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A MINISTER'S ATTACK.

To prefer charges against any citizen in this country for criticizing a public official, even if it is the chief executive, is a rather strange proceeding. But that is what a Methodist minister in Vermont is said to have done against a fellow clergyman, Rev. J. K. Day, chancellor of Syracuse university. The matter, it is thought, will be brought before the New York conference of Methodists.

As to the merits of the case, it appears that Dr. Day, in an interview two years ago, expressed himself to the effect that the policy of the President is a danger to the country. "Anarchy," he said, "of the sort practiced by President Roosevelt is the most dangerous kind of anarchy. Anarchy in the White house is the most perilous anarchy that has ever threatened our country. It means anarchy if the judges are to be set aside and their verdicts held up to criticism by the President." The complaining minister construes this as "speaking evil of magistrates," which is against the rules of the church.

We are, probably, not far from the truth if we assume that the complainant saw, in this long-deferred action, an opportunity of getting a free advertisement, and that that was the actual motive. It must be admitted, however, that it is very bad taste, especially for a minister, to speak evil of any one. The habit of criticizing officials, for political reasons only, and without regard to truth or justice, should be abhorred, like sin, and by a minister more than by anybody else. It is character assassination, and in a recent lamentable instance, the persistent misrepresentation, in cartoon and text, without doubt, inflamed the murderer of a president to perform the awful deed. A political demagogue may consider some things legitimate since he is engaged in war for spoils, which a minister, if he has a conscience, must condemn. For his mission is, or ought to be, one of peace, wherever he goes. But when everything is considered, the complainant has only succeeded in calling attention to a criticism which would have been dead and forgotten by this time, but for its resurrection by the complaint.

The strange part of the proceeding, however, is that the complaining minister considers a political offense suitable for investigation by a religious body. There is no evidence that Dr. Day had any personal feelings against the President, or that the attack was personal. It was a matter of politics entirely. As a citizen the complainant attacked the policy of the President. Any other occupant of the presidential chair, with the same policy, would have been attacked in the same way. Now, what business is that of the Methodist conference or any other ecclesiastical organization? Is it possible that pastors and churches outside of Utah, consider it perfectly legitimate to meddle in politics, at the same time they threaten "Mormons" with complete disfranchisement for such alleged meddling? There certainly is some flagrant hypocrisy in the world.

President Roosevelt, we may say, does not deserve the criticism to which he has been subjected. He has on every occasion insisted on obedience to the laws of the country. That is not anarchism. He stands for a fair and square deal all around. He is the friend of the laborer, and has done more for the promotion of their interests than any one citizen of this country. He has his faults, but no mortal is without imperfections, but no one can justly accuse him of being lacking in patriotism or zeal for the welfare of the whole country, or every part thereof.

THE SUPPRESSED REPORT.

The Salt Lake Tribune is, according to the certificate of character it gives itself, the great champion of conformity to law. There is, in fact, nothing that wounds its feelings so deeply as the shortcomings of other people in this respect.

Under the circumstances its silence on the City's finances is a remarkable evidence of fortitude in suffering. The law requires the City auditor to prepare and publish before the first Monday in February of each year, a detailed statement of the financial condition of the City. The law requires that this report show, not only the amount of cash in the City treasury, and in its several funds, which, by the way, must be kept separate; but also "the total expenditures of the City, as shown by the warrants issued, giving in total the amount expended in each department." That is what the law requires. Up to date it has not been complied with.

The excuse was offered some time ago that the failure of the auditor to publish his report before the first Monday in February, as the law requires, was due to the special auditors who have been fastened upon the City treasury, evidently to bleed it. But that excuse was a falsehood, and one that did very little credit to the inventor of it. The report was belated last year, too, though there were no special auditors to blame for it. The truth is, the party bosses are afraid of giving the public a complete and true statement of the City's finances. But, what about

the law? As if there were any law the American bosses need to respect! But the citizens will be asked for more money in the form of increased taxes, and water rates. They will be asked to vote for the increase of the municipal indebtedness, if the nerve of the grafters does not fail. They will be asked to provide the officials with more funds to squander, at a time when the financial prospects are not bright. No wonder that the juglers with the City's finances are anxious to suppress the truth!

According to a statement in the Herald, at the close of business February 29, there was \$208,303.92 belonging to the city in the bank. Of this all but \$2,768.34 belonged to the special funds, which consist of money paid by citizens to compensate contractors for public improvements. There were about \$200,000 worth of warrants outstanding against the \$200,000, which means that there is already an overdraft of \$150,000. And these figures are only approximately correct.

