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W. R. HEARST.

AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

AN AMERICAN INTERNAL POLICY

FIRST—PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC FRANCHISES.
SECOND—DESTRUCTION OF CRIMINAL TRUSTS.
THIRD—A GRADUATED INCOME TAX.
FOURTH—ELECTION OF SENATORS BY THE PEOPLE.
FIFTH—NATIONAL, STATE AND MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.
SIXTH—CURRENCY REFORM.

One of Humanity's Landmarks.

The Peace Congress that opened yesterday may be a failure—very likely it will be—but it will lead to other things that will not be failures, and it will always stand in history as the first concerted effort of the world's statesmanship to relieve the human race of the curse of war.

The Czar deserves the highest honor for having taken the lead in this work of such infinite importance to the world. At first there was a suspicion that he was insincere, but now there is no doubt that he is in earnest. In the conversation which Mr. Stead reported for yesterday's Journal the Russian Emperor expressed the utmost confidence that the American delegates would stand by those of Russia, France and England in securing the establishment of some definite, practical system of international arbitration for all disputes turning on questions of law, on interpretation of treaties or on investigations of questions of fact.

The Czar's idea, according to Mr. Stead, is to establish a central bureau of trained jurists and practical men belonging to one of the minor powers, after the model of the international postal, telegraph and railway bureaus at Berne, and let it deal with international disputes in the name and with the authority of all the powers represented in the conference. Another proposition is to let each power name one of its highest judges as a permanent arbitrator, to be always at the service of the others when invited.

The Czar, Mr. Stead informs us, admires the United States, and his ideal in the distant future is a federation of nations on our model.

The present ideas of the Russian sovereign are much more practical than those put forward in his name not long ago on the subject of disarmament. The only thing needed to carry them out is the will to do it. The international bureaus cited do their work with perfect smoothness and efficiency. There is no reason why an arbitration bureau should not work just as well.

An arbitration agreement among a number of different nations would be much more likely to be successful than one between only two, such as England and America. Every award would be supported by the disinterested moral force of the whole combination, instead of by the interested approval of the successful party alone.

It is an auspicious circumstance that the very day on which the conference met brought the promise of peace in the Philippines. Aguinaldo's submission is one of America's contributions to the movement for the suppression of war, and it is one of no slight magnitude.

ONE GOVERNOR AND ANOTHER.

Governor Pingree has announced that he will call a special session of the Michigan Legislature so that an election can be ordered for the submission to the people of an amendment to the Constitution providing for the taxation of the property of railroad and other corporations at its actual value. A recent law covering these points, which had the support of the Governor, has been declared invalid by the Supreme Court.

Governor Roosevelt has called an extra session of the New York Legislature as a balm to the lacerated feelings of the lobbyists and corporation lawyers, who claim that the Ford Franchise Tax bill is an oppressive measure.

In one case we have a Governor who has been variously described as a crank and a demagogue fighting valiantly against the powerful tax-dodging corporations; in the other we have a Governor who has been set upon a pedestal by his admirers as the bravest and most spotless of executives granting the demands of a Boss for special privileges for the railroads and other great corporations of New York State.

NO LEGALIZED LYNCH LAW.

The whipping post will be established in this State if the influence of the Psychological Section of the Medico-Legal Society counts for anything. At a meeting held at the Hotel St. Andrew on Wednesday only one voice was raised against the lash for wife beaters. The women speakers were particularly enthusiastic in advocating this mode of punishment.

The whole idea of the whipping post is wrong. It degrades the man that wields the lash and brutalizes the man that receives the blows. It does not reform the criminal. It puts him beyond the power of reformation, hardens him and makes him desperate. The first stroke of the whip transforms an ordinary offender into an enemy of society, with the thought of revenge dominating every other instinct.

No man has a right to whip another. To tie a man to a post and cut his back into ribbons with a knout because he has whipped his wife cannot heal the wife's wounds, but it can, and does, sink the wretch deeper into the mire of brutality. The punishment to be inflicted for any crime must be definite punishment, and it is impossible to tell what punishment is inflicted when men of varying strength whip others of varying endurance. The prisoner is often made the victim of the whipper's personal dislike or ill-temper.

