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AN ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL OF JUDGES.
In a recent address Mr. Olney, former secretary of state, suggested the creation, for the settlement of differences between the United States and Great Britain, of a tribunal consisting of an equal number of national judges, half chosen by one party and half by the other. How vital it is, he said, that such an arbitral tribunal should consist of judges is shown by a very recent instance in which the lord chief justice of England saved the situation by coinciding with the views of his American colleagues and prevented a deadlock. Mr. Olney said that it is not sufficient that a dispute be settled by arbitration, nor even that it be settled right. It should be so settled that the losing parties have a sufficient and adequate reason to believe that their side of the case has been fully and fairly considered and treated. To place in an arbitral tribunal persons privately or publicly pledged to one view of the case and so make it certain that if any decision is right the decision can be only one way, may result in an award in favor of the party indulging in the performance, but the victory so obtained might be worse than a defeat—worse than a defeat if it leaves behind it a people which should be friendly, but which is alienated and aggrieved by it.

THE BASIS OF ALL TRUE ARBITRATION, declared Mr. Olney, is the confidence of the parties in each others' honesty of purpose and fairness of dealing. "You cannot inflict a deadlier wound upon the cause of peace through international arbitration than to shake that confidence; yet shaken it must be if a court of arbitration that ought to be as judicial and impartial as the light of humanity will permit, is so treated in the make-up by one of the parties as to make any decision against itself impossible." He said that to refuse arbitration may be justifiable and is at all events straightforward, but to consent to arbitration only in form, making it a sort of "heads I win and tails you lose" affair, is unworthy of a self-respecting people and is as base in policy as it is indefensible in morals. Perhaps no one has given more careful consideration to this subject than the eminent Massachusetts statesman, who was secretary of state in the second Cleveland administration and whose famous note in connection with the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela brought about arbitration of the difficulty. His suggestion of a permanent arbitral tribunal, consisting wholly of judges, for the arbitration of disputes arising between this country and Great Britain, is therefore entitled to serious attention. It appears altogether reasonable to assume that such a tribunal would command greater confidence than one made up in the ordinary manner, composed of persons likely to be more or less prejudiced and therefore incapable of acting with perfect impartiality. Undoubtedly such a tribunal as Mr. Olney suggested is practicable and it is a matter which ought to receive the serious consideration of the American and British governments.

A CHANCE FOR MR. BERGE.
The Nebraska Independent, which assumes to speak as the official organ of the populist party in this state, covers the post mortem election statement of the late fusion candidate for governor with this caption: "George W. Berge—He issues an address to the people of Nebraska—Still believes that a pass is a bribe."
If, as his statement indicates, he still believes that a pass is a bribe, here is a chance for Mr. Berge. The chief obstacle against which he had to combat as a candidate was that he was known only by his professions and not by his works. There are laws in this state against bribery and if a pass is a bribe the offer and acceptance of a pass constitutes a violation of the law. Mr. Berge is a lawyer and can fight his own battles in the courts, whereas other citizens have to hire lawyers to fight for them. Why not have a test case whether a pass is a bribe and find out whether the present criminal laws do not reach this evil?

Should there be a fear that such action might be denounced as purely partisan let it be prosecuted at the same time against a democratic official pass holder, a populist official pass holder, as well as a republican official pass holder, for there will be no difficulty in finding pass holders in office of all political persuasions. If we have to wait for pass holding officials to institute these proceedings against themselves we will have to wait in vain. If Mr. Berge was in earnest in his denunciation of the system of pass bribery and is in earnest in his promise to continue to work for the reforms he has been advocating he will lose no time in making a practical move upon the citadel of pass bribery in official life.

FOREST CONSERVATION.
Among the resolutions adopted by the National Irrigation congress is one urging an appropriation by the national legislature for forest planting on denuded watersheds, with the view of increasing the value of streams still flowing and renewing those which have disappeared. A consolidation of all government forestry work in the Department of Agriculture was also urged. In his letter to the congress President Roosevelt said that no interest is any longer independent of other interests and a closer interweaving than ever before is at hand among all the great interests of the whole country. One cannot prosper without the other. "So the future growth and greatness of the country will depend upon the development of the first degree upon the development of irrigation, and the development of irrigation will depend upon the protection and wise use of the existing forests and the creation of new ones." This does not in the least exaggerate the great importance to irrigation development of forest conservation.

