

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

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THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE.

The American Protective association vaunts above all things its devotion to the free public school system. The little red school house has been adopted as its emblem, and there is no doubt that more people have been induced to enroll themselves in the ranks of the A. P. A. order by reason of its professed championship of popular education than for any other reason.

As a tree is known by its fruit, so must every organization be known by the fruit of its labors. The true friends of education have a right to ask: What has been the result of A. P. A. control of the public schools in this city? Has the standard of instruction been advanced? Has the corps of teachers been improved in efficiency? Has their discipline been bettered and appointments and promotions made solely on merit regardless of political influence?

These questions force themselves to the front at this time because we are on the eve of another election at which the people are to say whether they want to continue the management of their public schools in men who are committed to the policy of sectarian proscription and by their nominations linked with the political machine.

From the business standpoint the dominance of A. P. A. in the school board has had no better results. While some of the costly frills have been added to the system, there has been a wastefulness in almost every direction.

As a champion of the little red school house, the American Protective association is not only a lamentable failure, but it has been the prime agency in the work of demoralizing the public school system, decreasing its efficiency and depriving the children of the advantages they would have enjoyed but for the intrusion of this un-American organization.

ADVANTAGES OF RECIPROCITY.

At the meeting opening the republican campaign in New York last week one of the speakers was Mr. Charles Emory Smith, ex-minister to Russia, and among other things he pointed out the advantages of reciprocity. He declared that the American continent is the natural commercial field of the great American republic and we should possess ourselves of it under special treaties by making our neighbors understand that reciprocity is as essential to them as it is advantageous to us.

While it is important that this country shall firmly resist all attempts of European nations to absorb more territory than they now possess in this territory or to interfere with the political affairs of independent American countries, it is no less important that we should seek, by every peaceful and proper means, to lessen the financial and commercial power of Europe in Spanish America.

If the railroad magnates think that all they will have to do in the coming session of congress to secure railroad legislation in their interests is to ask for it they will find themselves mightily mistaken when the time comes. The railroads certainly have powerful representatives among the new members of congress, but there is a healthy minority determined to stand up for the rights of the people. No railroad bills are likely to pass this congress without a sharp and stubborn fight.

unfriendly to trade with the United States, and this influence has been strengthened and the overthrow of reciprocity, because the overall effect of that action was to weaken confidence in us on the part of the countries with which we had arrangements. It is not to be doubted that in every one of those countries European financial and commercial influence is stronger now than it was before reciprocity was abandoned, nor is there any reason to doubt that it is steadily increasing. So long as this is the case it would seem that European governments can bear our declarations regarding the Monroe doctrine with perfect equanimity. Why should they trouble themselves about acquiring more territory in the new world when they control so large a part of its commerce and are steadily gaining more of it?

Had reciprocity been maintained there is not a reasonable doubt that one trade with South and Central America would now be probably double what it is, thus affording most material benefit to our farmers and manufacturers. The republican party will restore this policy when it shall be so easy to secure its acceptance by other countries as it was four years ago. That policy having, however, demonstrated its worth, will not be permanently abandoned.

CONTEMPIBLE BUSHWACKING.

It is reported that Ed Roggen is now bending all his energies to getting votes for Charlie Coe, and so marked has this fact become as to attract the suspicion of some candidates and members of the "citizens' reform" movement who are not in the "inner circle" and had not been informed that in the event of Coe's election Roggen is to be deputy clerk of the courts.—World-Herald.

Mr. Roggen came to Omaha five years ago at the solicitation of leading business men and property owners to undertake the difficult and delicate task of organizing the anti-prohibition forces. There was nothing dishonorable or disreputable connected with his work in that campaign. He was, as might have been expected, subjected to vindictive defamation at the hands of the prohibition agitators and the blackmailing sheets which had failed to induce him to buy their columns. He was slandered and abused incidentally by the reptile press, of which the World-Herald is the type—a press whose chief aim seems to be to masquerade in all sorts of garbs and play the despicable part of harlot upon all occasions.

In the present campaign Mr. Roggen was enlisted at the outset to formulate the plan of organizing the Citizens' movement. He has not been an active participant either in the general committee or in the conventions. Why Mr. Roggen should be singled out as a target for abuse can be explained only on the assumption that this year, as in the struggle against prohibition, he has made himself offensive by working in a cause which the World-Herald is vainly endeavoring to defeat.

THE LATEST WAR SCARE.

London advices are to the effect that excitement throughout England still runs high by reason of Russian operations in the direction of Corea and there is no abatement in the demand of the British press that the government shall adopt an aggressive policy for the protection of British interests in the Orient believed to be menaced by Russia. It has been many years since the Bings have been in Great Britain was so pronounced as it appears to be at this time, but so far appears to be confined to the press and people, there having been no official expression regarding what is transpiring in the east, though it is stated that there is a good deal of activity at the British foreign office and at the admiralty. As to Japan, which is directly and most largely interested, that government would seem to have no apprehension of danger from the Russian movements, though it may simply be observing a discreet silence while preparing for any emergency which may arise.