Among the letters of approval read at the meeting referred to above was one from Superintendent Brockway, of the Elmira Reformatory. He says:

I am free to say that for some young criminals prisoners a simple corporal infliction, not as punishment but for correction, is the most humane and effective of all coercive measures anywhere in use.

Of course Brockway believes in the lash. The record of his cruel treatment of the unfortunates in the Elmira institution is well known. His inhuman punishments have driven men to suicide. "A simple corporal infliction" means a brutal beating with a paddle, from the effects of which the prisoner is incapacitated for work or sent to the hospital.

Any recommendations of Brockway's ought to be the signal for humane people to take the opposite course. He has made the Elmira Reformatory a scandal, instead of a credit, to the State. Its inmates are minor offenders who are confined in the hope of being uplifted morally and mentally, but many leave the Elmira Reformatory hardened criminals, with all hope of reformation gone through the mistreatment of this Superintendent Brockway, whose opinion on the whipping post was so eagerly listened to by refined men and women.

HEAD HUNTERS AND CANNIBALS.

If we think that the world is civilized because we happen to live in a partly enlightened corner of it, we may be disillusionized by reading almost any day's news. Take yesterday's, for instance.

A hundred and seventeen unarmed villagers were killed and decapitated in Formosa by a band of head-hunting Malay savages inhabiting the southern part of the island. Of 120 people in the party attacked, only three escaped. The murderers were taking revenge for the wrongs of a girl of their tribe. Not being able to obtain any other compensation they took these 117 heads, carried them home, and held a feast with the trophies arrayed on a row of boards.

In the same pleasing island Stoepel, the explorer, climbed a mountain and found a new tribe of man-eaters. Hiding in the bush, he saw them revelling in a cannibal feast.

All this is within a day's sail of the ancient civilization of China. It is the average that makes up the world, and if our enlightened selves raise the average these head-hunters and cannibals do a good deal to bring it down. There is still plenty of work to be done before mankind will be above the need for improvement.

AN EVIL TO BE SUPPRESSED.

A bill should be offered at the coming session of the Legislature to prevent the printing of personal advertisements of an immoral character. The Mazet Committee has touched upon this growing evil, and its members can provide any arguments that might be required to pass such a measure. When the Mayor of New York City admits under oath that he is afraid "to stack-up," as he expresses it, against the paper whose distinguishing feature is the publishing of an indecent "personal" column, it is time the makers of laws were taking the matter in hand.

The private letter box which was used to send poison to Barnet is an outgrowth of the "personal" column. The same class of people patronize both devices. Blackmailers, swindlers, procurers and seducers find an excellent medium in the newspaper "personal" now that they have been driven from the private letter box dens by the Post Office authorities.

A Chicago editor has just finished a two-years' sentence in the penitentiary for sending immoral matter through the mails. His offence was precisely the same as that of his influential contemporary in New York, who so far has pursued its nefarious practice unmolested.

The Legislature has the power to stop for all time the disgusting and degrading "personal" advertisements. The subject is important enough to demand a special message from the Governor.

ONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S FRIENDS.

The case of Captain Carter, convicted by a court-martial and sentenced to be dismissed from the army, fined and imprisoned for robbing the Government of $3,000,000, has again been brought to the attention of the Attorney-General. Colonel Barr, representing Captain Carter, has announced that he will make no oral argument in reply to the paper submitted by ex-Senator Edmunds.

Why should he? No doubt he would cheerfully accept Edmunds's brief as his own. That distinguished lawyer, who reviewed the case at the request of Secretary Alger, has come to the conclusion that Captain Carter may be dismissed under the evidence, but that the fine and imprisonment inflicted by the Court should not stand, because the papers of the accused "were unlawfully used by the Court."

In other words, Carter stole the money, lined his pockets and those of the contractors who were favored by him with $3,000,000 of Government funds, and richly deserves dismissal, but his political and social influences are so strong that it would never do to send him to the penitentiary for five years. President McKinley has taken a personal interest in this notorious case, and he is responsible for the delay of eighteen months in carrying out the verdict of the court-martial.

Carter will gladly compromise on dismissal. He is $3,000,000 ahead of the game, and a little thing like losing his shoulder straps will not disturb him. It only gives him needed leisure to spend his stealings.

