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SETTLE THE MATTER.

The controversy over the police and fire bill still goes on—in the newspapers. It appears to have been settled so far as the Legislature has to do with it. The Governor now has the bill, and he will no doubt give it serious consideration. If he disapproves of it in its present form, he will either veto it or return it with some suggestions and recommendations.

In either case the measure will be considered. The time is short and the Legislature is crowded with business. Therefore the friends of the movement to place those departments where they belong, and to put an end to the litigation and expense that have arisen under the present system, could rather the bill now in the Governor's hands should become a law than to risk the defeat of the entire proposition.

The Deseret News has expressed the opinion that the change should go into immediate effect. Also that if that cannot be done, in the present trend of sentiment in the Legislature, postponement till next January will be better than the loss of the measure.

As the bill stands, it has passed with a practically unanimous vote of both Houses. That is sufficient reply to any contention about the wishes of members from either of the second class. There has been much talk of influence in behalf of certain incumbents in the public and fire departments. The Deseret News has no man's schemes to support, no private axe to grind, and no individual to fight in this proposed change. It stands for the right of the city authorities to regulate all the departments of the municipal government, and wants the change to be effected as soon as it is practicable to make it. If that cannot be done until next January, the "News" can afford to wait, but the city cannot afford to continue indefinitely under the present improper condition of affairs.

THE EXPIRING CONGRESS.

The Fifty-fifth Congress, which is about to expire, has been a record-maker in the history of the American nation. In its extra session, convened shortly after the inauguration of President McKinley, it enacted the tariff law now in force and rejected the proposed arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States. The first regular session witnessed the beginning of the war with Spain for the freedom of Cuba. It provided for the expenditures of that war and for the army of liberation. It annexed the Hawaiian Islands and considered many other measures of importance.

The present session has mainly been occupied with the treaty of peace, transferring Spain's sovereignty over Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippines to the United States. It has passed a bill providing for the building of twelve ships of war and the reorganization of the army. It has not found time for the final disposition of some other measures of great importance, which will consequently go over to the next Congress. Among these may be mentioned measures for the government of Hawaii and the new Spanish colonies. However, this Congress will undoubtedly be considered as one of the most important in the history of the nation.

SOMETHING FOR OUR GIRLS.

Quite a flutter was caused recently in New York society over a statement by Dr. W. A. Hainsford, who declared "American girls are the worst cooks I know of." Mrs. Clarence Rice, who is working at the head of a committee for the establishment of an industrial school, endorsed his sentiment and said: "The lack of knowledge of domestic needs is not confined to the poorer people. Daughters of the fairly well-to-do and the rich alike are woefully ignorant, and it is this, I believe, that drives families, especially young couples, to hotel and apartment life, where the wife has no need to cultivate cooks. If a girl is not well trained in household duties she naturally seems her own home in preference to keep life. Their mother ought to teach her daughters sewing, household management and cooking. Dr. Hainsford tells the truth about our girls."

Perhaps the Rev. Dr. exaggerates a little. But it is a fact that cooking needs to be improved in this country as well as in others. Health is promoted by good food properly cooked. Disease comes more frequently from indigestion caused by badly cooked food than almost any other cause. The means that are served up in some places, public and private, are disgusting to the eye, obnoxious to the palate, and revolting to the stomach. Also we do not concede that American girls are as a rule worse than others in the knowledge and practice of the "fine art" of cookery.

We coincide with Dr. Hainsford's remark that "every girl ought to be taught in school to make her own clothes to keep repair and to cook. Every girl ought to learn all these in school. Not one in a hundred girls is able to do these things. It now results in girls being able to cook and sew marriage would succeed more often."

There is something more than that. You only should these accomplishments be taught in school, but they should be practiced in the household. Mothers who work themselves half to death, while their grown up daughters take the place of indolent or fancy parasites and more valuable than a respectable artificial adornment, are laying up trouble for those whom they think they are saving from rough work and toiling for the life of a "lady."

Dr. Hainsford says further: "Young men and young women need to marry and start life together at between which that intended them to do. Too dare there is an increasing tendency to attempt to start life alone, because girls are not trained for domestic life and men can't afford to marry."

There is much truth in that. Can some fellow speculate. It is a notorious fact that there are in most communities outside of mining camps and newly settled regions, large numbers of unmarried girls and women who are little more than an nuisance, and in some disrupted current and northern men are able to obtain wives who would be fitting mates for the parent and bind, while other girls, equally good, are left to spend their days in the delights (?) of celibacy.

