

## NEWMEN IN SENATE

INFUSION OF YOUNG BLOOD WILL  
MAKE A CHANGE.

### OLD MEN IN THE MINORITY

NEW DEAL IN THE WEST IS AN  
EPOCH MARKER.

Some Rich Men Are in the Nation's  
Upper House, But a Majority of  
Them Are Far From  
Wealthy.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 20.—After next March 3 the senate will have a larger percentage of young men as members than for many years. As a result of the political changes in a number of states there will be an infusion of young blood into the upper house of congress that promises to put the gray beards and venerable looking patriarchs in the hopeless minority. The senate will then contain a large number of members who have from twenty to thirty years of active service ahead of them before they will have reached the age of three score years and ten. Most of the young members are from the middle west and the west, while the New England, eastern and southern states are largely represented by veteran statesmen.

Of the thirty senators whose terms expire March 3 next, and who will not succeed themselves, successors have been either elected or decided upon for the following: R. A. Alger, Michigan; W. A. Clark, Montana; J. A. Berry, Arkansas; F. T. Dubois, Idaho; J. C. S. Blackburn, Kentucky; John M. Gearin, Oregon; A. W. Benson, Kansas; J. H. Millard, Nebraska; E. W. Carmack, Tennessee; T. M. Patterson, Colorado.

With but one exception, in the case of the new senator from Tennessee, every one of these incoming senators will be young men, or men who are still in the prime of life and good for a long service should their various states decide to keep them in the senate.

#### Some of the Recruits.

William Alden Smith, who succeeds General Alger, will be one of the lively recruits to the young men's club in the senate. He is only 47 years old. The man he succeeds is 71. Jefferson Davis, of Arkansas, who will take the place of the veteran Senator Berry, is also in the neighborhood of 50, while Mr. Berry is 66.

Charles Curtis of Kansas is only 47 years old, and when he takes Senator Benson's place the sunflower state will have two young representatives in the upper chamber. Chester I. Long being exactly the age of his new colleague. Joseph M. Dixon, who has been decided upon as Senator Clark's successor from Montana, will be the youngest man in the senate, as he will be only 39 years old when he takes the oath of office. Another of the western mountain states will be represented by a youngster when William E. Borah presents his credentials for Senator Dubois' seat, as the junior senator from Idaho.

Oregon will send Jonathan Bourne in place of Senator Gearin, making the fourth member of the law firm to which both these gentlemen belonged, to represent their state in the senate. Senator Mitchell and Senator Simon were both associated with the same law firm at various times. Senator Millard of Nebraska, who is about ready to retire from active life, will be followed in the senate by Norris Brown, just a year or two past 40. Simon Guggenheim of Colorado is another young man.

#### For Separate Statehood.

Delegate Smith of Arizona believes that separate statehood will be given to Arizona and New Mexico within the coming five years, for the reason that the developed resources and increased population will demand it. He predicts that five years from now the population of Arizona will be doubled, and that there will be four hundred thousand people there instead of the two hundred thousand at present.

Mr. Smith says that Arizona has a greater wealth and produces more per capita than any state or territory in the union. It offers splendid opportunities for young men of integrity and ability, and is a growing country, according to Mr. Smith. He says it furnishes a climate "that stimulates men to things," and has a great future and a social atmosphere where a man is honored for his true worth alone, and everybody gets a square deal.

The letting of the contracts for the construction and completion of a di-

version dam and canal of the Rio Grande project has launched the government on one of the largest and most expensive irrigation works in charge of the reclamation service.

This project contemplates the construction of a huge dam near Engle, New Mexico, to store water for the irrigation of 180,000 acres, 110,000 of which lies in that territory. The cost of the entire system is estimated at \$7,200,000. The main item of cost is the dam, which will require 300,000 barrels of cement, a large amount of machinery, gates, etc., entailing a heavy outlay for freight.

It is estimated that the dam will cost approximately \$5,300,000. It will be 225 feet high, 180 feet thick on the bottom, and 20 feet on top. It will be 1,150 feet long on top of crest. The reservoir thus created will have a capacity of 2,000,000 acre-feet, or twice that created by the Assuan dam in Egypt, and will be the largest artificial lake in the world.