MISCONCEPTIONS ON BOTH SIDES.

The Nashville American publishes a few sentences of a lecture delivered by Eugene V. Debs, in Nashville, and makes some comments on it. The comments are really more reprehensible than the sentences quoted.

Mr. Debs is reported to have said: "The workingman is beginning to ask himself: 'Why press my rags closer, lest I should brush against the silk which my hands have fashioned?'"

Well, this is foolish. It is the same mistake that has done so much harm, and been repeated in so many proclamations, to wit: that "labor is the source of all wealth." This is false. Labor by itself creates nothing. To dig holes in the ground one day and fill them up the next day creates no value. It is Labor and Ability, or better, perhaps, Labor and the Direction of Labor, that create wealth, or, as has been almost poetically said, "It is the destination that infuses into dead labor the soul of value."

But now let us hear the comments: "If there were no rich people to buy the silks what would be the use of fashioning them? The rich will always be with us just as the poor are. There will always be those who wear silks, just as there always will be those who wear overalls." The tone of these remarks is really exasperating to the poor. Pray, why should not the time soon come—as we believe it will in the course of the twentieth century—when the laborer wears overalls and his wife silks? We think that there always will be men comparatively rich and comparatively poor, but we also believe, with Mr. Debs, that the world will soon learn co-operation, and that the extremely rich and extremely poor will be eliminated.

A LESSON FOR ANTI-EXPANSION WORKMEN.

The American ship Mary L. Cushing has just sailed for Hong Kong with a crew of seventeen Filipinos. The wages to be paid the men, it is said, are almost nothing.

This incident ought to open the eyes of those foolish anti-expansion workingmen who have objected to the acquisition of the Philippines on the ground that it would subject them to the competition of cheap Filipino labor. The competition of cheap Filipino labor, such as it is, is already here, and has been here all along. There is absolutely no protection against it. The Filipinos can all come here and compete, whether we annex the islands or not. But American control, by improving the conditions and wages in the Philippines, would tend to check the emigration of the natives and prevent their competition with American labor in the United States.

GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT finds himself in trouble between two wings of his supporters. On one side he is told that he is preparing to let off the corporations too easily and on the other he is denounced for consenting to tax their franchises at all. He would be spared all embarrassment if he were living under the first clause of the Journal's Internal Policy: **"PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC FRANCHISES."**

The Journal Astonishes Paris.

[From Paris Le Bulletin de la Presse.]

The New York Journal has realized in subscriptions the sum of ninety-two million francs for the purpose of supplying New York with a metropolitan railway system.

"Given under my hand and the privy seal of the State at the Capitol, in the city of Albany, this 17th day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-nine.
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

"BUCKING!"
FROM THE JOURNAL, OCTOBER 17, 1898.

"BROKE!"

THE BRIDE'S FIRST DINNER PARTY.

HER OWN STORY OF IT.

"I SUPPOSE I am a little absent-minded," observed the bride.

"Well—er—a little," returned the girl in the purple hat. "However"——

"But I'm sure I am as much distressed over the fact as any one else can possibly be," went on the bride.

"Oh, well, you frequently have plenty of sympathy in your distress, dear. Do you remember the time that you had invited me to go to the matinee with you, and"——

"Oh, pshaw! I was very uneasy about Oswald that day, so"——

"Yes, I remember. You had had only one note, a box of chocolates and a single telephone message from him that day, and you naturally feared that his love had grown cold. Now, I did not really mind waiting while you wrote a ten-page note to him, but"——

"At least you never complained, dear. As I remember, the box of chocolates was within your reach."

"Was it? I've forgotten. Neither did I mind returning after we had gone two blocks because you discovered that you had one black and one white glove. I was always careful to set my watch ahead when I was going out with you in those days."

"I am sure that you"——

"Yes, dear, I am always sensible. But what I did mind was the fact that you posted the matinee tickets instead of the note, and we had to wait by the letter box until the postman came to empty it, and then coax him for fifteen minutes before he would let us have them without going to the office to sign things. I've always said that there were two things with which no engaged girl should be trusted—tickets and other people's lovers!"

"I'm sure you needn't be so unpleasant about it. We reached the theatre in time to see the audience come away, and there were some stunning gowns"——

"Which I would rather have studied at my leisure, dear. But do tell me what gave rise to your first remark."