Back in our public schools and in the home circle, girls should be trained for the duties and responsibilities of family life, as well as in those intellectually that add so much to the comfort and to the family circle. Housekeeping, cooking and the maintenance of order and cleanliness are among the essential feminine qualifications for multitudinous, and yet the girls of our Western state should strive to excel in those invaluable attainments.

A SOCIALISTIC IDEA.

The Yale corporation has made a peculiar that any professor who has served for 25 years can, when 65 years old, be retired at his own request and receive a pension of one-half the amount of his salary. Harvard university has followed suit and provided for the voluntary retirement at the age of 68 years, with a pension of at least one-third of the salary.

The argument in favor of this arrangement is that it has always been a great drawback to the institutions that the compensation of the teachers is too small to allow savings during their active service. Both the professors and the institution have suffered from this. The instructor could never feel at ease when he considered the approach of the time that ought to mark his retirement, and the college authorities have sometimes shrunk from forcing the withdrawal of an old professor who had suffered his usefulness to come to would be left without means of support.

Against this it is urged that the same may be said of the public school teachers as has been of the college professors, and indeed of most of the laboring men working for wages. As the Springfield Republican puts it:

> There are certain employments in which men do life or death to which pensions may fairly and wisely be extended—notably the public military, police, and fire services. But when we venture beyond that for there can be no clear stopping place. If the college professor may be mentioned to secure the best results, all workers should be provided for like reason, and if private employers and institutions cannot be relied upon to act accordingly, and so all work for all or for most, society or the state must take up the business of pensioning all, as the German state is beginning to do.

The importance of the steps taken by the institutes of learning mentioned lies in the fact that thereby the question of providing for old age will concerned more general attention than it has hitherto received. In Germany the policy has been adopted of requiring wage-earners to deposit, weekly, a certain per cent of their earnings, thus creating a fund from which they can draw when incapacitated to labor by old age.

The idea is, of course, entirely socialistic, but it is evident that if it could be carried out, it would do away with much of that kind of charity which has found its expression in the erection and maintenance of poorhouses.

DEWEY DECLINES.

The New York Herald publishes a cablegram from Admiral Dewey in which the hero of Manila has given notice to the American people that he would refuse the nomination for President, if it were offered to him. He declares that he has no longing for the office and that he is too old for a change. In fact, the fearless sailor who calmly views the fate of the ocean in conflict with the hurricane, and cares to listen to the thunders of the Spanish guns, shrinks from engaging in the political conflict inevitable were he to come to Presidential honors. He feels his health would not permit him to endure the hardships of a political campaign.

It is difficult to conceive the admiral's reply without feeling the keen irony of it. Dewey is a Spaniard. Had his fellow-Spaniards been possessed of the foresight or sense of the Good methods of politics, we shudder to contemplate what Dewey might have done to Manila. The Cleveland Plain Dealer tells a story of an Italian preacher in Salt Lake, who was frightened to seeing the Mormon men too wise. He asked the lot of one of the houses on the other side and he jumped up shouting: "Satan is nothing but wise, what make you so wise? Why don't you go to jail? Why don't you go home? This is no place for a preacher and you and better leave politics for other men." He continued: "If I can get you out, I go home now and say I can get his. Then you get out quick and get out of kind of business is that for a preacher?" Admiral Dewey may not have met substantially the same things, but he knows the bias of his dispatch it is not difficult to read: "Politics is not for me."

But possibly the admiral had no intention of being frankly. Probably he chief, yet he was too far to run, but serve, or country in the position he now holds, and he is perfectly willing to remain at his post although nothing to gain of honors. As a candidate for the Presidency his opponents would seize upon to pieces the passage that one surrounds his name, and, even (Heaven) would turn against him, although he could do everything serve their political interests. The reputation, the authority, the character of none of the foremost American statesmen have been sufficiently assailed by their enemies. The dangers of politics are sometimes so, as was that those of a conflict with Spanish battleships.

ELECTRICITY AND LIFE.

The purposeness and possible cure of all age is a subject receiving some attention among medical men of prominence. Dr. Jonas Aitkens in the London Lancet takes the view that it is a disease which in some cases may yield to proper medical treatment. He states that it cannot be demonstrated that the natural age of man ought to be a hundred years, but he thinks it is highly probable. He believes that thirteen centuries is potentially going to begin, and that great results would be obtained if the stamp of the large cities, where men and women had to compete with the fierce conditions both physically and mentally.

