

months later had nothing except a "chance to walk from New York to Duluth on the ties," the steel committee held an executive session. Previously Chairman Stanley had announced that Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Gates would be given an opportunity to be heard.

The democratic national committee has been called to meet in Washington January 8th. It will then fix the time and place for holding the national convention.

Judge Carpenter, in the federal court, Chicago, granted the packers a delay until December 6th, in order that they might get their case before the supreme court.

Friends of Banker Morse, now in the Atlanta penitentiary, are trying to have him paroled.

A fifty per cent decrease in desertions from the army is reported by the adjutant general.

Chief Justice White refused to grant a stay in the trial of the Chicago beef packers, but referred the application to the entire bench. The attorneys for the packers expressed the opinion that the lower court would now, on its own motion, grant the postponement.

An Associated Press dispatch says: An open fight in the house of representatives between Representative A. O. Stanley of Kentucky, chairman of the house special committee of inquiry into the United States Steel corporation, and Representative Martin W. Littleton of New York, a democratic member of the committee, was assured when Chairman Stanley declared he would appeal to the house to force Littleton's resignation from the committee. The fight, certain to be precipitated soon after the house convenes, will determine the future course of the steel committee.

The committee adjourned indefinitely, following the sensational testimony of the Merritt brothers of Duluth regarding their loss of millions in ore land and railroad properties to John D. Rockefeller. This was done because Chairman Stanley was powerless to enforce a continuance of the hearings under objections filed by attorneys for the United States Steel corporation that that corporation is now a defendant in a federal suit for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

In considering the point raised by these counsel, Representative Littleton took the position that nothing further should be done by the committee until the house had been consulted. Voting against Mr. Littleton were Chairman Stanley and Representatives McGillicuddy of Maine and Beall of Texas, the only other democrats present. The republican members present—Gardner of Massachusetts and Danforth of New York—voted with Littleton. Representative Bartlett, the fifth democratic member, is ill at his home in Georgia, and probably will be unable to appear next month. Representatives Young of Michigan and Sterling of Illinois, the absent republican members, are not expected here until later.

Mr. Littleton, who left the sessions of the committee, has broken openly with Chairman Stanley and will carry the question as to the future of the committee to the house. Mr. Stanley, after a conference with Messrs. Beall and McGillicuddy, decided to make the question a party issue, and he will call upon the democratic majority to sustain him in opposition to Littleton and to force the latter's resignation from

the committee. He expressed confidence that he will be sustained and has planned to continue the inquiry, despite the government suit. The argument will be made on behalf of the committee that the mere bringing of a suit by the executive branch of the government will not assure a remedy for alleged evils of the steel trust and the American Tobacco company dissolution suits and its results will be cited as an example.

AN ANCIENT "MUCK-RAKER"

The International Sunday School lesson for Aug. 6 was "Jeremiah Tried and Acquitted." Jer. 26.

An Old Testament "muck-raker"—so his enemies might have termed Jeremiah, the weeping prophet. The red blood of the brave coursed through Jeremiah's veins. He dared all dangers for his country's sake. All the scorn that has been heaped upon the head of the modern "muck-raker," as some have chosen to call the men and women who tell the hard and unlovely truth about their own times, was first endured by this ancient prophet.

The pendulum of Judah's history had swung the other way after the death of the godly King Josiah. He himself had been guilty of a grave political blunder in espousing the cause of Assyria, in the conflict between that power and Egypt. In the ripeness of his powers, Josiah was slain in battle. The result was that an Egyptian puppet was placed upon the throne. King Jehoiakim, who naturally turned to the fashions of the powerful neighbor to whom he owed his position. Thus the old, old curse of idolatry came back into the land, and the reforms of Josiah were largely undone.

This ability to appraise aright the conditions of his own time is what makes the prophet. It was Jeremiah's characteristic. Self-analysis is necessary to self-cleansing. We must know our own day ere we can better it. That is why the need is great and ever greater for more prophets with patriotic eyes. We need a new race of poets, filled with national spirit. The lack of poems, paintings and sculptures, and of music also, truly embodying the spirit of this new western democracy, and its providential place in the economy of nations, is really remarkable. Where are our cheerful Jeremiahs?

The lesson is a story of plots and enemies. The prophet's foes were athirst for his life. They did not like his tidings, and so they thought to silence his voice. That is an old fashion which has not yet gone out of vogue. To crush the man whose message makes you squirm—to drive him from his pulpit if he is a preacher, to buy out his paper or magazine if he is an editor, to defeat him at election if he holds public office—this is a modern method which is as old as Jeremiah's time. Only the rare person can refrain from regarding as an enemy the man who speaks a truth which touches him uncomfortably.

One strange fact about enemies which every reformer needs to bear always in mind is that good men may oppose the good. Sometimes a righteous man's foes will be they of his own household of faith. Noblemen will, from motives which appear inscrutable, espouse the side which is opposed to light and progress. The priests were among Jeremiah's enemies. To be progressive and unconventional is to be misunderstood. Not only the children of darkness, but also the dwellers in the twilight, will oppose the heralds of the better day.

The men whose ears have been open to any great word of God cares as little for men's praise as for their blame. Jeremiah feared not the

face of man, because he had looked into the face of God. His messages were not sweet and soft tickling his hearer's ears. He spoke of dread judgment to come upon the apostate nation. Because he foretold the destruction of Jerusalem the blind and erring leaders of his day, purveyors to and profitters from the nation's sin, thought to destroy him. Silencing the bell buoy does not remove the rocks; but that fatuous error is one common to all enemies of the truth. So they set about the death of the fearless Jeremiah. As if he cared!—William T. Ellis.

MORE TO THE POINT

Boy—"Mr. Quinn, can I get off this afternoon? My grandfather is dead."

Mr. Quinn—"I don't see how with your small salary you can afford to go to see so many ball games."

Boy—"That's right. I can't either. I ought to have more salary."—New York Evening Mail.

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