This subject is to receive considerable attention by a congress to be held at the national capital early in January, under the auspices of the American Forestry association. Mr. Roosevelt will be honored president and the secretary of agriculture permanent president of the Forestry congress. Its purpose, as explained in the official call, is to establish a broader understanding of the forest in relation to the great industries depending upon it; to advance the conservative use of forest resources for both the present and the future need of these industries; to stimulate and unite all efforts to perpetuate the forest as a permanent resource of the nation. It is planned that a great many people shall take part in the congress, including senators and representatives, governors of states and territories and persons familiar, professionally and otherwise, with forestry. It is reasonably expected that the effect will be to arouse public interest in the subject, so that it may be brought to bear in behalf of further legislation for the better protection of forests. It is recognized on all hands that unless this is done the great project of national irrigation will not be the success that is hoped for. Among questions bearing upon our domestic interests its importance cannot easily be overestimated.

THE BOGIE OF MILITARISM.
In an article on the presidential campaign in the United States, contributed just before the election to the National Review, an English publication, William Jennings Bryan dilates expansively upon the issue of militarism as one of the few important issues dividing the great parties. The fact that eight years ago our standing army numbered only about 25,000 men and that since that time it has been increased to 80,000 men and the authorized maximum fixed at 100,000, while the appropriations for the war department are now more than three times what they were a few years ago, is blazoned by Colonel Bryan as a dire portent calling for a general uprising of the people. He asserts that this increase was made by the republicans and is defended by them while the democrats demand a reduction in the army and condemn the step taken toward militarism as not only unnecessary, but as antagonistic to the traditional policy of the country. Then he goes on to enumerate the various reasons why this hideous menace must be warded off among them, that as the danger from savage tribes is constantly decreasing the increase in the army must be in anticipation of its use for the suppression of labor troubles; that it entails an increase of expenses involving increased taxation; and that it is an objectionable change in our national policy.

All this must appeal to English readers as sublimely ridiculous. To think that any one should apprehend danger to the liberties of 80,000,000 American people from an army of 60,000 officers and men, which is only three or four times the number enrolled in the police force of London alone. That the people of this country have no such fears is quite evident from the election returns, which show that the agricultural population, which Mr. Bryan was sure would rebel against increased taxation and the laboring population in the cities which he thought would revolt against an over-awing display of military force, both rallied to the support of President Roosevelt, whom he characterizes as embodying the highest degree of the military idea. In a word the democrats have been unable to make any point whatever with their cry of "Militarism" and it is questionable whether even Bryan will see anything to be gained in the future by persisting in his attempt to brandish the bogie of militarism.

The Bee prints in another column on this page an article from "The Protector," which claims to speak as the organ of the Liquor Dealers' association, stating in vigorous language the position and arguments of the radical advocates of the wide-open town. The Bee disagrees decidedly with this proposition. It has never favored a wide-open town any more than it favors a Sunday school town. It believes that there is a middle course by which the liquor traffic may be subjected to reasonable regulations without interfering with the rights of personal liberty and without offending the so-called "church element" of the community. As to gambling, it denies the necessity of its toleration, and as to the social evil, it believes that it can be restricted within bounds if strictly divorced from the liquor traffic. It is only fair, however, that the public should know what is said on the other side, even though many of the statements of fact are on their face highly colored and overdrawn.

James Bryce, who has been revisiting the United States, declared the other day that "No people on the globe has so great a right to be optimistic as you Americans." He might have added that no people on the globe are as optimistic as we Americans. This very optimism has helped wonderfully to make American progress so striking. Without it we would never have been able to have overcome the handicap enjoyed by Europe with its hundreds of years the start of us. America makes strides not only because of the energy and intelligence of the American people, but also because of the confidence the American people have in their future on which they are willing to stake so much with no security other than faith.

By the terms of the new agreement between Great Britain and Russia the commissioners to investigate the North sea incident may place the blame wherever it belongs. This is at the instance of Russia, which is evidently losing no chances of finding some person other than the commander of the fleet responsible for the attack on the fishermen.

The World-Herald speaks encouragingly of the efforts of the friends of Governor Folk of Missouri to start a boom for him for the democratic nomination for the presidency in 1908, but it is careful not to commit itself. In 1908 Nebraska democrats may be urging a claim of their own. Now it is rumored that Senator Cookrell is to be appointed as a member of the Panama Canal commission. The appointment might be commendable on several grounds—those Missouri democrats, who made it possible for Roosevelt to carry the state, deserve some recognition. Congressman Hitchcock's campaign expense account would give ground for the belief that he is not only worked Uncle Sam with his frank for postage charges on his savings bank circulars, but also that some one else paid for the return postal cards enclosed for his referendum.

IS THIS WHAT OMAHA WANTS?
Possible Appeal for a Return to What is Known as "A Wide Open Town."
The Protector.
There is a striking contrast between the picture painted in the mind's eye of Omaha fifteen years ago and the one that meets our regretful gaze today. Fifteen years ago we boasted of a metropolitan city, full of life and business activity, open saloons, open gambling houses, lewd women confined to a proscribed district, all under the watchful eyes of a well organized police force. Stockmen from neighboring states sold their cattle and hogs to Omaha buyers and left a goodly portion of their receipts with our merchants and manufacturers. They left some with the gambling houses, the saloonkeepers, the hotels and legitimate places of amusement. Every branch of business was flourishing, the real estate market was active, laboring men found ready employment at good wages and everybody was happy, prosperous and contented. No private homes or business properties were sold for taxes. The city tax collector's van did not back up to the door of a poor washerwoman and carry away her only bed and cook stove in those days. Oh, no.

