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OUR AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN.

The agreement between this country and Japan contemplating concerted action by the two countries for the maintenance of the status quo in eastern Asia seems to be approved in the capitals of Europe. It is everywhere hailed as a guarantee of peace in that part of the world. It seems that as early as 1905 Japan made overtures to the United States for some such agreement as that now entered into. A formal alliance was never thought of but it was suggested that the understanding should take the form of an agreement with the binding force of a treaty.

By this agreement the two countries pledge themselves to encourage the free and peaceful development of their commerce in the Pacific, and to maintain the principle of equal opportunity for commerce and industry in China. Then there is a firm reciprocal resolution of each government to respect the territorial possessions in the Pacific of the other, and an expressed determination to support, "by all peaceful means at their disposal," the independence and integrity of China, and the "open door" in that country. The final article is a pledge of the governments to communicate with each other as to the proper measures to take if the status quo or the "open door" should be menaced.

One more victory has been won in the interest of peace. Great wars in our age are often waged in the interest of commerce. The agreement now entered into means that two of the principal Pacific powers recognize the right of all to carry on trade with China, and that no one power can justify claim a monopoly. It means that the door must be kept wide open, with no special favors to anyone. It is, further, an acknowledgment of the autonomy of China, and a warning to land-grabbing powers to respect China's right to the management of her own affairs. This is the reason why the agreement is a signal victory for peace.

The United States has always taken the lead in some practical movement for the furtherance of the world's peace. The Hague tribunal would not have become an actual fact but for the part taken by the United States' representatives in the deliberations of the first Hague congress. Again this country has furnished an object lesson. And such lessons should silence the clamor for the military burdens that are not absolutely necessary for the safety of the world.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

Communities, like individuals, sometimes learn only in the school of adversity. A great calamity visited Galveston. It became necessary to repair the damage done by a destructive tidal wave and to guard against the future ravages of the sea. Then the citizens wisely decided to entrust the affairs of the city to a commission consisting of honest, capable business men, and a system of city government was formed that proved admirably adapted to the needs of the people.

San Francisco suffered from earthquake and graft. It became clear to the citizens that they could not afford to sustain grafters and at the same time repair the damage done by the destructive forces of nature. And so they subscribed enough money to enable a committee of honest citizens to inspect contracts and watch the public expenditures. And now, that part being attended to, progressive citizens there have formed an organization which has made it its business to boost for San Francisco and try to secure an increase of the population to one million in a few years.

They call it the Million club. It is non-partisan and owes allegiance to no clique, no class, no machine. Solid, responsible business men are at the head of it. It expects to secure funds by annual subscriptions of 25 cents per member. In its appeal to the citizens it sets forth that its object is to bring about a more perfect understanding among the citizens, to promote the general welfare and prosperity of San Francisco, and to secure One Million population by 1915. The Appeal very well says that, "It is the stick together, work together and pull together principle that is responsible for our progress." And then it goes on to say:

"We will keep San Francisco in the eyes of the people and tell the world more about our advantages than they have ever been told."

"We will proclaim to the entire country our attractiveness and our business advantages and will shake hands with our eastern cities."

"There are thousands upon thousands of good people everywhere who would be glad to come here if we would only greet them with a welcome that will induce the visitor to make San Francisco his home—a welcome that will attract both business and capital."

"It is the Million club, the unity of San Francisco citizens, that can make big things possible, and with this unity we will have a million population."

Now, this is, it seems to us, the right and proper spirit in which to undertake the boosting of any city. "Stick together." "Pull together."

personal selfishness. We need the spirit by which the Million club of San Francisco is animated. We should agree to proclaim to the world the attractions of the City; its business advantages, its unsurpassed location as a health resort. Not till the citizens agree on this, will the City ever become great. You cannot advertise the place, as the Tribune does, and has done ever since its untimely birth, as a moral pesthole and then ask people to come and live here. You cannot represent Utah as an oecumen upon the map, and then invite business men to come and invest. Those who believe such advertisements stay away. Those who do not care to live where strife seems endless, go to places where they can have peace. This is self-evident.