Owing to the great demand made on the reclamation fund in other localities, the money for this entire project is not yet available. Recognizing the importance of early action in this section, however, the secretary of the interior, on December 2, 1905, allotted the sum of \$200,000 for the immediate construction of that portion of the project known as the Leasburg diversion. It is this dam with canal to connect it with the old Las Cruces system for which the contract has just been let. Work will be pushed rapidly during the winter, and it is hoped that water can be supplied to 15,000 acres in Mesilla valley during the irrigating season of 1907.

#### A Gentleman's Job.

It was a perspicacious person who first defined a United States senatorship as a gentleman's job. A senatorship is fully that. Any person familiar with Washington, with the ways of the government and the intricacies and rewards thereof, will unhesitatingly say he would prefer to be a senator than to occupy any other elective or appointive post, provided, of course, he could serve long enough to impress his ability on that tremendous body. Nor does this decry the presidency. No man lives in the United States who would not be president if he could, but few men can. There is but one president at a time and there are ninety senators, and, moreover, a president can serve but four or eight years, while a senator can serve indefinitely if his abilities warrant and his constituents agree. That is, he has a chance to serve indefinitely, it all depending on the local circumstances that govern officeholding in this country.

Observers of the senate, familiar with its history and its work, agree that it is the bulwark of the American republic. It stands between the oligarchy of the United States supreme court on one hand, and the personal and party ambitions of the executive on the other, and it has so stood since it was created. It is the pepsin of the legislative branch, there to digest the undigested legislation thrown at it by the house, and it does its work in its own time, in its own way and, usually, with the best results that can be obtained subject to human limitations.

When you dig into the senate and examine its membership closely you find there is always a reason, and a powerful one, for the presence of every man there who is of any consequence. Nobody maintains that the senate is not an unusual body, with men sitting in it who are not fit to sit there but even the unfit men are there for a reason that was potent at the time they were elected. The American political system will not permit the selection of ninety of the best men from the viewpoint of the best citizenship as senators, but even if it did it is extremely doubtful if these ninety men would be of as much service to the country as the present ninety.

#### No Degeneracy.

The loud cries about degeneracy in the senate are not borne out by the facts. The present senate compares with any senate that ever assembled at the nation's capitol. The glamor that the time has thrown about the giant figures of the old senate is lacking. The perspective is newer, and the fact that the United States now has eighty millions of people instead of twenty makes a difference. It was easier to get among twenty millions than it is among eighty millions. There was not so much competition.

One of the bromide criticisms of the senate is that it is a millionaire's club. When the critics have nothing else to say they hurl that terrific indictment at the upper house. It is true that there are millionaires in the senate, several of them, but they do not preponderate, and coming back to the statement that there is a reason for the presence of every senator in the body, most of the senators who are millionaires are there because they are millionaires, and for no other reason. This isn't the fault of the senate. It is the fault of the political system that elected these millionaires. The senate is great despite the millions of some of its members, not because of them.

The process of reasoning of the man with millions who wants to be a sen-

ator is not complicated. He has all the money he needs, and he casts about for a new field that will afford him an occupation and give him an added respectability. The most pathetic thing about riches is the constant search of the men of great fortunes for respectability, for some heritage for children, family, or for history aside from the record of the mere accumulation of wealth. Even a hundred millionaire recognize the dignity of the senatorial office, and it is not surprising that so many men with millions try for a seat. It sounds better in the family record to say that the head of the line was a senator of the United States than to have nothing to put down save that he made an enormous fortune in mines, in steel, in insurance or some other way.

#### Riches Buy Seats.

Thus this ambition has developed a line of senators, not large in proportion to the entire membership of the body, but large enough to prove the claim, who are there because they are rich. New ones come from time to time. There are plenty of men who are planning to get into the senate for this reason: Because they want to be considered more than merely rich.

It is a sad reflection on our political system that there should be any merely money senators, but after we have shed our bitter, bitter tears over it, it might be well to cheer up and reflect that there are five times as many poor men in the senate as there are rich ones, and that the number of senators who use their official position to make money for themselves is small enough to be counted on the fingers of one hand. One of the men who was a senator and tried it is in jail, and another is dead, and dead after conviction. And even when making the count there is no proof, nothing but implication, for if there was proof, the senators would be in jail along with the unhappy Burton.

