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GEORGE B. TEBECHUCK,  
 Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, A. D. 1904.  
 M. B. HUNGATE,  
 Notary Public.

It's a poor winter that does not give the ice-man his day.  
**Ex-President Horace G. Burt** has now secured his passports for a tour around the world. He had the requisite passes before he resigned.

There is yet hope for universal peace. The religious newspapers have succeeded in getting one college to drop foot ball on Thanksgiving day.

The democratic press is a unit for one republican to beat Roosevelt for the republican nomination, and then for any democrat to beat the republican nominee.

If anyone else wants to shift the blame for his part in the negligence responsible for the Chicago theater horror, he should come forth at once and speak out.

Cuba is certainly ungrateful. Having secured all it asked for in the way of reciprocity, it now offers to return a Nebraska political banker for a consideration.

Millionaire Hearst has not yet secured the democratic presidential nomination, but he is acquiring much notoriety and getting any amount of free advertising.

As long as Wyoming can get the assassinations of women into the penitentiary within forty-eight hours after apprehension, there is no likelihood of the growth of lynching in that state.

It is gratifying to note that Omaha's bank clearings continue on the increase side of the weekly comparative table, while too many other cities of its class reflect in theirs a less prosperous business.

It must be gratifying to the czar of Russia to know that there can be no question of the constitutionality of his acts when he does occasionally make a law for the benefit of the working classes.

If Senator Hanna succeeds in his desire to harmonize capital and labor, his duties will have been more arduous and his glory more real than that of any president since the foundation of the American republic.

Missouri has the questionable consolation of knowing that the men who paid the bribes in the larger number of cases live in other states. This fact is also a rock of refuge to some of the men who accepted the money.

If we remember rightly, the populists in their Denver manifesto asserted that they were going to take the lead in submitting a national ticket to the public in 1904. The chances are good, however, that the populists will fall up all the rest, as heretofore.

With the grain dealers of the west inspecting the terminal facilities at New Orleans, there may be more than ordinary reasons for the proposed union of the trunk lines running east and west. Lower rates on grain may be the effect of either cause.

Twice in a week fire has shown its ironical nature. First it destroyed the shop of the president of the Nebraska Firemen's association, and then, immediately after an official inspection, it burned the rim of the alleged asbestos curtain of a Kansas City theater.

The experience of the Chinese American Commercial company, which is now winding up its affairs, is an indication of the real importance of the United States becoming unduly interested in the eastern situation. So far as American trade is concerned, the 3,000,000 residents of China are about where they were in the days of Colonial Sellers.

**THE FIGHT IS NOW ON.**

Another blow to President Roosevelt's political hopes was struck from an unexpected quarter today, when the republicans of Nebraska decided to put off their convention to May 13. The president's supporters urged an early convention, so they could start the Roosevelt ball rolling, and so confident were they a few days ago that they announced that the convention would be held in March. Then something happened. Just what it was has not been made clear to Nebraskans in Washington, but its effect has been to convince them that the president's opponents won a substantial victory.

It is conceded that instructions for Roosevelt will be harder to obtain in May than in March and that the president's chance of receiving the support of Nebraska's delegation has greatly lessened.

The lesson conveyed by the action of the Nebraska state committee is very startling to the president's friends. They have been assuming, and without contradiction, that whatever eastern states might do in the matter of sidetracking his candidacy the west could be relied upon to fight for him to the last ditch. The west was at home with Roosevelt's enthusiasm, these friends have been proclaiming, and, curiously, everybody believed them.

It can hardly be charged that the west has fallen under the spell of Wall street, when the president has assumed a hostile attitude to him. A more reasonable explanation is found in the statement of a western senator, who possesses unusual facilities for keeping in touch with public sentiment, that the Roosevelt boom is decaying and will fall to pieces and disappear before the Chicago convention meets.—Washington Special to Chicago Chronicle.

In Nebraska politics the unexpected sometimes happens. The action of the republican state committee in putting off until May the convention that is to nominate delegates to the national convention has been just as startling to the rank and file of the party in Nebraska as it has been to the president and his friends in Washington. It is now clear that what has happened was not accidental, but is a part of the program mapped out for the managers of the allied railroads of Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Wyoming by the community-of-interest railroad magnates and captains of industry.

