

That Tired Feeling

That comes to you every spring is a sign that your blood is wanting in vitality, just as pimples and other eruptions are signs that your blood is impure.

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WHAT WAR MEANS.

Baron Kaneko of Japan, writing of the fatuity of thinking about war between Japan and the United States tells this story:

At the time of a certain heated controversy between Great Britain and the United States, Lord Granville, the minister of foreign affairs, and Mr. Motley, the American minister, sat together in the office of the former. The air was full of war rumors.

"Mr. Motley," said Lord Granville, "there is no use of our discussing this matter diplomatically. I ask you for a simple answer, to one question: 'Shall it be war or peace?'"

To this ultimatum, after a moment, Mr. Motley replied: "If your lordship thinks that war is the only form of settlement of this question I have only one suggestion to make. That is, that you burn the city of Liverpool by your order and our government will burn the city of New York."

Liverpool was full of American raw material. New York warehouses were packed with British manufactures. The British minister saw the point and the dispute was settled without further talk of war.

There is reason to believe that the contending trainmen and railroad managers in Chicago are also seeing the point. Their more recent intercourse has abounded less in ultimatums, and the prospects for peace are roseate at this writing.

THE GOVERNOR'S CONTRIBUTION.

It is beginning to dawn upon some of the members of the legislature that Governor Sheldon and his wife have contributed materially to the good record of the present session by giving the members of both houses an opportunity to meet socially every Thursday evening. When the governor was a member of the legislature he felt the need of such meetings, and inaugurated the custom as soon as it was in his power to do so.

The failure of the lobby to get a hold upon the members was the first sign of the emancipation of the state. Then as the members met weekly at the governor's house they began to feel a new solidarity and awakening respect for themselves and their work and for a government that could run itself in the interests of the whole state. All this developed pride in the governor and the things he stands for, and a feeling of relief that the old conditions have gone for good.

The citizens of Lincoln, who have in the course of years grown to be indifferent and cynical as to governors and legislatures are among the first to welcome the new order. There is general agreement here that the thanks of the senate to the governor and his wife for their hospitality are well deserved. These young people have dignified the office and have made the executive mansion, as it ought to be, the first house in the capital in the respect and regard of the people.

A BIRD IN THE HAND.

Probably nobody in or out of Nebraska keeps in closer touch with the temper of the Nebraska people than Senator Burkett. He asserts that the people of Nebraska want President Roosevelt for another term "and nobody else" and couples this with his own express determination "to be for President Roosevelt and nobody else." Senator Nelson of Minnesota has just replied to a question as to Mr. Roosevelt's availability for a seat in the senate from New York that it is useless to talk about such a thing because "the people seem to have their minds fixed on no other presidential candidate than Mr. Roosevelt."

Mr. Roosevelt will not accept a re-nomination, but the popular state of mind that prompts this unwillingness

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to take him at his word is a significant sign. The country has had a taste of Roosevelt policy, and it wants to be sure of more. Were it sure of finding in someone else a candidate with power and principles to match his it would probably turn to that candidate cheerfully enough. There are such men, and the country knows who they are; but it is not certain of its ability with Roosevelt out of the way to prevent the nomination of a question mark candidate. A disposition to keep hold of the bird in the hand till the bird in the bush is fairly snared seems to be the true interpretation of the present overwhelming, country wide Roosevelt-for-president sentiment.

MAIL AND EXPRESS CHARGES.

Professor Adams, statistician of the interstate commerce commission, finds that the New York Central railroad charges the government \$31.73 for a given service in carrying mail for the government, while it charges \$10 for an equal service performed for an express company. It is commonly charged that this practice is universal. Yet this does not prove that the charges to the government are three times too high, or that they are not four or five times too high. The express companies are now in the main to all intents and purposes subsidiary companies of the railroads or side lines with men who control railroads. In the one case it is a matter of no great importance what the railroad charges its subsidiary company for carrying its cars, since the net profits go to the same pockets in the end. Such companies are useful because they can charge more for carrying merchandise than the railroad proper is permitted to charge. In the case where the company is run as a side line of the men controlling the railroad it is likely to be charged an exceedingly low rate, lower than the welfare of the road really warrants. In this way the stockholders of the road may be exploited for the benefit of the managers thereof.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