#### Hadley of Missouri.

When Herbert Hadley, the attorney general of Missouri, called at the white house some time ago and met for the first time the president, Mr. Roosevelt hailed him as one of the rising political stars of the west. Mr. Hadley was on his way to New York to resume his examination of the big Standard Oil magnates in the suits he has brought against that giant concern under the corporation laws of Missouri. Mr. Hadley is as youthful in appearance as he is in years. He is not yet thirty-four years old. Soon after being graduated from the Kansas university at Lawrence he located in Kansas City. This was not more than ten years ago. He was elected prosecuting attorney of the county in which Kansas City is located, and in that office made a record which singled him out in the community as a marked man. His ambition after holding that office one term was to come to congress; but as the district was thought to be safely democratic he did not seek the nomination hard. In that year 1904, there was a Roosevelt landslide in Missouri, which overwhelmed the democratic majority in the Kansas City district. Thus, had Mr. Hadley received the nomination then he would now be a member of the house, and the Standard Oil company would have been spared a great deal of trouble. He did not want to accept the nomination for attorney general, tendered him unannounced by the republican state convention in 1904, but yielded to the demands of friends. He and Governor Folk, the democrat, are in thorough accord, and work together as if they belong to the same party.

The Gridiron club of Washington is in a class by itself. It is composed of the leading newspaper correspondents of the capital, the cleverest body of men to be found anywhere. There is no man so great or so famous as not to feel honored by an invitation to one of its dinners. Presidents Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt have enjoyed its hospitality. J. P. Morgan has said that he would cross the ocean to attend one of its dinners. Carnegie, Rogers, Harriman, and all the other financial lights have been proud to sit in. To the foreign ambassadors the dinners are an endless source of delight, and the reports that Baron Von Sternburg has sent to his imperial master has drawn from the kaiser regrets that he could not attend one. It is at these dinners that President Roosevelt is seen at his best. He knows that not a word of what he says will be reported in any newspaper, and there is no need to armor himself with reserve. He talks right out in meeting—explains, defends, justifies. And yet he is not spared. His vulnerable words or acts are held up to ridicule of a good natured chafing kind in which he joins as heartily as anybody. It exercises a beneficial influence in reminding men in power that they are fallible.

"The most democratic gathering that I've ever been in," was the comment of the famous ambassador towards the close of the gridiron dinner. And he was right. Every man has to take in good part whatever is coming to him, whether it be in jibe or rally. But there is nothing coarse or offensive. There is skill and deftness so as to touch the spot without leaving a wound.

The retiring president of the club is Richard Lee Fearn, head of the New York Tribune bureau, and all that need be said of him is that this blue ribbon of the profession, the highest honor within the gift of his fellows came to him by unanimous vote. For next year the president selected is Samuel G. Blythe, one of the happiest, brightest and most cheerful souls to be met with anywhere. He sees humor and fun in everything, and yet there isn't anybody more sympathetic or helpful when sympathy or help is needed. Both men are proud of the Gridiron, and the Gridiron is proud of them.

A persistent report is in circulation among the members of congress that within the next six months Secretary Wilson will retire from the head of the agricultural department and will be succeeded by Gifford Pinchot, now the chief of the forestry division. Several efforts have been made by numerous congressmen specially interested in the subject to learn if the report is true, but thus far no confirmation of it has been obtained at the white house. Mr. Pinchot is one of the president's closest friends, and, like James Rudolph Garfield, who soon is to supplant Mr. Hitchcock as secretary of the interior, is one of the chief executive's favorite tennis players. Mr. Pinchot is about Mr. Garfield's age, and, like the son of the martyred president, he has adopted a public career because he "wants to do things," as Mr. Roosevelt says. His parents, who live in Washington are very wealthy, so that he would not have to work at anything if he did not want to. Mr. Pinchot has brought the forestry division up to a high degree of efficiency, and until he took hold of the work practically nothing was known of the organized activity of the government to preserve the country's forests and provide a method for foresting large sections that have been ruthlessly de-

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