The beating of base drums and the vociferous shouting for Roosevelt that preceded the meeting at Lincoln was only a prearranged demonstration to lull to sleep the rank and file of the party in Nebraska, which is enthusiastically for Roosevelt. Then something happened. Members of the committee who had come to Lincoln to register their votes in favor of an early convention were hypnotized by the railroad lobby into voting for a convention in May, under the pretext that the most ardent friends of Roosevelt desired only one convention instead of two.

The majority of the committee, against its own convictions, allowed itself to be confounded. Now that the mask has been dropped the fight is on, and it will be fought to a finish.

The republicans of Nebraska are in earnest for Roosevelt and they will not allow themselves to be hoodwinked or misrepresented. The issue to be fought out is clear-cut, and men who want to be candidates for any office or delegates to any convention will have to show their colors. The republicans of Nebraska have a right to their choice and will not allow themselves to be buncoed out of that choice or sold out in conventions.

Western senators in Washington who possess unusual facilities for keeping in touch may delude themselves into the belief that the Roosevelt sentiment is waning, but they will discover their mistake before they are four months older. Western republicans, and, above all, Nebraska republicans, are not as feeble as all that. Nothing has happened within the past six months to lessen their admiration for and confidence in President Roosevelt, and nothing is likely to happen within the next few months that will cool their ardor in favor of his nomination. On the contrary, the tactics being pursued by his hidden enemies to waylay him will surely rob them of greater activity and unyielding determination.

**THE DEMAND FOR GOOD ROADS.**

The movement to secure national aid in the construction of public roads seems to be making headway. The matter is receiving attention in congress, the senate having called upon the secretary of agriculture for information relative to the cost of constructing public roads in this country and in foreign countries. Speeches in advocacy of the construction of good roads and urging aid on the part of the national government have been made in both houses of congress. A bill has been introduced in the senate which provides for a plan of co-operation between the federal government and the various states and territories for the construction and improvement of the public roads. It proposes to create a bureau of highways and to appropriate \$24,000,000 to be available as a fund for road construction and improvement, to be distributed among the states and territories according to population. It requires that before the states or territories can receive the benefits of the act they must provide for one-half of the cost of any construction or improvements that may be undertaken and secure the necessary right-of-way.

The matter is of particular interest to the agricultural producers of the country, especially in the south and west. In a speech in the house of representatives a few days ago, Mr. Zenor of Indiana made the statement that the farmers and the agricultural people pay the enormous sum of \$1,000,000,000 for the transportation of farm products from the farms to the market places at which they sell them. He asserted that half this sum could be saved to the farmers if there was a general system of good roads. He declared that the farmers of the country need all the facilities, all the advantages to which our present advancement and high civilization in this country entitle them. They of all the classes of people in this country share the least in the advantages and

benefits of legislation which has so materially contributed to the wealth of this country. They are leaving the country. It is an isolated life and it becomes monotonous to the young men, the bone and sinew of the farm, the young men upon whom responsibility must ultimately fall for the operation and conduct of the farm. They are getting tired of the isolation and drudgery of farm life in the country and there is a constant tendency to shift from the healthy atmosphere of the country, from the farm on which the young man receives his best impressions and that physical and mental discipline which so well serves him in after years and prepares him for an honorable and useful career as a good citizen. He needs to be made contented. To do that you have to improve the public highways."

In a speech on the subject in the senate Mr. Latimer of South Carolina made a strong argument in advocacy of national aid in the construction of public roads, expressing the opinion that it is only by federal aid that we will ever have good roads uniformly throughout the country. "The government must stimulate and aid the people in the work. It is the history of road development in every country." It is unlikely that there will be any action taken in the matter, by the present congress, or at any rate at this session, but if the agricultural interests of the country earnestly espouse the public roads cause it will certainly in time receive from congress the consideration to which its obvious importance entitles it.