DEATH STATISTICS.

The Census Bureau has just issued a report on mortality covering the calendar year of 1906. The statistics do not cover the entire country, but only the "registration area"; that is, states in which the laws requiring the registration of deaths have been accepted as giving practically complete mortality returns, and to those cities in non-registration states in which satisfactory returns are required by the local authorities. The registration area in 1906 consisted of 15 registration states, the District of Columbia, and 77 registration cities in non-registration states. The 15 registration states were California, Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Vermont. The estimated population of this entire area in 1906 was 40,996,317, or 48.8 per cent of the estimated population of continental United States. Of this number 32,996,782 persons, or 39.3 per cent of the total population, were in registration states, and 7,999,535 persons, or 9.5 per cent, were in registration cities in non-registration states.

The total number of deaths reported for the registration area for 1906 was 458,105, and the death rate was 16.1 per 1,000 of population; the corresponding rate for 1905 was 16.2, and the annual average rate from 1901 to 1905 was 16.3. The annual average rate for England and Wales during the same period was 16; for Scotland, 16.9; for France, 17.4; for Germany, 19.9, and for Ireland, 19.4. These figures are taken to show how the mortality rate has been decreased by the strict observance of the rules of health. Many of the former death rates were upwards of 25 per 1,000 of population. The tendency in the larger countries with a population of similar character to that of the United States now seems toward an annual death rate of about 15 per 1,000 or less.

The death rate per 1,000 in the various registration states is as follows:

California	15.4
Colorado	15.9
Connecticut	15.7
Indiana	15.5
Maine	15.7
Maryland	15.7
Massachusetts	15.7
Michigan	14.3
New Hampshire	17.4
New Jersey	16.2
New York	17.1
Pennsylvania	16.5
Rhode Island	17.5
South Dakota	8.8
Vermont	16.8

Rhode Island, it will be seen, has the highest death rate. Next comes California. South Dakota has the lowest. The statistics further prove that the death rate among the colored population is much larger than among the white. The figures cover those areas whose population is 10 per cent, or over, colored. For the cities in such areas it is found that the death rate of the white population for 1906 was 17.2 per 1,000, and that of the colored population was 23.1, or more than 60 per cent higher. The diseases causing a much higher mortality rate among the colored than among the white are pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, whooping cough, malaria fever, and typhoid fever; those causing a much lower mortality rate are scarlet fever, cancer, and diabetes.

As to the causes of death, it is found that more die of consumption of the lungs than of any other disease, a very small number die of old age, which is really the only natural cause. These are the figures showing the causes of death per 100,000 of population:

Tuberculosis of lungs	159.4
Pneumonia (including broncho-pneumonia)	149.0
Heart disease	130.7
Diphtheria and enteritis	122.9
Violence	120.9
Bright's disease and nephritis	99.8
Apoplexy	71.3
Cancer	70.8
Premature birth	44.3
Old age	34.3
Congenital debility	34.2
Typhoid fever	32.1
Erysipelas	29.3
Diphtheria and croup	25.3
Measles	25.6

The number of deaths in the registration area for 1906 resulting from pulmonary tuberculosis was 53,341, and the death rate per 100,000 of population was 130.4. Of the total number of deaths, 26,833 were of males and 25,509 of females. The largest number of males in any five-year age group dying of this disease were of the age group 25 to 29, and the largest number of females of the age group 20 to 24.

Cancer seems to be on the increase. The highest death rate from that cause for any of the large cities was 100.1 in Boston, Mass., and then, in order, 96.7 in Syracuse, N. Y.; 94.8 in Denver, Colo.; 93.7 in Rochester, N. Y.; and 93.5 in Providence, Rhode Island.

Deaths from various forms of violence also seem to be on the increase. The total number of deaths in the entire registration area for 1906 from all forms of violence was 49,552, corresponding to a death rate of 120.9 per 100,000 of estimated population. This rate greatly exceeded that of 1905 (111.9), or that of any recent year. Of the total number of deaths from this cause, 25,682 were of males and 19,870 were of females. The death rate from suicide apparently showed a large increase for each year of the period from 1902 to 1905 and a decrease for 1906. The number of suicides in 1906, returned as

suicides, was 5,533, of which 4,521 were of males and 1,012 of females.

Deaths from accidental traumas numbered 20,842, and the rate was 50.8 per 100,000 of population; the corresponding rate for 1905 was 42.1. Deaths from steam railroad accidents and injuries for the registration area numbered 7,090, and those from automobile accidents 183.

