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PROTECTING AMERICAN TRADE.

It is understood to be the position of our government that the so-called pacific blockade of Venezuelan ports shall not apply to American ships.

There is European precedent for this attitude. A writer on the subject says: "At the time of the blockade of La Plata, in 1846, by Great Britain and France, Lord Palmerston said in Parliament that unless war existed the government had no right to prevent not only vessels of third powers, but also British merchant vessels, from communicating with the ports."

It is most important that our South American trade shall be protected and it is gratifying to find the Washington authorities fully alive to this.

With Governor Mickey at the helm, we may be sure of less fuss and feathers and more brain and business in the administration of state affairs.

Real estate never escapes its full share of taxation. That is why real estate men are interested in seeing to it that all other classes of property pay their full share.

New Hampshire will submit to popular vote the question of female suffrage, as a good many other states have done, but whether the voters will submit to it is said to be doubtful.

The discovery of a bank defalcation amounting to \$175,000 by a bookkeeper in a bank at Darmstadt, Germany, is simply a reminder that dishonesty knows no nationality, creed or politics.

By a singular oversight, no international bankruptcy court has been established to which the Latin-American nations could resort when they get into the fix which Venezuela now finds itself involved.

No use worrying for the present about the succession to Judge Norris on the district bench. Judge Norris' term as member of congress for the Fifth Nebraska district does not commence until next March.

Between justifying high valuations of their property for the purpose of maintaining increased traffic rates and low valuations for the purpose of evading a just share of the tax burdens the railroad lawyers are up against it.

A single transatlantic liner has sailed for Europe carrying money orders aggregating \$400,013, representing Christmas gifts sent abroad by people of the United States. The American cousin must be in high esteem in the old country.

The startling announcement comes all the way from Tacoma that his accidency, Governor Savage, will quit Nebraska for good, shortly after the expiration of his term of office next month. No one in Nebraska will go into mourning over the loss.

These high-toned gentlemen caught in the raid on those high-toned New York gambling houses, who refused to answer for fear of incriminating themselves, seem to have taken their tip from the redoubtable deputy of our own county attorney, who made the same answer when caught in a similar fix.

makers emanated from Mr. Harriman or Mr. Burt is immaterial to the controversy. As members of the machinists and boiler makers' unions the men were under solemn obligation to live up to the rules of their organizations.

In other words, Mr. Burt's order was an ultimatum that they must either abandon and break up the unions or leave the employ of the company. Personal likes or dislikes of their superiors, including Mr. Burt, had nothing to do with the controversy.

It required the wisdom of Solomon to adjudge the ownership of a babe that was claimed by two women. It required the wisdom of the Nebraska supreme court to decide what portion of the property belonging to a man who married a divorced woman should go to her in case she concluded to cut short their mutual disagreeable relations.

The contention that business institutions in Omaha should not be taxed the same as other property owners because competitors in smaller towns do not pay as much in taxes cannot be conceded.

If Venezuela is on its own application to go into the hands of a receiver, who is to act as receiver? What authority is he to have, and by what means are his decisions to be enforced?

According to the Interstate Commerce commission government by injunction is very unsatisfactory when applied to secret rate-cutting by railroads, as it operates simply to advance the charges which the public has to pay.

Our visiting real estate men are invited to make themselves at home. If they can turn a few bargains in farm acreage or city lots while they are here they are entitled to combine business with pleasure.

Secretary Shaw has finally notified Wall street that the government is through walking the floor with the stock market every time it has a touch of speculation cold.

Gotham bankers have made a pool of \$50,000,000 to prevent a panic in Wall street. Evidently all the lambs have been closely guarded and the thief operators must be taken care of until more wool grows or more lambs are born.

It is claimed that the great Assouan dam across the Nile will add over \$13,000,000 to the agricultural earning power of Egypt every year. As this is about the sum the improvement cost it may be said that it will pay for itself in a twelve-month.

It is perfectly useless to contend that these results were not a part of the merger scheme, that they were not in fact the moving consideration in it. In virtually every case capitalization was expanded to a point that would require earnings on the higher rates for which destruction of competition paved the way, and the merger was promptly followed by actual advances under circumstances demonstrating premeditated design.

The whole showing of the commission implies a demonstration of its own powerlessness to deal satisfactorily with the menacing conditions, and is a significant reminder that it will require a more efficacious exertion of national power. It is noteworthy that the commission does not specify how this shall be done, but confines itself to a strong official statement of the necessity of somehow doing it.