**ENGLISH LABOR UNIONISM.**

The current bulletin of the national bureau of labor contains an article on labor unions and British industry which is exceedingly instructive in the showing it makes of the effect of the organization of workers on the industries of the United Kingdom. The charge has been repeatedly made that the British labor unions have retarded industrial growth and thus have permitted the industries of other countries, notably those of the United States, to attain a development they might not otherwise have reached, until the competition with British industries has become so great that they have not only been almost driven out of markets which they formerly dominated, but the home market has also been invaded by American and German manufacturers. Only a short time ago the London Times sharply condemned the policy and practice of the labor unions, which it held responsible for the unsatisfactory industrial conditions in the United Kingdom. In this reflecting the view of many manufacturers and men in public life.

According to the author of the article in the bulletin of the labor bureau, the appeal to force—the strike on the one hand and the lockout on the other—by no means an archaic weapon in England today, but he says that both sides recognize the wastefulness and folly of resorting to force and endeavor by every means possible to secure a settlement of difficulties by an appeal to reason and the employment of methods of conciliation. In this respect it seems that the British labor unionists are more advanced than the labor unionists of this country. It appears that the relations between capital and labor in this country are not so cordial as in England. This has not commonly been supposed to be the case, but it appears to be a fact at this time, though it is only in very recent years that the improvement in the relations between employers and unionists in England has taken place.

The writer of the bulletin article says: "The evolution of the trade unions—the newer view of the relation that ought to exist between employers and employees—has led both sides to look upon harmony rather than strife as the great end to be attained. There is constantly noticed a marked increase in the desire of both employers and men to create the machinery, in many cases reaching the dignity of a tribunal, by which, by voluntary compact, any matter in dispute, whether it be the comparatively insignificant one of a holiday or the much more vital one of a decrease or increase in wages or hours, shall be settled in an orderly method under prescribed rules, both sides loyally abiding by the decision." Obviously in this particular both American employers and labor unionists can learn something from England. It is an unfortunate fact that in this country arbitration and conciliation have few earnest supporters among employers or the leaders of organized labor. The disposition of both is to find objections to these methods, while it appears that the reverse of this is the case in England. There is another respect in which labor unions here are behind those of Great Britain and this is in their attitude toward nonunion men. The writer above quoted states that in nearly every case brought under his notice union and nonunion men were found working side by side. There is some opposition, of course, to nonunion men, but it is far less marked than here.

The information conveyed in the article in the January bulletin of the labor bureau should receive the careful attention of the leaders of organized labor in this country and indeed the rank and file of labor unions also. It shows that organized labor here is in some very important respects behind that of the United Kingdom.

The death of Prof. Herman Edward von Holst, one of the great nineteenth century school historians produced by Germany, has a peculiar importance to this country, from the fact that Von Holst was a most perspicuous student of American constitutional history—more so than any other foreigner who has written about our institutions, with the possible exception of Prof. James Bryce. Von Holst's work on American constitutional history will always be counted among the authorities on that subject. His views have already entered into

many judicial interpretations of our constitution by our highest tribunal, and its influence, strongly national as against the decentralization tendencies of state's rights ideas, is seen in the works of most of our most eminent commentators on constitutional law. The brief connection of Von Holst with the faculty of an American university was only an incident in his long and notable career. He was never Americanized, but simply dealt with American life from the German point of view and with the German thoroughness and comprehensiveness.

**AN IMPROVING SERVICE.**

That the consular service has been steadily improving in recent years is unquestionable, but this fact does not make less necessary legislation under which the standard of efficiency and usefulness that has been reached can be maintained. In the event of a change in the political character of the national administration it is not to be doubted that most of the consular officers who are republicans would be replaced with democrats, as was done by the last Cleveland administration. The effect of this would necessarily be to impair more or less the efficiency of the service. We should have a lot of inexperienced men in consular positions, some of whom would be very likely to give little attention to the duties. That has been the experience in the past and is to be expected in the future if the existing system of appointing consuls continues.

Representative Adams of Pennsylvania has a bill which proposes to change the system, so as to take the consular service out of politics. He will make an earnest effort to have the measure considered, but in view of the fact that he did this unavailingly in the last congress it is quite probable that he will not succeed in securing action by the present congress. As the Philadelphia Ledger remarks, the subject does not appeal to the sympathies of the average congressman, who has found his patronage steadily diminished through the improving organization of the civil service and clings to the privilege of suggesting consular appointments as the remains of a valuable vested right. The commercial interests of the country, however, will not abandon the demand for consular reform and sooner or later it will be secured.