"I don't know that I care to tell you. You are scarcely in the mood to sympathize."

"I can sympathize with Oswald, at any rate, dear, and man and wife are one, so it's all the same."

"So Oswald says when he wants to handle all the money himself. However, I must talk to somebody, and somehow I don't care to call up Oswald on the telephone to-day. You see, I—er—gave my first dinner party last evening. I have been talking it over with Oswald for three weeks now. We made out a list of people we really must ask to the first one, and it ran up to just one hundred and fifty."

"And your table seats just eight, doesn't it?"

"M'hm. By dint of careful weeding we got it down to forty-eight; that took all our leisure time for a week. Then we got reckless and sent out the invitations. We remembered after they were gone that Alice and Kathryn don't speak; that Mr. Bachellor and Tom used to be partners in a law firm, and the things they say of each other will not bear repetition; also, that Mr. and Mrs. Vanstyle are on the verge of a divorce."

"Heavens, and your dining table is a round one!"

"Yes. I assure you that about that time I began to wish that the invitations had been to my funeral instead of to a dinner. For two days I lived on the hope that some of them at least would decline, but they all accepted."

"Why didn't one of you fall ill?"

"I thought of that. I begged Oswald to do it, but he flatly refused; said he'd have to stay home from the office all day if he did and would lose a lot of money."

"But you"——

"Would have had to miss a morning concert and a studio tea—and I with a gown I'd never worn! Then—for I am always fair—I suggested that we draw lots for it and abide by the result. I drew the short one, but I told him I knew he had cheated me, and made him try it over again."

"And then?"

"He drew the short one; I managed that he should; but he actually refused to abide by it, though I reminded him of our agreement."

"So you"——

"Oh, we just decided that the dinner must be given. Then it took two days to decide on the decorations. I wanted orchids and Oswald insisted upon lilies of the valley. I cried, however, until he gave in."

"Which was very nice of him."

"It would have been nicer if he had given in before my complexion was ruined for the day. Well, I hurried to the florist before he had time to change his mind."

"And ordered the orchids. How lovely!"

"N—no. When I found that they would cost a hundred dollars I decided that I really preferred carnations, anyhow. Next, I told Oswald he might select the gown I was to wear. Of course, he chose that horrid blue rag! I had already decided on the pink one."

"Oh, well, you could just forget at the last moment, wear the pink and apologize the next day."

"Why, so I did! Odd, too, that I forgot when the blue one was laid out ready!

"Suddenly things seemed to take a turn for the better. Tom and Mr. Bachellor actually arrived in the same cab! It seems that lawyers talk dreadfully about each other and then are friends—just like debutantes. Kathryn admired Alice's gown, and the Vanstyles simply didn't speak, and nobody thinks anything of that when people are married."

"So after all you had a lovely dinner?"

"Well, no. It would have been a great success but for the fact that I had been so busy with the other things that I had forgotten to order anything to eat!"

ELISA ARMSTRONG.

TELLING ABOUT THE DINNER.

THE BRIDE—I wanted orchids and Oswald wanted lilies of the valley, but I cried until I made him give in.

An Apt Pupil.

A prominent Detroit woman with a very great interest in juvenile mission work has this excellent anecdote to tell:

One of her classes in a certain mission is composed of little street children to the number of twenty or more whose ages range from 3 to 6. Most of the scholars are boys, though now and then one notices the pinched face of a little daughter of poverty in the ranks.

The other day the lesson was on the peculiarities of English. Words that are pronounced alike and spelled differently, and words that are pronounced differently but spelled alike were discussed at length. She explained the difference between lead, the metal, and lead, the verb, and the children grasped the point instantly. Then she took the two words, week and weak. She explained the difference in the meaning and use to the tots, then called up Israel Sugenheimer, aged 5, to use the word "weak" in a phrase. The little fellow thought a moment, then answered: "A weak old woman." The teacher nodded her approval and smiled into the eyes upturned to hers. "Now, Jerry Ryan," she said, turning to another little boy, "you take the word week and use it in a phrase." Jerry thought a minute, and then he, too, replied: "A week old baby."—Detroit Free Press.