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SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 21, 1907.

NO CASUS BELLI.

A German naval officer and author, Count Reventlow, predicts that the next great war of the world will be waged between Japan and the United States, According to the excerpts published by the Literary Digest, he regards the Philippines as the coming storm center. Those islands, he says, will, when the Panama canal is compieted, be of inestimable value as a trade center between the American continents and Asia. Their control by the United States is, he maintains, harmful to both Great Britain and Japan, and especially to the latter country. The Count goes on to say:

"Nothing is more probable than that "Nothing is more probable than that the rulers of Japan see in the United States of America the great danger of their future, though it is not likely that they covet the Philippines for immediate occupation. These naturally exert their influence also, for it is a group of islands of great natural wealth; they produce what Japan needs, and require no such lengthy development as Kores, and Manchuria. Great as the desire for their conquest may be among the mass of the Japanese people, the government would be strong enough to hold them in check until the psychologic moment could be seized. But should the question of pride of race arise it would be a different matter. Then populace, government, and Mikado would be united to strike for supreme dominion of the Far East, the fetish of the Japanese."

What is especially interesting in this connection is the fact that this German prophet of war takes the defeat of the United States for granted, or, at least, extremely probable. The result would be, he says, commercial weakening, "putting off a Pan-American union indefinitely, since all the enemies of America would naturally do their best to assist the centrifugal tendencies on the South American continent. This again would mean an enormous increase of English influence and the death of the Monroe doctrine, with all this implies."

The German Count graciously admits, however, that this country would take revenge and he successful ultimately. Perhaps this is added for the purpose of discouraging the Japanese from declaring war immediately. He

"Should we assume that the United States does not expose its fleet to the danger of annihilation, America would lose only the Philippines, Hawaii, the East Asiatic trade—and prestige. That would be a serious loss, but would be counterbalanced by the preservation of the fleet and the certainty of a successful war of revenge. Money, shippards, and technical knowledge would enable the Americans shortly to build a monster fleet far outstripping the Japanese. It is undoubted that such a humiliation would cause an enormous activity and an outburst of patriotous activity and an outburst of patriot-ism as yet unprecedented."

Such predictions of war sound ominous. Even to those who are entirely free from superstitions, the cries of the "clamorous owl that nightly hoots" are anything but pleasant. It is undoubtedly true that the Japanese are strongly impressed with what they consider to be their mission, their destiny, to exercise paramount influence in all that pertains to the affairs of Asia; but, for all that, we can conceive of no controversy that can arise between this country and Japan that cannot be settled by the means at the disposal of diplomacy.

The quarrel between Japan and Russia was just. Russia took advantage of the Boxer trouble in China, to occupy Manchuria with the evident purpose of annexation. Closely questioned as to the intentions with that part of the Chinese empire, the Russian government disclaimed any sinister plans. It even promised to evacuate at a stated time. But the most solemn agreements were broken. The fact was that Russia did not believe that Japan would dare to make the attack, and therefore her diplomatic representations were disregarded, and even treated with contempt. Japan had a just cause against Russia. She will never have a just cause against this country, because the United States has no intention to wrong either Japan or any other power. We can

conceive of no possible casus belli. It would be just as well, though, for the prophets of war to turn their attention to more profitable topics. For, since there is power in suggestion, no one can tell what harm they may do.

ROOMING HOUSE EVIL.

There was some very plain talk between Governor Cutler and a number of Salt Lake business men a few days ago over the alleged lax morals of girls employed by local factories and other concerns. The heads of these institutions entered a rather strong protest against some of the charges made by the chief executive not for publication. but for quiet and effectual correction. And that brings us to the consideration of a condition that has become alarming in Salt Lake during the past year or two. We have reference to the socalled rooming house evil that flourishes under the very eyes of the police in all parts of the business district, to the ruination and disgrave of young and foolish girls. Of course, employers should take every precaution for the moral conduct of the young people who find work in their factories but they cannot be expected to maintain a vigil over their movements after they leave their places of service. But here is where the responsibility of the city should begin. Its officers of the peace should see to it that the rooming house

such resorts have no other motive in mind than the making of money. For that they would be perfectly willing to sacrifice the honor and reputation of any number of girls; and that is precisely what they are doing. They have already gone too far. They should be put under the ban from this very moment, and given to understand that they cannot ply their degrading vocation longer in Balt Lake. It is time for Mayor Thompson to call up the Bell and Parrentised police department and demand an accounting. He will find a startling delinquency which ought not be further countenanced. The fathers and mothers have a right to look to him for the suppression of the immoral rooming house pitfalls of this city.

RUEF'S CONFESSION.

The San Francisco Call is convinced that the confession of Ruef means that the city is awakening from its state of moral degradation, and that the era of graft is ended. "The end of Ruef," the Call says, "is the beginning of decency. During his time of activity law has been a mockery and justice a byword in San Francisco for big rogues with money and little rogues with a pull. It is dramatically fitting that he should be among the first to prove on the pillory that in the end, soon of late, the fundamental agreement of organized society as to the conduct of men, the agreement upon which all human law is based, will be inexorably enforced. There have been other bosses before Ruef, though none more evil. all of them have had their little seasons of misrule and have been broken by the strength of aroused public sentiment. Ruef is the only one who has turned state's evidence."