The profuse use on the floor of the house by Congressman Williams, the democratic leader, of the phrases of the poker table shows that he knows the language with which to confound the members. Familiarity with the poker dictionary is a required study in every curriculum leading to proficiency in the halls of national legislation. The rules of the game ought to be incorporated in the house manual and the congressional directory for the benefit of new members, if nothing else. The wonder is that they should have been so long omitted from those standard publications.

The attorney general of Kansas has a rather late start, but he may yet succeed in catching up with Circuit Attorney Folk, although his field is not as large as St. Louis. He says he has finished his work before the grand jury, while the Missourian has started on his fifth inquisitorial body, and the end is not in sight.

Since both Russia and Japan have announced a desire for no mediation on the part of other powers, the rest of the world may now resume its wonted pursuits, leaving the interested parties to decide the ultimate result of the negotiations. America can be depended upon to furnish supplies, either for peace or for war.

It is to be feared congress will have little sympathy with the charges of nepotism against Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristol. Most of the congressmen are themselves pretty busy planting their relatives in jobs carrying salaries on the government payroll and exacting the least possible work.

Prosecuting Attorney Folk evidently wishes to be understood as not permitting his campaign for governor of Missouri to interfere with his campaign against boodling. But perhaps he believes that when he shall have corralled all the boodlers he will have silenced the opposition to his political ambitions.

The new official staff of the Commercial club is a wholesalers', as distinguished from a retailers' administration. If the club does not grapple with the problems of railway discrimination this year it will be only because the jobbers do not care to fight for their own interests.

There is more truth than poetry in the remark of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat that "there must be a typographical error about appropriating \$30,000,000 per annum for improving the Missouri river. A new river could be built for that that would stay in its place."

The railroad earnings show an increase so far for the first three weeks of the new year. That contradicts pretty effectively the stories that the laying off of railway employes is due to contracted business, when, in fact, it is due simply to usual exigencies of the season.

President Roosevelt has appointed a woman to be receiver of public moneys at Gunnison, Colo., doubtless in recognition of the women voters of that state. There ought to be no question now where Colorado will be found on the presidency.

The charge that the republican party is becoming a party of negation is hardly well taken. The republican party has been the party of progress and prosperity from the very day of its birth and has had constantly to combat

the hourbonism of the democracy. A republican platform is an enumeration of policies and principles which the party champions—a democratic platform is an enumeration of measures which the party opposes.

Retail merchants of the country should observe the effect of the parcels post in Great Britain. The retail dealers in British provincial towns have not been driven out of business and the parcels post has been in operation for many years.

**Right to Date.**

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.  
 Russia calls the Japanese pagans; but the Japanese have sense enough to figure up their calendar so as not to be two weeks behind the right time.

**One Road to Wealth.**

Chicago Record-Herald.  
 Somebody who likes to fool with figures has found that there are 30,000 different medical remedies on the market. It is significant, too, that most of the manufacturers of them are rich.

**Gentle Art of Turning Down.**

Somerville Journal.  
 When a new friend wants you to invest money in some scheme that is absolutely sure to bring enormous returns immediately, tell him that you are unwilling to rob him of the opportunity to get rich out of it himself.

**It Pays to Advertise.**

Chicago Chronicle.  
 If a man may advertise a yellow newspaper by running for the presidency why should not other exploiters do likewise? There is a great field here for soap, soothing syrups, bitters and patent medicines, to say nothing of whiskies and cigars.

**When Details Cease to Trouble.**

Boston Transcript.  
 At some good times to come every public speaker's utterances will be caught by a phonograph and the record turned over to the newspaper reporter. In that day no man will suffer by reason of things he did not say and no man will be able to tell the newspapers for printing what he actually did say.

**Despotism and Free Government.**

Collier's Weekly.  
 While France is purifying herself in the fetter of the Dreyfus case Germany imprisons Lieutenant Hille for criticizing the army in his novel "In a Little Garrison Town," although at the same time the government admits the truth of his exposures by punishing the officers whom he attacked. Lieutenant Hille may have deserved his fate, but the incident is a reminder of happenings not long past, which point the difference between a country in which, in spite of military needs, public opinion is in ultimate control, and one where, although the people are liberal and enlightened, the system of government is despotic.