Old age, the doctors says, begins with certain changes in the nerve cells. The movements of the muscles lose their previous strength and precision. The senses in peculiar attenuation of the fine cells of the brain. The mental faculties up to a certain time may be not preserved, but sooner or later the conflict is likely to be impaired, so that there is difficulty in fixing the attention on a given subject. A change in temper may be noticed and mere dementia is the outcome in age.

Dr. Aitkens contends that this process of death can be retarded by proper nutrition of the cells, and by the application of electric currents to parts of the body, the treatment of which, however, must be used with care. He says:

> It is notorious that electricity is frequently applied in the most careless and haphazard manner, and this explains why so many persons are disappointed concerning its curative effects. Instances of the greatest caution must be the brain during which not the slightest fault has been committed, is a matter of the greatest importance, and one which requires not only knowledge but also much practice and some skill. Unless a good medical practitioner (for often does one hear a patent in Northumbria or a potatoe in Cheshire) is consulted, the operator applies to electrical treatment. A man who labors with love and care and has the determination to select one of the methods described by me, or several of them which may be particularly adapted to the case before him, will in the nature of things obtain better results than another who has heart in his work, who is not the node routine, and who is devoid of the elements of an artistic disposition or true clinical instinct."

The problem of youth and old age is one with which thinkers of all ages have busied themselves according to the light they have had. But none has ever found the key from which grew the golden apples of Hesperides:

> "The golden apples
> Out of her garden
> Which can deny of youth,
> Age and death every day?"

It is a fact, however, that nature herself, as her laws are better understood, is coming to our aid. It is a common observation that the spring of youth now is longer and the vigor of woman life is being increased. Vital statistics seem to prove this conclusively.

Another scientific fact buried five people in Colorado. That the record of winter fatalities is piling up like the dead.

The coffee trust has been perfected. This is a grave matter, for not even a dead man can escape the grip of the monopolist.

"Politics without religion is too much in evidence in Utah," said a gentleman yesterday, who takes pride in calling himself a "free thinker."

Lieut. Holmes's promotion amounts to twenty-six years advancement in the service, for his heroism at Santiago. This is a case where the ship of fortune's tide gave a man a big push.

The President has nominated Dewey to be admiral and this to be major general, the distinguished service in the Philippines. Both these officers are now in the highest rank of promotion.

Colorado now has bribery charges in its legislature. There grew out of an effort to create a new county to be named after Senator Teller. The Centennial State is bound to be in the fashion.

There being no population sufficient in the American navy for admiral, Dewey will be allowed to choose his own. May it fit him as neatly as do the honors conferred on him for the efficiency he has displayed in his official career.

Prof. Hough of Chicago says all the astronomers have been mistaken, and that the planet Jupiter is in a gaseous or a plastic state. It will now be in order for the astronomers to demonstrate the gaseous character of Prof. Hough's theories, if they can.

Mayor Quincy of Boston has ordered the extermination of the English sparrows that are such a pest to "the hub." If Mr. Quincy were certain of retaining his office till, with the disappearance of the sparrows, he could be reelected, he would be in the change in the Boston municipality for a very long period.

The secretary of the Utah Dental association having recommended to our city school board that a board of examining dentists be appointed for the city schools, it will be in order now for the chiropodists to recommend the appointment of one of their number to look after the corns and bunions of the school children.

Waves are going up with a bump in the metalworking industries east. In the present attitude of prices, it is much easier for employers to add an eye cent to the wages for those their own returns advance a hundred per cent, than to wait for a strike that will compel a fifty per cent increase to the workmen.

The Denver Post has this to say on a subject that has caused more excitement and comment than almost any other topic of public discussion:

> "About all this talk of being liberals and of engaging in strong force when, don't you honestly think, there are members of that body who should be filled with the blushes at times that they have our wives?"

The Southern California Orange are reported to be pouring from consumption and other infirmities, because civilization has driven them to the productive portions of country, where they are not able to get sufficient nourishment. The nation that has expended so much to relieve the starving reconcentrados in Cuba, could to give some of care now to the starving aborigines of home.

Le Temps, a leading French journal, points out, that a war of conflict between France and other European nations against England and America is a desperate proposition for the former, and urges France to get in harmony with the Anglo-American understanding. The Temps believes it is wrong in advising against an over-energy rousing of the Francophobic nations.