The Chronicle points out that Ruef does not impress anyone as sincere in his confession. He says he is innocent even of that to which he has plead guilty, and declares that he will not tell the whole truth. Our San Francisco contemporary enumerates some of the misdeeds of the fallen boss previous to the election of the present board of supervisors. It is interesting reading, because it shows good citizens how they sometimes are betrayed by their trusted servants, Says the Chron-

"Until he got the present Board of Supervisors he could not, of course, deal in franchises, but what he did do "Until he got the present Board of Supervisors he could not, of course, deal in franchises, but what he did do was even worse, for he helped to spread the deadly polson of corruption throughout the masses of the people. In all the departments controlled by appointees of the Mayor or elected on his ticket he was supreme. Whoever wanted favors weilt to Ruef, as they have been going for the past year. He stood for the election frauds whether he planned them or not. He was the main factor in breaking up and defying the civil service provisions of the charter. His appointees to employment by the city were almost entirely men of low character and largely favorites of the Tenderloin. That he did not personally know of every item of petty graft that was going on ta doubtless true. No one man could keep track of them. But he knew that the men whom he had put where they could graft were very few of them men who would lose the opportunity. In probing the police graft in Chinatown he rendered no assistance, but in that and in the protection of the municipal cribs and the gambling games he was always reckoned and felt as the main enemy of society. Every muoicipal officer was compelled to pay tribute to his fund, and there was no accounting. He selected or indorsed the present Supervisors for nomination, knowing exactly what kind of men they were. His constant effort was to place judges on the bench who would he most satisfactory to the criminal classes. He sought by trickery to control Republican conventions while notoriously manipulating the Union Labor party to his own ends. If those were the days when Ruef says he was attill victuous, and those the political bor party to his own ends. If those were the days when Ruef says he was ztill virtuous, and those the political ideals to which he proposes to return, heaven help San Francisco if he ever gets his grip on us again."

What chance has a community, when the administration of its affairs fails

into such hands? The value of the confession of Ruef, be it sincere or not, is this that it proves to evil-doers that they cannot for ever continue in their wicked course with impunity. Justice will overtake them sooner or later. They may, for a time, fancy themselves secure, shielded, perhaps, by powerful interests, but neither money, nor any other kind of influence will for ever keep corruption on the throne. Sooner or later the people will revolt against that kind of rule and sweep it away ns so much rubbish.

THE SCHEME ADMITTED.

· And so Fred T. Dubois, political renegade and superannuated senator, is to 'make the Chautauqua circuit this summer" on a "mauling" tour against the "Mormons." And the important fact that he is to do so for a money consideration should not be forgotten. The organ of the state wreckers prominently proclaimed his mission this orning and said that the field of his frenzied vocal gymnastics would be in the states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missourt and Kansas,

In all of these commonwealths the liscredited and disgruntled ex-senator to appeal to the projudices of his followmen and endeaver to the utmost o inflame their prejudices against the 'Mormon' Church which he has shamelessly and malisciously maligned for years. In his own state he has become a political back number, for whom his former constituents have constantly less regard. They have come to know him for what he is, and have grown thred of his revels and railings, a fact that led to his enforced retirement from public life, Hut like men of his kind who lose helr occupations he has to turn to some other means for making a livellhoad. He must have money in some way, and why not repeat the slanders he has been uttering for so long a time against the people he so much despises, and whose destruction he so. fondly trusts he will be able to accom-

Several weeks ago when the bomand verbose writer for Kearns organ went east, "News" stated that It was on such a mission as has now been disclosed. The statement was quietly questioned but never publicly denied. Now the organ not only admits its accuracy but heralds it forth to the world.

PROMISE NOT TO SEPARATE.

The story is told of a San Francisco judge, Weller by name, that he has added an important query to the quesblight is stamped out. Some who run tions put to young couples about te nation upon the President, the United

the usual questions he asks! "Do you and each of you promise that you will never seek a divorce?" A couple anxlous to be married will give ready assent to this question. If, however, either should hesitate, or attempt to put in a qualifying clause, Judge Weller closes his book and dismisses the couple as not, in his judgment, fit to engage in an undertaking so serious as matrimony. This innovation, it is hoped, will have a good influence, and lessen the number of divorces,

Undoubtedly a promise given in all sincerity and under solemn circumstances will aid many in the persovers ance of a course of virtue and rectifude. It is on that supposition that officers are made to take a solemn oath that they will perform their duties faithfully, On that supposition members of temperance societies are requested to sign the pledge, and so on. A solemn promise on the part of a man and woman about to join hands in matrimony may be an aid to some. It may help them to bear with one another and to stand together in defiance of the storms of life. With others the promise will be broken, for, unfortunately, the old custom to be slow to promise but to stand by a word once given, is no longer a common vir

Peck-a-boo waist weather is here. Will the Orchard yield the fruits of

The school book campaign might be called a campaign of education; but it

repentance as it has interviews?