**A GOOD EXAMPLE.**

Helms to Millions Forsake Sports and Get Down to Work.  
 Louisville Courier-Journal.

The fact that the son of a San Francisco multi-millionaire has given up his automobile and polo ponies and gone to work for \$150 a month is creating a sensation from ocean to ocean. Such cases are so rare that all kinds of reasons are offered as leading to his change of life. It is suggested by some that his allowance has been cut off by his father, while others account for his strange conduct with reasons which sweep the whole field of possible causes, from pique to mental aberration. Few seem to have ascribed it to the cause assigned by the young man himself—to learn his father's business so that at some future time he may, when it becomes necessary, be able to direct it. Such a spectacle has not been presented since young Cornelius Vanderbilt put on overalls and went to work in the shops of the New York Central and became the inventor of valuable improvements in locomotives. It is true that his father had cut him off in his will with a measly five or six million for marrying against his wishes, and some ascribed his strange conduct to his feeling of poverty as compared with the other heirs. Few gave him credit for a manly desire to make himself useful in life and devote himself to something practical, fitting him in time for a higher sphere of business. The country applauded him for his manliness, and in time his more highly favored brothers and sisters contributed from their legacies to repair in some degree his disparity of fortune. Mr. Vanderbilt has his town house and his yacht and caters to his wife's fondness for society, occasionally taking a European cruise and hobnobbing with the Emperor William and other continental celebrities who he numbers among his friends. Perhaps in time young Spreckels, the California prodigy, may relax the austerity of his apprenticeship and, as with Vanderbilt, show that wealth is not necessarily a bar to usefulness in life. Such examples are needed to check the tendency so generally prevalent among such young men to run a killing pace with race horses and automobiles, and should be encouraged.

**SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.**

Boston Globe: An Omaha minister boasts that he was the first to teach the doctrine of evolution from the pulpit—forgetful of the fact that it is always a mistake for a minister to boast.

Washington Post: A Mormon bishop has had a revelation commanding the people to drink only water in the future. That does not interfere with the indulgence in other beverages in the present.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: It is very strange that so many churches have to be closed in Chicago because of peril from fire, when it is to secure their members from such peril that the churches are carried on.

Indianapolis Journal: A London clergyman complains that American women are entirely too dazzling. The English think they must criticize American women, and they go to laugable lengths in the good old clergyman in the westerly part of the state who prayed as follows: "We thank thee, O Lord, that thou art a persistent and an obtinate God, and wilt have thine own way, right or wrong."

Portland Oregonian: Rev. Charles A. Briggs is again in trouble with his ecclesiastical brethren. Why does not this man cut loose from theological organizations? It would surely be worth something to him to be able to speak his views upon the "apostolic succession," the "inerrancy of the Scriptures" and other weighty points in evidence in ecclesiastical dogma without being publicly drawn up to the snubbing post and disciplined. And it would be worth a good deal to the public, too, overheard as it is with theological controversy. The word is "side. Why should not Brother Briggs marry his sermon, pack his valise and go forth from the church and from a professorship in Union Theological seminary a free man?"

**PERSONS IN SHORT METER.**

Love cannot be leased.  
 Silence is the eloquence of sympathy.  
 The happy man cannot help being helpful.  
 Bitter remedies often have blessed results.  
 A liar's legs can never keep up with his news.  
 He who courts martyrdom weds no crown.  
 Many to the guilty in malice to the innocent.  
 Failure is a spur while success may be a snare.  
 The devil is too old to be scared by blank cartridges.  
 Hunger is the only ticket required for the heavenly feast.  
 The good Samaritan is never afraid of softing his hands.  
 Only the Infinite Pity can fathom the Infinite paths of life.  
 No man can be fattened on the feast that spells famine to another.  
 When a man speaks the language of hell he proclaims his nativity.  
 The revival that does not stir the sheep will never win the wolves.  
 They who love God for what He has never done know what He is.  
 The man who prays to be nothing has been answered before he began.  
 Nothing is easier than bearing other people's crosses with complacency.  
 There never was an argument that could compete successfully with an appetite.  
 Many men are so absorbed building the house of life that they let the tenant die.—Chicago Tribune.

**PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.**

Signs of spring are appearing in spots, strawberry prices are breaking into the market quotations.  
 Closing churches in Chicago as a fire preventive is a serious reflection on stars whose speciality is fire prevention.  
 With the mercury below zero downcasters strive to keep their spirits up by humming "In the Good Old Summertime."  
 The supreme court of New York has been called upon to decide what constitutes "drinking to excess." It is expected to test the capacity of the court.  
 Assurances are given by the St. Louis managers that ample provision will be made at the democratic national convention to check knives and things at the door.  
 Russell Sage has retired from business with \$100,000,000 more or less to the good. The size of his pile is a lofty example of what a sage rustler can do in a lifetime.  
 Fra Albertus, boss of the philatines, has done it again. He has annexed Miss Moore, a maiden of 21, bound in full Levant, hand painted, with initials illumined by the master.  
 Musical and literary taste in New York is moving forward by leaps and bounds. Some idea of the strides it is making, as well as the delicacy of sentiment expressed, may be had from the refrain of a popular song, "My Little Chimpanzee—You Are All the World to Me." Boston is a hopeless tail-end.

**DOMESTIC PLEASANTIES.**

Goodman—Of course, it's terrible to have your wife elope with another, but why do you weep? Tears cannot bring her back.  
 Henspeck—Ha! ha! That's why I'm shedding these tears.—Philadelphia Press.  
 Bjenks—What is your view of married life?  
 Bjenks—An outside one, thank heaven.—San Francisco Chronicle.  
 "What! You for a son-in-law?" snorted old Hoxley.  
 Yes, of you to the boyhood," replied Jack Nerver. "I've got the girl and her mother with me."—Philadelphia Catholic Standard.  
 Husband—What! A hundred dollars for an opera cloak? Why, it is perfectly ridiculous, my dear.  
 Wife—Yes, I know it is; but you said you couldn't afford an expensive one.—Chicago News.

Mrs. Newlyblessed—But you certainly don't object to such a wee little baby as that?  
 Janitor—Oh, it isn't the size as counts, mum—it's the principle uv the thing.—Judge.

The lady arose and drew her fur boa higher.  
 "Then your answer is no?" she said in husk tones.  
 "My dear lady," the man remarked in his gentlest manner, "I told you eight years ago that I could not marry you, and I have not changed my mind."  
 The lady paused in the doorway.  
 "I will see you again in four years," she said.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Said the maid: "Let me wed him—please  
 He's the best man I ever knew!"  
 But her ma, who was wise,  
 Said: "I strongly surmised  
 He's entirely too good to be true."  
 —Baltimore American.

**UNMARKED.**

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps in the Century.  
 The bit of toll, set hard between the teeth,  
 Gave suddenly and seemed to yield, as if  
 The iron hand that drove repeated it,  
 "Now in the name of Him who gave thee  
 Power,  
 To make me beast of burden to thy rein,  
 Give answer, Life!" I cried, "What freak  
 hast thou?  
 Why play'st thou with me, mocking me  
 without?  
 Thou marked thing that darrest not show  
 thy face!  
 I know that thou must drive and I must  
 run;  
 I know that thou art master and I slave;  
 I know that though I weary to my heart  
 of thee, yet must I urge me on and on,  
 A harnessed creature, lashed unto the end."  
 But while I flung these bitter, brawling  
 words  
 Into the very ears and brain of Life,  
 And waited, quivering, for the bleating whip,  
 Behold, a wonder did befall: for, lo,  
 The too familiar harness loosed, and down  
 From every gall and smart dropped silently;  
 And as I turned, there in the dusk one  
 hand painted, with initials illumined by  
 the master.  
 Then all the sons of morning sang to me  
 Within my soul, for, as my soul doth live,  
 The face I saw was the dear face of Death.  
 Oh, blinding, beautiful it is to see!  
 Half angel and half lover, and all mine,  
 And heavenly sweet the comings that we  
 have,  
 Drawn arm to arm and heart to heart at  
 One traveler—along a shining road;  
 God in the burning bush beside the way.

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