What is the condition of things here today? No licensed gambling houses, no saloons under such arbitrary restrictions that their proprietors find it difficult to make ends meet, lewd women domiciled in respectable residence districts of the city, openly plying their vocation, "skin" gambling games running under cover, illicit liquor selling by druggists, the keepers of assignation houses and bootleggers. And what about the general business interests of the city? Ask the dry goods man, the grocery man and the manufacturer. He will tell you they have suffered to an extent beyond comprehension. The wealthy stockman who in the palmy days of fifteen years ago distributed his thousands in Omaha comes no more. He is found in Kansas City, St. Joseph and other cities that are not run on the narrow gauge plan. He may continue to ship his stock to the South Omaha market, but cannot be induced to tarry with us. Why? Because our city has no attractions for him. He longs for excitement, for kinds of amusement that our city does not afford. The atmosphere of a Sunday school town is repugnant to him and he gets out. Not the stockman alone, but wealthy farmers, mine owners and others who were patrons of our city years ago, now go elsewhere to spend their money. Traveling men are constantly "knocking" Omaha while on the road, and never spend Sunday here if it is possible for them to reach any of the nearby cities in which they can breathe freely. Tourists and pleasure seekers from all parts of the globe have been told that Omaha is a hide-bound city and give it a wide berth.

While Omaha has been going back, in a business point of view, has the moral atmosphere improved? By no means. Vice and crime, hidden from the eyes of the police officials, goes steadily on. The fanatics who brought this change in Omaha's condition, wink at the unlicensed drug store dumps, the hundreds of assignation houses which shelter vice men and women, and the numerous gambling joints located in dark cellars to which strangers visiting the city are lured and robbed. The legitimate saloon, the business from which the man in a suit of our public schools, is their target. Through the untiring efforts of an army of self-styled reformers Omaha has been going steadily backward, while rival cities have gone forward. She is "strictly on the bum," and the Civic Federation will put on the finishing touches if their efforts are unavailing. It is up to the business men who are complaining so loudly to put their heads together and do something. Omaha must be redeemed. Let us return to licensed gambling houses, open saloons, and permit other attractions that are so necessary to the existence of all well regulated metropolitan cities. Let us gamble, let us drink, let us sell and resort for lewd women, which seem to be considered a necessary evil, be carried on openly. Do away with the "holes in the wall," the rat-hole gamblers, the assignation houses, the drug store saloons, and we must soon experience a general business revival, while the moral atmosphere will, as a necessary result, undergo a corresponding improvement.

Supplies for the Sweet Tooth.
Philadelphia Press.
The increased consumption of sugar is good evidence of the prosperity of the nation. For the nine months ending with September the imports were about \$4,000,000, the greatest amount ever before in the corresponding time in the history of the nation, while the home production was also larger. Cuba supplied, according to the bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce, about 1,000,000,000 pounds more than in the corresponding months of 1902.

Good Thing—Push It Along.
Philadelphia Record.
Properly cooked corn is an excellent and healthful food. It is a cheap substitute for wheat flour, which the speculators are doing their best to get out of the reach of the poor. Our housekeepers would do well to make a study of the hundreds of ways in which corn yields itself to the demand of appetite when suitably solicited.

Tossing Boquets to Noah.
Baltimore American.
It has been discovered by modern scientists that the problem of navigation was very satisfactorily solved by Mr. Noah, as a boat modeled on the plan of the famous zoological ark is found to be both seaworthy and easy to guide.

Money Cheerfully Spent.
San Francisco Chronicle.
It costs the people of the United States \$25,467,552 to maintain their public school system, but they expend the enormous sum cheerfully and with the consciousness that it is money well spent.