"A conflagration—probably the greatest one in the history of our town—was narrowly averted last Friday night by Night Watchman Holmes." Thus a Missouri paper; and that is about the way the west feels over the trainmen's strike which did not happen. A week ago there was every reason to dread another experience such as magnified the grief of the west in 1894. Largely through the intervention of government agents, lacking authority to do anything more than argue, but backed by the moral support of the country, the railroads and the trainmen have compromised their differences. The contrary result might have been shock enough to create general commercial embarrassment. Before forgetting the scare at what might have been "the most disastrous conflagration in our history," it would not hurt to consider seriously the proposition laid down by Carroll D. Wright after holding an inquest in behalf of the government on the great strike of 1894: Railroads are quasi-public corporations, and incur with that status certain obligations, such as the obligation to keep their trains running. Are not railroad employes then quasi-public servants with the appropriate obligations that go with that status, an obligation, for example, to submit together with their employers, to the arbitration of such differences as have recently existed?

REPRESENTED NEBRASKA.

Nebraska has to thank its late legislature for justifying renewed confidence in the principle of representative government. Said a critic of our plan of government lately: "Your representative system would be fine except that your representatives do not represent—at least not you."

The Nebraska representatives who have just ended their work have proved that the representative system can be made to represent those whom it should represent. The demonstration was simple. It began with the uncommon spectacle of a people united and active in nominating and electing reliable representatives and impressing them with what was expected of them. It continued with a people watchful of the progress of legislation, instant to encourage the representative and to warn the misrepresentative. To the exceptional glory of the Nebraska representatives and senators it is to be said that they did not much require to be watched or to be urged on. On the whole they did cheerfully and honestly what they had pledged themselves to do.

The legislation of fundamental importance effected by these representatives is all aimed at increased ease of maintaining a representative government that represents. The destruction of the pass, of the nominating machine, of unbridled railroad power, even the restrictive liquor legislation involves the removal of obstructions to securing representatives who will represent the voters. This legislature, in a word, has given the people of Nebraska an unimpeded opportunity to have such

legislatures as this every time there is a legislature to be elected; and other officials to match. They are now free political agents. They can take up or throw away their opportunity according as they are interested and intelligent or apathetic and dull.

IN EGYPT.

Lord Cromer, British agent in Egypt, a term which means practically governor of Egypt, reports the unusual case of a Mohammedan people demanding a democratic government. In 1882 Great Britain, under the form of protecting her Suez canal, put down a rebellion in Egypt and established a virtual protectorate under promise to withdraw in six months. Mustapha Kamel Pasha and his nationalists have now begun to inquire whether the six months is not about expired, and have made emphatic suggestions of a gradual process of leaving Egypt in control of its own affairs. At the meeting in February of the Egyptian general assembly, a body with about the same authority as our Porto Rican assembly or the soon to be established Philippine parliament, it gave form to a considerable list of measures tending to Egyptian control of their own affairs. An Egyptian parliament was requested, together with an Egyptian monopoly of the good public offices, the destruction of the monopoly in steamship service to Mecca, the teaching of Arabic exclusively in the public schools, and the abolition of the tax on date palm trees. Lord Cromer suggests that the agitation is an outcropping of the pan-Islamic movement which is said to be making headway in various parts of the Mohammedan world. The demand for representative institutions can hardly be anything but a ruse. Until the Persian shah made his late experiment in democracy any Mohammedan government without its autocratic sultan with an executioner at his back was well nigh unthinkable.

ENTERPRISE IN CUBA.