IN HONOR OF LINCOLN.

Someone has made the suggestion that if New Mexico and Arizona are admitted to Statehood, one of the new states might be named Lincoln, in honor of the great President and liberator. This is a very proper suggestion. The 12th of February next year will be the 100th anniversary of his birth, and New Mexico might very properly be given statehood and renamed Lincoln in honor of that anniversary. Arizona, too, might very properly be given statehood at the same time, and the emancipation of the two territories would be a fitting monument to the man whose life was devoted to the preservation of the Union. But there is no good reason for changing the name of Arizona, which is itself both distinctive and pretty.

A Boston lawyer has, further, made the suggestion that the Philippine islands be renamed the Lincoln islands. But that does not seem to meet with favor. There is no good argument for that proposition. The islands may not even be retained by this country, and if they should be disposed of to any other country, or become independent, the name would have no meaning to the Filipinos.

Lincoln needs no special monument. His fame is inscribed upon the leaves of American history and will remain as long as the Republic remains. But the remaining of New Mexico after him would be very appropriate since the name of that territory really means nothing to the people now, except that it is a reminder of a war with a neighboring republic, in which all the glory is hardly on our side, though it resulted in a great increase of territory, at the cost of \$100,000,000 and 13,000 lives.

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES.

The meeting in Washington of National Conservation commission to be followed by a meeting of governors and the commission is the result of the movement for conserving the Nation's resources, inaugurated by President Roosevelt. The commission now is in possession of most valuable information concerning our national wealth. Data have been gathered as to how much land we have; how much water and water power; how much coal and timber, etc., and with the facts before it the commission can make some practical recommendations as to what is necessary for the conservation and further development of the resources.

That this is a most important work is readily seen. The resources of nature are, by no means inexhaustible. They can be squandered just as easily as accumulated wealth. Nations have been impoverished because they have not saved their resources. Land has been rendered barren by the waste of its trees. The very climatic conditions have been affected by waste. The conservation of the existing resources and their further development is, therefore, really a vital question to any nation. If President Roosevelt had done nothing else during his administration, it would be a memorable one by reason of this effort to make the country realize the importance of saving its natural resources.

Divorce actions speak louder than words.

"Rats" worn in the hair do not carry the bubonic plague.

There is a Newberry in the navy. In a way he is a service berry.

Perhaps after all Paul Revere's famous ride was only a joy ride.

Marriage may be a failure but "Divorce" is a pronounced success.

If there lives a man who can bell the cat that man is Prince von Buelov.

If you are so foolish as to borrow trouble you should return it without delay.

Increased salaries for public officials do not mean increased competency by any means.

The value of a man's education does not depend on the amount of money he spends at college.

The Standard Oil investigation shows that a "good" memory is akin to an elastic conscience.

Those who are controlling the butter market are spreading it on thick—the price not the butter.

At these tariff hearings do the members of the ways and means committee always give ear?

Ferrero, the Italian historian likens Horace to a modern press agent. This is complimentary to Horace.

One of the reasons why the nations rage so furiously is the great armies and navies they maintain.

It should be an easy matter to reforest the country with family trees, they are so cheap and abundant these days.

It would be a modern instance of Greek meeting Greek were Miss Lillian Russell and Mr. Nat Goodwin to wed.

Silver is so cheap that the Cloud Compeller can afford to make his clouds all silver and not merely line them with it.

Newspaper cuts of Mr. Rockefeller do not show him to be handsome, but then he never pretended that his face was his fortune.

Judge Wm. H. Taft is just as much of a "stand-patter" as anybody, but he stands for honest and thorough tariff revision.

There is so much prosperity that there is no longer any tainted money, the tainted having been worn off through constant circulation.

There may yet be as great a rush to the country as there has been to the cities. Much will depend on the report of the Country Life commission.