Paderewski has a big chicken ranch n Switzerland.

trial judge. Ruet was content with a change of heart. Some people see spooks while others

Mayor Schmitz wants a change of

see "hierarchs." They are exactly the same kind of people. The roof garden season has opened in New York. Scenes to ward off brain

storms should be crected.

Japan is buying steel rails in Amerca and cannon in Germany. She knows where the best of each is to be had.

Ellen Terry's new husband says that she never will grow old. In the language of diplomacy that is already a

Congressman Scott says the Panama canal will be completed before most people suspect it. But most Americans are so unsuspicious.

"Houston has the best of any city in

the country by a shade," says the Post of that city. Where ignorance is bliss it is fully to be wise. Marion Crawford says that there is

no "black hand" in Italy. Then Italy's loss is her gain and the United States' acquisition is its loss. Were Mrs. Eddy dead and her prop-

erty devised there couldn't be a greater squabble over it than there is, Blessed are the poor. A monument is to be erected in

Washington to the memory of Christopher Columbus. It will be a well deserved recognition of a once well and widely known man. It is said that Rudyard Kipling

wants to be poet laureate of England. Vill Alfred Austin inter fection to England having a genuine poet for poet laureate? So hostile to peace and prosperity in

Utah Is the organ of the "American party, that it carps at a peace meeting and seeks to sow enmity and discord in the community on that subject,

The commissioner of corporations has discovered that the Standard Oil company is a monopoly. For importance and novelty the discovery ranks along with those of Copernicus and Newton

Fred T. Dubois, ex-United States Sentor from Idaho, gratia Dei, speaking of the leaders of the Western Federation of Miners charged with complicity in the assassination of ex-Governor Steunenberg says: "The President of the United States has sent forth his proclamation that they are guilty, and that in the interest of law and order. they should be dealt with summarily. The President has done no such thing and Fred T. Dubols' statement is a wilful, malicious falsehood. What a contemptible arch-demagogue Dubois is tell American Christians about "Mor-

BRAINSTORMS AND COURTS.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

While a "brainstorm" may be sufficient to execupl a slayer from punishment in Washington, the state still retains the right to protect society from the possibility of some future recurrence of "brainstorms." This right or duty would seem to be one of plain common sense, and might well be made a rule of law in other states and commonwealths. A temperament subject to brainstorms of such violence as to compel the commission of crime might commonly be judged a dangerous temperament, and, even if a jury acquits the doer of the violence on the ground of insanity or of "the higher law," nevertheless a judge who has heard the evidence might with propriety be given the discretion to hold the prisoner, if in his judgment the litter was dangerous when at large. er was dangerous when at large.

UNITED CHRISTIAN PARTY.

Washington, D. C., Dispatch.

That there will be more than two parties in the big campaign next year is now made certain by a call recently issued by William R. Bankert, of Davenport, Iowa, for a national convention of the United Christian party to cominate a candidate for President. Mr. Bankert is chairman of the National Committee, and says that his party was organized eight or 10 years ago. One of the planks proposed for the platform is a demand for the removal of the capital from Washington, D. C., to the island upon which is situated the Rock Island Arsenal, opposite Davenport. Chairman Bankert scents discord and dissension in the United Christian party over its candidate for President. He has assumed an impartial attitude thus far on that interesting question, and says that he receives more lettere favoring the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt as the party's standard-bearer than anybody eige. It is believed that should the Republicans not force renomination upon the President, the United Washington, D. C., Dispatch.

Christians will nominate him noiens volens, and put their licket in every state. Another suggestion is, that the United Christians shall join with the

JUST FOR FUN.

As for the Jamestown exposition the finishing touches will be when the crowds arrive. Ex.

Clars—You may not believe it, but I said 'No' to seven different men during the past winter.

Maude—Oh, I don't doubt it. What were they selling?—Chicago Dally

A Pittsburg doctor says everybody in the town is suffering from pneumon-konicsis, which is a pseudomeianotic formation induced by carbenaceous ac-cumulations. Delmas might have cleared Thaw if he had called attention to that.—Ex.

Fate of the Petty Thief.

A man in Wilkesbarre, Pa., was arrested for stealing eight sixty-foot steel rails. He might have known he'd be arrested. Never steal less than 200 miles of steel rails, with forty or fifty locomotives, several thousand cars and twenty or thirty depots to round out the job.—Chicago Journal.

"Hist!" exclaimed the villain of the inclodrama. And he was,—Philadelphia Record.

"How does Mrs. De Style manage to cross the gaps in her income?"
"I think by bridge parties,"—Baltimore American,

"What do you consider the chief dan-er of wealth?" asked the solemn man, "That the other fellow will have it," esponded a hearer inclined to flippan-

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