The figures are incomplete, covering only part of the country. But they seem to demonstrate that, while science is conquering disease and lowering the death rate from such causes, violence and despair are doing their part to fill the grave with human bodies.

Minister Wu arrives from China just in time to help unravel the Tsau Maru tangle.

Vote of thanks to Pasquale Patis who met a New York Black Hand member more than half way.

The reception of Governor Magoon at Havana indicates that the Cubans take well to Uncle Sam's methods of government.

Again the Tribune howls for Burbridge's scalp. Is the organ of thieves so anxious to have the only executive officer on the "force" removed? If so, why?

Alfonso of Spain is determined to show anarchy that it is not the ruling power and he refuses to postpone his trip to Barcelona on account of threats made against him.

Maybe the Dowager at Peking expects the Mikado at Tokio to be so Chesterfieldian in his solution of that junk question that no unpleasantness will arise.

President Roosevelt is opposed to child labor and his stand is well taken. There is, however, the wood pile in the back yard that is a good remedy for too much enthusiasm for that boy.

Having played several days at Calico, "Bob" Evans' jacks must be content. The rest of their time will be spent in hard work at their guns and in making potshots at the decks and hulls of the "Big Sixteen" of the Atlantic fleet.

POPULAR GRAFT.

Boston Herald.

An interesting phase of the problem of civic reform is presented in the statement recently made by Borough President Haffen of the Bronx, that a man working for the city does not work as hard as he would for a private concern. Mr. Haffen, in defending his administration under investigation, asserted that he was getting the best possible results for the money, with the single qualification that all public work is handicapped in comparison with private enterprise. Public administrative officials, generally, will agree with Mr. Haffen. The fact that he notes may be observed in all grades of the public service.

WAR MAY HAVE TO GO.

Chicago Post.

Young Maxim has invented a "silent firearm." The only way to take away the smoke of battle, then the gay uniforms and now the noise. War itself will have to go next.

SCARCELY SUSPICIOUS.

New York Commercial.

"Carnegie's Neighbor Hobbed," says the headline of a morning newspaper. Considering, however, Mr. Carnegie's well known financial stability no suspicion should attach to him.

THE ASTRONOMERS.

San Francisco Bulletin.

In these strenuous, nerve-racking days of the world, what a pleasure it must be to devote one's time wholly to astronomy! Perched on some high-kissing hill, the astronomer gives himself up to a contemplation of the stars and knows the earth only as one countless million of material bodies flying through space. His troubles, the never-ceasing warfare between the common people and the grafters, concern him not. His mind is ever voyaging into the great unknown. What matter if the peasants of Russia are oppressed? Everybody knows that. The astronomer faint would learn what is happening to the people of Mars. Liberty's light may die somewhere on the world underfoot. More enchanting lights, hinting of worlds more glorious, gleam brightly yonder in the distance. Wars of the earth-men come and go. The astronomer gives no heed. Out in the vastness of worlds, not armies, war, or change, the tiny flash that was gone in an instant marked the passing of a whole planetary system. The astronomer marvels. What are the woes of earth compared to such a stupendous catastrophe?

JUST FOR FUN.

"Pa, what's a metrical romance?" "Well, this month's gas bill is one!" - Cleveland Leader.

"Sometimes," said Uncle Eben, "I catches myself lambastin' a mule foh doin' purty much de same as I would do if I was in de mule's place!" - Washington Star.

"Don't you ever get homesick, captain?" asked the passenger on the ocean liner. "No; I'm never home long enough," replied the captain. - Philadelphia Press.

"How did you and your husband discover that you were affiliates?" asked the pretty young widow. "Heavens! We never did. We got married in a decent way, neither of us having any reason not to." - Chicago Record-Herald.

"Do you think you could identify the burglar?" asked the detective from City Hall. "Well, I never saw him," replied the victim. "But he was a very small man." "How do you know?" "Haven't I told you he got into our flat without any trouble?" - Philadelphia Press.

Edyth—"It's too bad that Clara was in love with Jack when he proposed to me. I feel sorry for the poor girl." Mayme—"Why, she is in love with Tom. She never even cared for Jack." Edyth—"Oh, dear! I never would have accepted him had I known that." - Chicago Daily News.

"What sort of telescope do you use for seeing things on Mars?" The eminent astronomer, habituated to scanning the heavens at magazine space rates, stayed his pen but an instant. "I have learned," he replied, "not to rely on my eyes. The best of them sadly hampers the play of the imagination." - Philadelphia Public Ledger.