Russia and Austria-Hungary have about reached an understanding on the Balkan question. If they can understand it they are about the only ones who can.

So it seems that the \$5,000 ruby engagement ring said to have been sent to Miss Elkins by the Duke of the Abruzzi was only a huge joke after all. Joke or no joke, it will never become so famous as the Diamond Necklace.

"Every man should be a hero at least once during his career for the sake of his prospective grandchildren. If for no other reason," says a Chicago philosopher. Does this apply to confirmed old bachelors?

The problem of buying Christmas books for children is one that is not always easy of solution. Of the making of books there is, apparently, no end, but many new books do not contain any appreciable merit apart from gaudy pictures and tasteful cover designs. As a rule the old standard books that delighted and fascinated children a generation or two ago, are as good now as ever. The old fairy tales, the old stories of adventure, have stood the test of time, and no mistake is made in selecting them for gifts to those who have not read them. Of course there are many good new books in the market, and they will be found by anyone who has time enough to seek for them.

IN PRAISE OF GRAVY.

New York Mail.

Every gravy has its merits and its partisans. We profess a prejudice in favor of a gravy that is thickened with milk and flour, although a childhood memory of plain, unadorned ham gravy, trickled over the surface of buckwheat cakes already swimming in maple syrup, comes back to us with almost poignant sweetness. The best single dish of gravy we ever ate had dried beef as its basis, and was made with plenty of milk still warm from the cow; it happened on a morning in camp in the valley of an Ohio creek, after a torrential night's rain which had driven the party to seek higher ground. Well-made beef gravy poured over bread or potatoes makes a meal. It is also a powerful argument against ascetic living; somehow it makes one think of Sunday dinners anywhere in the sphere of Pennsylvania German influence, which reaches straight west from Lancaster castle to the Mississippi river in a belt as broad as the smile of a Dutch farmer. The gravy dish is no mere extra on the table of humble plenty. It has its philosophy—the philosophy of the hors d'oeuvre. The French housewife begins the meal with a sardine, a strip of salt fish, an olive or a dab of chow-chow, because it stimulates the appetite, and the diner proceeds to fill up on bread; when the more expensive meat comes along, he is unable to do much damage to it. In like manner, every housewife who has three

or four children should learn how to make good gravy—and if possible, good apple butter also. These things, spread on slices of bread and on potatoes, are so appetizing and filling that the youngsters largely prefer them to meat, with results fortunate to both the family physique and purse.

MR. TAFT'S PROGRESSIVENESS.

Providence Journal.
There is a Clevelandlike quality in the president-elect's reputed attitude. Indeed, it seems reasonable to think that he will prove to be a president of the Cleveland rather than the Roosevelt type. And if he shows the stubborn resistance in the face of opposition that the last Democratic Executive displayed, he may wake up some morning to find himself as popular as Mr. Roosevelt has ever been. Already he may count upon public sympathy and applause in his fight with "Uncle Joe." The Illinois Representative is not popular, though a certain charitable view has always been taken of his failings because of the pietistic element in interwomen with them. Nor has the country any liking for the reactionary cronies he has gathered about him. That is why, whatever the result of the first skirmish may be, a final victory for the progressives under President Taft may be anticipated.

JUST FOR FUN.

"Did you tip the waiter?" "Yes, so to speak. I turned him down."—Harvard Lampoon.

"Yes, it is just a hundred days." "Not until Christmas?" "No, until Roosevelt goes out."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Be careful what ye say, son," cautioned the Plunkville Polonius. "Yes, pop." "Remember that you ain't prominent enough to claim that you was misquoted."—Puck.

"Dr. Post is called into consultation oftener than any other doctor in New York." "How do you account for his success?" "He always says that the family physician has been doing exactly right."—Life.

"That statesman says it would be useless to approach him with an offer of money for his influence." "Certainly," answered Senator Sorghum; "that man never had ten dollar's worth of influence in his life."—Washington Star.

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