What caused Union Pacific strike. An authority identified with the Harriman interests is quoted in New York dispatches as saying that the opposition to President Burt was one of the primary causes of the walkout of the Union Pacific shophmen. There is absolutely no truth in that statement. Everybody in Union Pacific headquarters in Omaha knows that opposition to President Burt did not figure in the so-called strike, which in reality is a lockout.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: Uncle Sam should take his "great and good friends," Edward and William, by the hand and lead them, kindly but firmly, beyond the danger line.

Cleveland Leader: If Great Britain and Germany succeed in collecting any of that money from Venezuela they might use it profitably in employing a few naval officers with level heads.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: It will be noticed that neither France, Russia nor Austria is making any move to join the triple alliance which is operating on this side of the water.

New York World: To paraphrase Shakespeare, it may be excellent to have a bully's strength, but it is tyrannous—not to say contemptible—to use it like a bully.

Were we fortunate enough to live in Yarmouth, N. S., we could get Pennsylvania anthracite for \$7.50 a ton. Klondike Indians have gone on the war-path, but their war whoops will not thaw out until next spring when the war's over.

Colonel Henry D. Capers, a brother of General E. B. Capers, now Episcopal bishop of South Carolina, is the oldest living confederate and this is shown by his commission.

Germany has nominated Dr. Sievert to be a member of the international court of arbitration in the place of Dr. Bingham, president of the senate of the high court.

There is a superstition that you should never present a friend with a gift that has a sharp point—it severs friendship. Do you remember all those stickpins Emperor William sent over here?

Years ago Mr. Chamberlain, the British colonial secretary, while a guest at the legation in Washington, attended a ball. An American girl with whom he danced summed him up in this way: "He's nice enough, but he doesn't know how to waltz."

It looks as if the consumer were a great deal slower in getting the news when a trust puts down prices than when it puts them up.

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GIANTS TACKLE A PIGMY.

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HITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts is a frequent recipient of bunches of red carnations, which invariably provoke inquisitive glances from his colleagues.

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two men who were thoroughly posted on the matter. Being unusually abstemious that morning he breakfasted alone and then went into the lobby, where he found his two friends. He invited them into his office and there talked with them for a couple of hours, forgetting all about his breakfast invitation until they had departed. His apologies were profuse, but he has been the subject of much raffery on the subject.

Just before the fight began over statehood bills in the senate Senator Beveridge walked across the chamber and shook hands with Senator Quay, the two statements being radically opposed to each other on the proposition. They exchanged a few words of elaborate politeness and then Mr. Beveridge returned to his seat. The whole incident irresistibly reminded beholders of the handshaking preliminary to a prize fight and Senator Stewart called out sharply "Time!" Quay grinned, Beveridge blushed and everybody else laughed.

REPUBLICANS MUST ACT.

Congress Should Give Force and Effect to President's Recommendations.

President Roosevelt knew what was expected by the people when he put into his message to congress the strong recommendation of legislation to regulate the so-called trusts.

There is no doubt that a big majority of the people are today in favor of carrying out the president's recommendations. Nearly everybody is feeling the oppression of the big combinations, and the increased cost of living is held in the public mind to be due directly to the destruction of competition by these consolidations of industrial and commercial enterprises in the hands of a few.

Under the circumstances a very serious mistake would be made by congress if it fails to give force and effect to the president's recommendations. Not only was Mr. Roosevelt absolutely right in demanding anti-trust legislation, but the republican leaders in congress ought to see that it would be good politics to follow his suggestions.

Smiling Remarks. Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Sometimes I think so hard it makes me tired." "How thoughtful?" "Chicago Tribune: Grieved by the escape of his infant son, the death of a rich relative has relieved me of the necessity of making my living by singing in public."

Baby's First Letter. Baltimore American. Don't go runnin' on me, fellers. Somethin' stickin' in my throat. For I ain't got no baby. An' th' first she ever wrote. Gen'rally I'm game—you know it. An' can stand fer lots o' chaff. Take yer joshin' good an' plenty. An' get out o' here, you boys. With this letter, with my scribble, Starts a whole lot different note. For it's from my only baby. An' th' first she ever wrote.

Way off there beyond th' mountains. By a sunny summer sea, Spin'll out her dandy's letters. An' a sudden love'll me. What's that? You're a dandy's cryin'. Why it ain't your baby's note. It's my own dear little letter. Very first she ever wrote.

No-no, runnin' on me, fellers. Somethin' chokes in my throat. 'Cause this letter's from my baby, An' th' first she ever wrote.

Ayer's Hair Vigor advertisement featuring a bottle of the product and text: "There is sunshine in every bottle. You will understand this when you know how satisfied every one is who uses it. People don't like to lose their hair, they are annoyed with dandruff, and they dislike the telltale sign of age—gray hair. Always restores color to gray hair."