J. P. Morgan's Role. George Washington may have been the father of his country, but Wall Street regards J. Pierpont Morgan as the man who walked the floor with it. - Kansas City Star.

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

[By H. J. Hapgood.]

(For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.) When Jack London was a young man, he worked for a carriage manufacturer in California. He worked with his hands; it was hard work and the hours were long.

In the afternoon he would turn from his forge, look out of the window, and see his employer driving past in company with his wife and daughter. The carriage in which he rode had been made by Jack London and the liveried coachman was paid with dollars he had helped to earn.

What was the difference then between the employer who rides in the afternoon and the employee who works all day? Just this—the one works with his hands and the other works with his brain; Jack London thus discovered the secret and from that day he resolved to work with his brain.

It was the development of the human race we have gone through a process of evolution similar to the change which took place in Jack London. When society was in a state of semi-barbarism man gained supremacy only by strength of arms. The man who shot the swiftest arrow or swung the heaviest battle-axe was the head man of the tribe. In war the victory belonged to the strongest and the biggest army.

Today our wars have become little more than a battle of brains. The nation with the finest guns, the thickest steel, the most sagacious engineers, can claim the victory. A twentieth century naval battle is nothing but a mathematical problem. It takes brains to win today.

Our economic development has gone through the same process of evolution. Our prehistoric ancestor came out of his cave and conquered the beast of the forest by sheer strength and gained for himself food and raiment. Today the man who eats the best food and wears the warmest clothes is not necessarily the strongest man, but the man with the best brains. The farmer who invents the best flour, the raw material into the finished product and the business man who organizes the most capable force of men to put the thing on the market, are the ones who rise to the top.

The survival of the fittest has resolved itself into a contest of ideas and just so truly as the pen is mightier than the sword, the man who works with his brains will achieve the greatest possible success.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"The New Psychology" is the title of a little book by Dr. A. A. Lindzey of Seattle. It treats of what may be called suggestive therapeutics. Among the subjects discussed are: "How to treat diseases and habits; suggestion in moral reform; chemistry of body affected by emotions; truth about evil thought transference, and the psychology of love." It is a very interesting book and can be read in half an hour by those who must differ with the author both in some of his premises and conclusions.

The March issue of the Children's Magazine, now edited by Frances Hodgson Burnett, begins with the first chapter of a new story by Mrs. Burnett, "The Land of the Blue Flowers." It is a fairy story expressing a beautiful and inspiring idea—there is no time for anger. Mrs. Burnett's story is but one good thing out of an issue that contains many delights for its readers. There are lots of good pictures and many short stories, humorous verses, jokes and puzzles.—116 East 28th St., New York.

The following is the list of contents of the March number of the Atlantic Monthly: "Why American Mothers Fail," Anna A. Rogers; "Augustus Saint-Gaudens," Kenyon Cox; "Songs to the Night," poems, Richard Watson Glider; "Rose MacLeod," a novel, V. Alice Brown; "Sugar: a Lesson on Reciprocity and the Tariff," F. W. Taussig; "Edith," a poem, Charlotte Whelan; "A Second Motor-Flight through France," III. Edith Wharton; "The Temple of Juno," a story, Robert Herrick; "A Record-Breaking Balloon Voyage," Henry Helm Clayton; "A Joy from Little Things," a poem, Fannie Stearns Davis; "Prophetic Voices about America," William Garrett Brown; "Music-Education and 'Automates,'" Leo Rich Lewis; "On Being Original," Irving Babbitt; "The Glory that was Spain," a poem, Jefferson B. Fletcher; "England and Germany," Edwin D. Mead; "Browning's Old Yellow Book," Charles W. Hodel; "The Harbor of Lost Ships," a story, Ellen Paine Hull; "Edmund Clarence Steadman," Thomas Wentworth Higginson; "Sundered," a poem, John B. Tabb; "The Variorum Antony and Cleopatra," William Allan Neilson; "The Contributors' Club," "Thinking by Typewriter," "The Jog," and "Visited on the Children," 4 Park Street, Boston.

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350 regular, sale price 10c
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75c regular, sale price 125c
100 regular, sale price 100c
150 regular, sale price 75c
200 regular, sale price 50c
250 regular, sale price 25c
300 regular, sale price 15c
350 regular, sale price 10c
400 regular, sale price 5c

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150 regular, sale price 750c
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250 regular, sale price 1250c
300 regular, sale price 1500c
350 regular, sale price 1750c
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200 regular, sale price 1000c
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