It has been evident since the close of the war between China and Japan, and even before, that Russia wishes to gain a foothold in Corea. None of her interests was affected by the Japanese possession of eastern Manchuria. Japan believed that such possession was necessary to the permanence of her protectorate over Corea and events have shown that she was right. But at the dictation of Russia she withdrew her troops from Manchuria and since that withdrawal disorganized mobs have maltreated the people of the country, whereas they were safe under the peaceful invasion of Japan.

There is good reason to believe that Russian influence is responsible for much of this and now it appears that government proposes to take upon itself the task of establishing and controlling a government in Corea, securing a port on the Japanese sea which would enable her to exercise substantial domination over the island and perhaps even draw her boundaries near to Peking. If Russia had to deal with Japan alone the accomplishment of her evident purpose would probably not be very difficult, but Great Britain cannot tamely permit Russia to acquire the additional foothold in the east which she seeks and other European powers are only less interested in thwarting the designs of the Russian government in this direction, which if successful would give that nation a preponderance of power in the east that would make her practically autocratic in that quarter of the world. As the London Times points out, it would destroy the balance of power, which it is most vital to England shall be preserved. It is possible that nothing very serious may grow out of this latest indication of Russian designs, but the situation is evidently serious in England, at least outside of official circles, as being very grave.

redressing a grievance the strike is an utter failure. Indeed, the contrary is manifestly true, though according to the figures of cost it is a very expensive means of redress. Mr. Wright estimates that the wage loss of employees during the thirteen and one-half years from strikes and lockouts amounted to \$190,000,000 and the loss to employers to about \$95,000,000. These figures are not to be accepted with unquestioning confidence. It is safe to say that they are too high. Very few strikes are so complete as to entirely stop operations in the establishment or business against which it is directed. In most cases employers are able to secure some labor to take the place of strikers, but what is paid to this labor is not usually reckoned in estimating the cost of strikes. Only the loss of the strikers is taken into consideration. But in any event strikes and lockouts are undeniably expensive, both to employers and employed, and they entail besides more or less demoralizing results in both material and social ways.

The facts presented by Commissioner Wright ought to have a strong influence in promoting the cause of arbitration. They ought to impress both capital and labor with the wisdom and expediency of some plan for the peaceable settlement of controversies between them. Perhaps a majority in the ranks of both are already convinced of this, but not actually inclined to devise a plan. We noted a short time since the discouraging record of last year of the New York Board of Arbitration, which out of more than 400 strikes and lockouts in that state was able to settle only eight. It does better than this in Massachusetts, but even there arbitration has not accomplished all that was hoped for and in no state of the thirteen having arbitration laws have results been satisfactory. It should not be concluded from this, however, that a practicable plan of arbitration is impossible.

According to the new German census the movement of population from country to city is just as marked now as it has been in the past ten years. There is no question that the growth of the larger cities all the world over proceeds at a rate more rapid than that of the rural communities. Some statistics compiled in the United States have been used in support of the argument that the smaller cities were growing smaller and only the large cities were the gainers by the movement of population. These, plainly, are not normal, representing an interruption in the growth of American cities. Let the total population of the country increase faster than the natural rate and the growth of the urban will be proportionately greater than the growth of the rural community.

The justice of the peace is the poor man's judge. Strict equity is even more important in the justice courts than in the higher tribunals. The rich man can generally appeal his case to the court of last resort and have any errors that may have been committed corrected. The poor man must content himself with the decision of the justice before whom his suit is first brought because he has not the means to undertake the expensive litigation which an appeal means. No one should be elected justice of the peace whose impartiality or integrity can be called in question. The men nominated on the citizens' ticket for justice of the peace are all reputable and capable. Don't fail to vote for each and every one of them.

Noblesse Library day, which was celebrated last Monday, is attracting attention throughout the country. The purpose of the celebration is everywhere received with commendation and in not a few states the suggestion of its initiation is already made. The idea is a good one and it is only a matter of time when it will be widely copied. First, however, it will have to be more generally adopted by the schools of this state. The success of Library day, where it has already been observed, is assurance that it has come to stay.

Talmage has entered upon his work in Washington, the new field to which he was recently called. This will not, however, interfere with the business of syndicalism his weekly sermons to newspapers in different parts of the country, except as it requires a change in the date lines.

The Gentry of History. Philadelphia Times. Senator Sherman's book recalls how public men write history in this country, and how some of the most interesting pages show where they have been turned down.

Planning for a Grab. Buffalo Express. The Alaska boundary dispute is a question of vastly greater importance to the United States than the Venezuela boundary dispute. If it were violated the Monroe doctrine to let Great Britain annex Venezuela territory, much more would it violate the Monroe doctrine to let Great Britain grab territory belonging to the United States.