That the Cubans are smart enough for self government can hardly be doubted following the example of quick wit seen since the beginning of the American occupation. When the rebels were forced to bring in and lay down their arms, it was noticed that the weapons presented were of a highly time-worn type. Secretary Taft tumbled at once to the probability that the new weapons used in the rebellion were safely concealed, while the island was raked for worn out guns to be turned in to the government. A commission to audit claims for damage to property resulting from the rebellion has already filed claims amounting to several million dollars, half of which comes from Santa Clara province, which was not reached at all by the rebellion. The most inspiring instance of Cuban adaptation to environment followed the decision of the government that the mounted rebels should keep their horses, and that the government would reimburse persons from whom horses had been stolen. Although not one in ten of the rebels had before been mounted, some 99 per cent have ridden to headquarters with animals which are alleged to have carried them through the war. Promptly behind them come other persons, often a father, mother, brother or sister, to set up a claim to reimbursement for the animal which they declare was stolen from them. These claims now exceed a million dollars. Men have been known to steal each others horses, lay claim to ownership as rebels, and then claim reimbursement for having lost a horse by theft. Nothing more brilliant than these deeds of thrift in Cuba will be found in the annals of the United States, not even in connection with the lye land law or the government range and timber domain.

PARTY PLATFORMS.

The opponents of the primary looking over the new Nebraska law to find much desired obstacles to its success, have hit upon the platform provision as the one to discredit the whole system of direct nominations. The platforms are to be made in the future according to section 81 of the new law:

The first Saturday after the primary election the nominees for county officers shall meet at the county seat of the respective counties in this state, and by a majority vote thereof select one committeeman from each township or precinct in said county, and within one week thereafter said committeemen so selected shall meet and elect a chairman of the county central committee of his respective party and at said time shall elect one delegate who shall meet with like delegates chosen in the same way from each county in the state at the capitol at 12 o'clock, meridian, on the fourth Tuesday in September, 1907, and annually thereafter on the fourth Tuesday in September, and said delegates shall forthwith formulate the state platform of their party and select a state central committee composed of one member for each senator elected from each senatorial district and said committee so elected shall select its chairman and

Do You Open Your Mouth

Like a young bird and gulp down whatever food or medicine may be offered you? Or, do you want to know something of the composition and character of that which you take into your stomach whether as food or medicine?

Most intelligent and sensible people now-a-days insist on knowing what they employ whether as food or as medicine. Dr. Pierce believes they have a perfect right to insist upon such knowledge. So he publishes, broadcast and on each bottle-wraps, what his medicines are made of and verifies by analysis. This he feels he can well afford to do because the more the ingredients of which his medicines are made are studied and understood the more will their superior curative virtues be appreciated.

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A host of medical authorities of all the several schools of practice, recommend each of the several ingredients of which "Favorite Prescription" is made for the cure of the diseases for which it is claimed to be a cure. You may read what they say for yourself by sending a postal card request for a free booklet of extracts from the leading authorities, to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., and it will come to you by return mail.

The platform of each party shall be framed at such time and shall be made public not later than 6 o'clock in the afternoon of the following day.

Senator Joe Burns was the first of the reactionists to point out that this meant inevitable disaster. "Under this act," says Joe, "the smallest country will have just as much influence as Douglas or Lancaster." Therefore drastic platforms that will bring about inevitable defeat. But will that be the result?

The object of a platform is to win votes, not to impose certain views upon an unwilling community. Under the old system five men wrote a platform and it was presented and adopted, usually unanimously and without debate, in the closing hours of a convention. Under the new system all of the party platform conventions will be held on the same day in the state capitol. There will be no waiting to find out what other parties declare, in order to attempt to catch the breeze of public opinion at some other slant. It is to be expected that at 6 o'clock of the second day, all of the platforms will be released simultaneously, each one the result of long deliberation by ninety picked men, every man the direct representative of candidates who want to be elected to office on the accepted platform.

The system ought to produce a stronger party consciousness than the old haphazard plan, and give better written, more terse and more sharply defined platforms. In time a seat in a platform convention will carry with it enough honor to cause the real intellectual leaders in each party to desire a place there. Imagine a convention of ninety republicans in the senate chamber, with the leaders of the present senate in the chairs they have occupied for three months, and other men of like caliber on the floor with them. They will meet with election credentials, and will act under authority of the law. It need not be asked if such a body will not produce better platforms and develop a stronger party spirit and organization than the pass-carried mobs that have named tickets and enunciated party principles during the last twenty-five years in Nebraska.

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