Discrediting His Metal.
Philadelphia Ledger.
Young Rockefeller is still telling his Bible class that money will not buy happiness, but is very argument for the householder to have it around when the Coal trust is operating. SERMONS BOILED DOWN.
Oblivious is not holiness. Sincerity is the secret of ability. There are no good manners with poor morals. You need not be a shadow because you are not a sun. No man enjoys the farm when he plows it with his hands. No amount of looking right can fix you up for living wrong. Nothing else will cure your own misery like misery for others. The richest man is the one who can give freely with fewest regrets. It's a poor kind of affection for a creed that prevents its correction. The things that are carried highest on gusts of popularity often weigh the least. People who believe in an absentee deity seem to believe also in an omnipresent devil. The man who has no interest in heaven is not likely to have much principle on earth. Men who have no religion outside of their creed may find they have heaven outside of their imagination.—Chicago Tribune.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.
Boston Transcript: The Old South is the first church in the country, it is claimed, to be equipped with such extinguishers. There are places where such articles would match up very well with the doctrine preached. Kansas City Star: It has come out at last that the conference which the Baptists held in New York recently one speaker said the affairs of the church were in a worse condition than those of any other Protestant body. Still, it is by no means an easy thing for a church to "tie the cat" to such a supporter as John D. Rockefeller. Chicago Chronicle: Rev. Dr. Peyton H. Hoge of the Warren Memorial Presbyterian church in Louisville, Ky., has resigned his pastorate, and his retirement is attributed to the unappeasable dissatisfaction of his people with his conduct in connection with the Flagler marriage two years ago. Dr. Hoge married Henry M. Flagler of the Standard Oil company to another woman when he had a wife living in an insane asylum and got, it is said, an enormous marriage fee. If all the Christian churches were like this Louisville church there would not be so many ministers like Dr. Hoge and there would not be so many divorces. Washington Post: Evidently the gospel is not preached to the poor in pews that rent for \$1.50 per annum. Evidently the poor are not wanted in churches that make no provision for seating them. Evidently there is a serious defect in arrangements for public religious services that take no account of the poor. Evidently there are many churches, and by no means all of them are in New York City, in which the gospel is not only rated above the reach of the poor, but quite too high to be attained by the middle classes or even the well-to-do—is, in fact, available to none who are not in affluent circumstances. The remedy is free seats in all houses of worship. Like most other reforms, this moves slowly, but it is really moving, and it is bound to "win out." "For ever the right comes uppermost."

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.
"WHAT broke off the match between them?" "They found they were not affiliates. She discovered there was something wrong with his vibrations, and he ascertained that the rays she emitted didn't harmonize with his."—Chicago Tribune. "And do you really love me so much?" asked the Chicago bride. "Edythe" replied earnestly, "I will love you as long as we live." "Oh, George," she interrupted, "as we live—together."—Philadelphia Press. "Yes, she married him to reform him." "Same old story, eh? I suppose her people feel just awful about it?" "Oh, yes, they do. You see, he straightened up and became a model husband and..."

PUMPKIN PIE.
On the banks of the Xenli the dark Spanish maiden Comes up with the fruit of the tangled And the Creole of Cuba laughs out to be held Through orange leaves shining the broad spheres of gold; With dearer delight from his home in the north, On the fields of his harvest the Yankee looks forth, Where crooknecks are colling and yellow fruit shines before. And the sun of September melts down on the vines. Ah, on Thanksgiving day when from east and from west, From north and from south come the pilgrim and guest, When the gray-haired New Englander sees The old broken links of affection restored, When the care-worn man seeks his mother once more, And the worn matron smiles where the girl smiled before, What makes the lip and what brightens the eye? What cooks back the past, like the rich pumpkin pie? Then thanks for thy present! None sweeter or better E'er smoked from an oven or circled a Father's hands never wrought at a pastry board, Brighter eyes never watched o'er its baking than thine, And the prayer which my mouth is too full to express, Swells my heart that thy shadow may never be less. That the days of thy lot may be lengthened below, And the fame of thy worth, like a pumpkin vine grow, And thy life be as sweet and its last supper Golden-tinted and fair as thy own pumpkin pie!

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Promoted by Shampoos of Cuticura Soap
And Light Dressings of Cuticura

This treatment at once stops falling hair, removes crusts, scales, and dandruff, soothes irritated, itching surfaces, destroys hair parasites, stimulates the hair follicles, loosens the scalp skin, supplies the roots with energy and nourishment, and makes the hair grow upon a sweet, wholesome, healthy scalp when all else fails.

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Speedy Cure Treatment.
Bathe the affected parts with hot water and CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply CUTICURA OINTMENT freely, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS, to cool and cleanse the blood. This pure, sweet, and wholesome treatment affords instant relief, permits rest and sleep, and points to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning and scaly skin, scalp, and blood humours, eczemas, rashes, and irritations, from infancy to age, with loss of hair, when all else fails.

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CUTICURA SOAP, assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itching, and chafing, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves, as well as for all the purposes of the toilet, bath and nursery.

NEW TORIC LENSES
We have lately installed Toric Lens grinding machines and invite all wearers of spectacles and eye glasses to call and see this wonderful lens. Its peculiarity is that the surface next to the eye is deeply concave so that the field of view is MUCH ENLARGED. Furthermore they remove to a great extent the reflections which are so annoying to many persons. They are particularly adapted to those who use their eyes constantly as well as for shooting, golfing, etc. Call and see them.

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