Huntington's Bluff. Kansas City Star. C. P. Huntington declares that the Central Pacific Railroad company will not be able to pay its debts to the government at maturity, and that he would not object to the nation taking the road off his hands. This is, of course, only a bluff to force congress to slow more time and lower interest, but it might not be a bad idea to "call that bluff."

The Wheel in Politics. Globe-Democrat. It is estimated that over 450,000 bicycles have been made and sold in the United States this year for about \$7,000,000, and that there are now 175 American manufacturers of the wheel. The republican candidate for mayor of Brooklyn refers to wheelmen in his speech of acceptance, saying that they are entitled to municipal recognition, and that he is heartily in sympathy with the efforts to provide better roads. The bicycle vote is likely to make a considerable figure in politics.

Sharpening the Dervish Knife. Buffalo Express. The advisory board of the American Protective association, which was in session in St. Louis last week, showed its hand in the resolutions adopted. One was that the executive committee should collect all possible information about presidential and vice presidential candidates and any possibility of their being connected with the bodies of the order. This means that if any candidate of any party has ever said a good word for the G. A. R. or the I. O. O. F. and it appeared in print, that candidate will be in great danger of being proscribed. Another resolution recommended members of the order to vote in the party with which they are connected for the nomination of candidates and then to vote on the day of election only for candidates who support the principles of the A. P. A.

PROBLEM OF THE A. P. A.

What a Consistent Application of its Principle Leads To.

It is an interesting fact, and not less significant than interesting, that as far as the character of the membership of the A. P. A. society is revealed in occasional publications of the proceedings of the order, or in what purport to be rosters of the membership in any given locality, continental European names figure largely if they do not actually predominate. It is an undoubted fact that a large percentage of the membership of the order is made up of first or second generation Americans descended from European stock found nowhere in the British Isles. This fact in no way diminishes the political importance of the order. It is purely American in its political sense, while its membership includes American citizens clothed with political power which such citizenship confers. The fact, however, presents a very more psychological or ethnological than political character. That fact is seen in the proportion in the statistics of membership indicated by the undue preponderance of continental names. According to the relative strength of the elements in the population of this country, English and Scotch names should largely outnumber all others. We exclude the Irish from consideration, for the obvious reason that their position of defense against the spirit and demand of the A. P. A. society would make such consideration improper. Drawing the lines in this way, we classify the members of the order as follows: on a line of pure Americanism the British stock should outnumber all others as ten to one, it does not, in fact, represent more than half the total membership.

There is but one way to account for this striking and important fact. The genius of the English race, and of the Scotch as well, is that of opposition to taxation without representation. More battles have been fought on a line of pure Americanism the British stock should outnumber all others as ten to one, it does not, in fact, represent more than half the total membership. There is but one way to account for this striking and important fact. The genius of the English race, and of the Scotch as well, is that of opposition to taxation without representation. More battles have been fought on a line of pure Americanism the British stock should outnumber all others as ten to one, it does not, in fact, represent more than half the total membership.

An interesting question arising here is whether, if the American Protective association should be formed, it should hold to Catholics, stipulate that Catholics should be released from obligation to pay taxes or render military service, the American Protective association should hold to Catholics, stipulate that Catholics should be released from obligation to pay taxes or render military service, the American Protective association should hold to Catholics, stipulate that Catholics should be released from obligation to pay taxes or render military service.

The task which lies before the leaders of the American Protective association is to reconquer the political mind of the nation of a class of citizens exempt from taxation and the performance of military duty. This is not impossible, but it is certainly more practicable than to bring any Anglo-Saxon people to concede that a class of men shall, while being compelled to discharge all the duties of citizens, be denied the rights of citizens.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The number of political uses in use by leading democrats of Kentucky presents a spectacle of surpassing human interest. Should the bicyclist take a hand in politics on the issue of good roads, what a scorching some indolent candidates would receive.

The oldest inhabitant, a woman, died in Quincy, Ill., last week, at the age of 106. Her demise was hastened by an uncontrollable habit of smoking tobacco.

As gold discoveries are the chief inspiration for the British game of grab and bluff in Venezuela, it is not likely that the war cloud will develop a silver lining.

Pierce H. Pennessy, a Connecticut democrat, died recently at the age of 98. During all these years he took his political medicine straight without shaking the respect of his acquaintances.

Mr. Barney Barnato's pile, a hundred million or so, would look sad and sunken, its retort pushed in if the bushwacker undertook to lubricate the wheels of political machinery in a municipal campaign in these United States.

The Duke of Marlborough is not going to contribute a farthing to the support of this blawsted government, don'thewknow, and has returned wedding presents to his custom duties were exacted. He has, however, invested in a quartet of Kentucky mules. Unless their patriotic instincts are spoiled

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