller open to criminal prosecution at the hands of the government, why does he not commence criminal action against those republicans who declare that our government can hold colonies and rule people beyond and outside of the protection of the constitution. This is not only a libel on our form of government, but it is an attack upon the memories of those who founded the government. If the president really wants to punish somebody criminally, here is a chance.



#### INFLUENCING LEGISLATORS

A dispatch from Washington quotes Senator Burkett as saying that the bankers are sending a great many letters to Washington expressing opposition to the postal savings bank bill. Mr. Burkett says: "Yes, that is always the case. An organized opposition can exert an influence more potent than any unorganized support, even if the support is ten times as great as the opposition." It is safe to say that the depositors in banks outnumber the stockholders by at least ten to one—probably twenty to one, and as the holdings of many stockholders are too small to influence their judgment upon such questions, the ratio of those favoring security to depositors is even greater than the ratio

existing between the depositors and stockholders. And yet, the banks are organized while the depositors are unorganized, and it is perfectly true, as Senator Burkett says, that the protests sent in by bankers have weight with the senators and members of congress. Those entrusted with legislation do not always stop to consider the fact that the people who protest against the postal savings bank are few in number compared with those who would be benefited by it and who favor it.

The legislator, whether in congress or in the legislature of a state, is the spokesman of the whole people on questions upon which the people have acted, and he occupies the position of a judge when he acts upon questions upon which there has been no public expression. The most difficult task that the legislator has to perform is to decide fairly and justly between the few who clamor and the many who are silent. For this reason it is of primary importance that the representative shall be in sympathy with the mass of the people, for if his sympathies are right, he will insist upon protecting the interests of the masses, no matter how urgent or persistent those may be who seek special favors or who protest against needed legislation. It ought not to be necessary for every voter to write to his senators or congressmen upon every question; the public official ought to have the moral courage to protect his constituents without being constantly spurred up to duty by letters.

There are about two hundred and sixty thousand voters in Nebraska; an overwhelming majority of them believe in greater protection to depositors. Those who are protesting against the postal savings bank are, as a rule opposed to the guaranty of banks, and likewise opposed to any other protection that the depositors may ask. It might promote remedial legislation if all the voters took the interest in public affairs that the beneficiaries of special privilege do, but it would not be necessary for them to correspond with their representatives so frequently if the representatives themselves fully appreciated official responsibility.



#### A BROKEN PLEDGE

For several years the republican party in Nebraska has pledged itself to the plan of selecting United States senators by popular vote. In the absence of a change in the method through congressional action the Oregon plan is, admittedly, the nearest approach to popular selection. Indeed, republicans, as well as democrats, are committed to the Oregon plan. But when that plan, as embodied in the Humphrey bill, was considered recently in committee of the whole by the Nebraska house of representatives every republican member voted against the motion to push the bill to third reading. When the bill was put upon its passage every republican member voted against it.

Can it be that republican platforms are "made to get in on" rather than to stand on?



#### "BILLY 'POSSUM"

Now that we are to have a season of "Billy 'Possum" in the place of "Teddy Bear" the following letter printed in the New York Herald becomes of international importance:

"Mr. J. B. Martin in an interview published today desires to know the difference between a 'possum and a raccoon. Under the present conditions it is important not to make any mistake in this matter, but it is very simple:

The squirrel has a bushy tail  
And stumpy grows the har;  
The raccoon's tail is ringed all round,  
The 'possum's tail is bar'.

—J. M. B.  
New York, January 20, 1909.



#### MISSOURI'S ANTI-MONOPOLY VICTORY

Anti-monopoly has won a complete victory in Missouri. The decision of the supreme court in expelling the Standard Oil company and its subsidiary companies is clear cut and comprehensive. The state is to be congratulated. There is a marked contrast between the language employed by the Missouri court—bold and aggressive—and the apologetic tone employed by the federal court which found the tobacco trust guilty, but tried to justify its practices. The Missouri victory, however, may prove to be of less value than the enemies of monopoly have hoped. The states ought to prosecute their remedies against the trusts and the right of the state to prosecute ought to be