Gen. Otis denies the Filipino statement that the insurgents captured American prisoners in the recent fighting. Not an American was taken prisoner, but 1,500 of the insurgents were captured and are now held as prisoners of war. These Americans who were outside of the lines without leave, in January last, were taken by Aguinaldo's men and are detained at Malolos, Aringaylan, Gen. Otis's report of the present situation is quite encouraging.

In passing the naval appropriation bills, Congress would have made a "grand finish" were it endowing its economic. The supply of sailors has been reduced so as to put out of commission so many large vessels as to cripple the North Atlantic squadron, while the price fixed for seamen has been fixed so ridiculously low as to make the filling up of efficient crews a impossibility. It is evident that in putting to the vessel of an extremist like Senator Tillman, the legislators have gone a little too far in their trimming.

Today's dispatches bring news from the Philippine Islands outside of those portions in actual possession of the Americans, that Aguinaldo's army is demoralized, that the officers will not lead the men, and that the leading natives in Manila and Tondo have given allegiance to Gen. Otis. There is no doubt that the vigorous campaign by Americans against those who have taken up arms, and the liberality shown to those who have ceased to be insurgents are having their effect toward disintegrating the insurgent forces—a fact that augurs well for the early establishment of good order.

The Kansas City Star is indignity for the statement that there is a fierce war between the legislature and the local keepers of the capital of Missouri. This is the alleged situation:

> "The statement complained that the City of Jefferson is a wide-open town, that it contains no first class hotels, that bath-tubs are scarce, that cold victuals is heavy on the legislature's stomach while the price paid for them breaks his heart. The Jefferson City people have retorted envyfield with scorn and contempt, one why a first class hotel should be erected and mathematical for a farmer's market, a bathing boarder, and declares that before complaint is made of the lowness of bathtubs the hotel keepers and expectants should show a disposition to use those already provided."

GERMAN FRIENDSHIP.

Boston Post.

The United States is the victor. Von Bülow's speech is a recognition of our success, of our strength. That is about all.

New York Examiner.

Time, are pleasant words, and so true that they come never will be sweeter to doubt that they voice the sentiment of the same Germany people. A little restraint upon the part of German foreign officials, civil and naval, would, however, greatly aid in maintaining friendly relations.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The sincerity of the declarations made by Germany and Italy can hardly be regarded as of greater importance than the enthusiasm with which their speakers were greeted in the rejoicing. The speech could be regarded as one that dealt a crushing blow to those who were seeking to build up a sentiment in favor of an Anglo-American alliance on the theory that Germany was our enemy.

Philadelphia Ledger.

The discussion in the relenting developed what seemed to be a strong desire on the part of the German ministry to maintain friendly relations with this country. The declarations of Baron von Bülow were unusually frank and bear every evidence of sincerity, as reports to Germany are growing, and it might be well to form an international combination either to prevent such disputes between the two countries or, at least, to operate the fuse and suggest terms of settlement.

St. Louis Republic.

Germany's determination to remonstrate, then, if necessary, to negotiate with the United States will not be satisfied with and bold way or desultory efforts. The government has offered that satisfaction was not caused in our country and has not stood concerning them in the most emphatic and dignified manner possible. To add to the declaration which the Bundesrath made, the speech of Baron von Bülow, the minister of foreign affairs, in the reichstag was a strong and emphatic deliverance of the present and recent feeling of German government and people. Indeed, the Bundesrath and Reichstag is a strong determination to retain friendly relations. The affairs made in Von Bülow's speech have been a great deal of good in Germany, and have helped other Germans to set their country and its public employed in a pleasing light. Indeed, the speech of the Chief Minister is a degree and should go far towards removing from diplomatic circles the impression that German leaders misunderstand and still linger.

Providence Journal.

It is gratifying to note that a more conciliatory feeling prevails in Berlin. Without an irreparable breach between the Anglo-Saxon and the Teutonic race would be a calamity of world wide import. Germany has suffered in the past from dealing with other nations in a manner which, as we call the Prussian code. The wise, fearful to the with the Germans, has, indeed, the growth of true national pride. It has often unfortunately limited the expression of the Teutonic spirit. It has led to such personal differences in the past as Frederick the Great has taken in Silesia and in Alsace. But if Germany has really learned the lesson that the world is not to be bullied, and that it is wise to consider the problems of world-wide importance from the point of view of other nations, we may well be glad. It is not that we expect to see Germany be so proud to surrender that she cannot for her strong in the future more than they have and shine for the last year.

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