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## EXAMPLE OF SAN FRANCISCO.

The story of the trouble in San Francisco that resulted in the landing of prominent officials in jail is one that should be carefully studied for the lessons it conveys to citizens of other municipalities. The outcome illustrates the evils of strife and contention among voters. It shows the danger of entrusting public affairs to politicians whose only aim is the promotion of selfish interests.

A few years ago San Francisco had a long and sanguinary strike. The mayor suppressed anarchy, as it was his duty to do, and organized labor combined against him. In the municipal campaign, after the strike, Ruef saw his chance. He started what was called an independent Union Labor party, with his friend, Mr. Schmitz, as the figure head. A three-cornered fight was now on, and between the factions Schmitz succeeded in winning, and in the campaign of 1905 he was re-elected against a fusion ticket. The campaign is said to have been the most bitter the city ever saw. The forces that combined for him were some of the corporations, and firms seeking city contracts, the "tenderloin," the saloon interests, and others. The prosperity of the city influenced thoughtless voters. No appeal to race or class prejudice was left unworked. Voting machines were used for the first time. Voters were afraid to split the ticket after voting for Schmitz, through ignorance of the machine's mechanism. And the result was a landslide.

Notwithstanding the general conviction that graft and corruption were common practices in the city government, Schmitz enjoyed popularity, until Rudolph Spreckels took up the matter of housecleaning in earnest. The graft investigation disclosed the true state of affairs. The probability is that the reforms in the government will be continued, and that the reform party will be sustained in the next election. The result will be, it is said, the best government the city has ever had.

It does not pay any city to divide into hostile factions, and make personal interests the excuse for division. It is still worse to stir up prejudices on account of religious affiliations and incite to strife on that account. Strife-breeders are the enemies of the communities in which they live. It is perfectly legitimate to divide on principles and to work, as the law permits, for the prevalence in the administration of the government of whatever principles seem best, but to fight for offices, as dogs for bones, is not American, whatever else it is. It is an evil of which San Francisco has had enough for the present. It is a stain on public life, which citizens should deem it necessary to remove.

## THE PRICE OF LUMBER.

Our news dispatches on Thursday noted still another advance in the price of lumber.

Those who contemplate house-building are anxiously asking when the advance of lumber prices will cease and when a movement toward lower prices will set in.

Unless we can get the Canadian lumber, we fear that the price of this indispensable commodity must remain very high. The advance in wood prices has been almost continuous for many years. Most elderly people can well remember the time when pine lumber at less than half the present cost was the main reliance for the framework of building operations. Varieties of timber now in common use because pine can be no longer had, were regarded not many years ago as useless and unmerchantable in the East, though in the sparsely timbered West we have always been glad to get almost any kind of lumber and at almost any price.

Not more than twenty years ago, Utah red pine could be plentifully bought in this city for twenty dollars per thousand feet. Now it can scarcely be had at all, and is replaced by Oregon fir at more than \$80 per thousand.

All kinds of wood are steadily advancing in price and many wooden manufactures have responded to the same tendency. Pine is being supplanted by other and less solid varieties of wood.

Those facts tell the story of the rapid depletion of our forests. They are simply the price which every farmer and householder has to pay for the destruction of the American timber-bearing groves. The comparative recent manufacture of paper and pulp from wood has already exhausted thousands of acres of woodland, and the paper industry is even now suffering from a scarcity of material to meet its requirements.

The lumber question, as a matter of cost and as an element in the construction of homes, has now become a national one; while the matter of preserving and renewing the rapidly vanishing forests of this country is coming home to the painful attention of even the most thoughtless of the timber destroyers. Every one has a vital interest in both phases of this question.

The Practical Farmer of Philadelphia pointedly declares that timber robbery is akin to soil robbery. With

our accustomed American indifference to details, we have gone on cutting down our forests with no thought of how they should be replenished for the needs of the future, as the corn farmers of Illinois, the cotton planters of the South and the wheat farmers of Minnesota and the Dakota have gone on impoverishing their soils for present gains. In the case of the soil, farmers are awakening to the necessity of the preservation of soil deterioration, and it is time that the American people awake to the necessity of proper timber preservation and renewal.

The American Forestry Association has commenced a systematic education of the American public on the forestry question asking the aid of the press in spreading the needed information on this subject among the people. The association advocates the preservation by intelligent use and extension of the forests of the United States, as well as the application of scientific forestry by private owners of timber lands. The man whose farm is hundreds of miles from Government timber reservations or from other extensive areas of woodland, may not realize that he has any interest in the matter. But he has, for his own welfare is bound up with that of the country in which he lives and that which affects the whole country affects him.

The farmer living in a river bottom subject to flooding by the spring freshets, which are either caused or greatly increased by forest denudation, has a direct interest in the preservation of the forest simply in order to protect his own farm. The intermountain farmer has occasionally this interest, but it is mostly the enormous price of lumber that affects him here.

This paper has constantly urged the care and replanting of the forest trees. In the near future some special matter on the subject will appear in our columns.

## ALL FOR PARTY.

The recent developments in local politics have made it clear that the real government of the City is vested, not in the Mayor and the City Council, but in a "City committee." When the citizens, at the last election, went through the formality of voting, they did not realize that they merely did so in order to provide this invisible Power with the necessary tools. The affairs of the City, it seems, are managed by this cryptic "committee." This explains the reference in the party organ to certain City officials, as "American party officials," which undoubtedly is the correct name. They are not the officials of the City, only of the party—puppets jumping as the strings are pulled by the Committee behind the curtains. This little arrangement shows exactly what the local "American" idea of self-government is. It is the right of voters to be "governed" by a self-constituted committee.

Another thing has also been made clear. Party interests are, in the opinion of some officers, of greater importance than the interests of the people. The Chief of Police, whose resignation has been tendered, is reported to have expressed himself to the effect that he has always been willing to step out whenever "his party desired it." If the decent voters of other parties desired it, for the public good, that we are led to believe, would have had no influence upon his decision. It is the party first, and last, and all the time. We do not mean to say that Mr. Sheets is a sinner in this respect, more than any other "party official." He only gave expression to the perverted principles that underlie the moral code of the committee that rules—or ruins. The chaos to which municipal affairs now have been reduced and which is but partly revealed as yet, is the result of the policy that places the interests of a personal party before the public interests. To bring order again out of the disorder is the great problem that presents itself to the citizens.

## DANGER OF CIVIL WAR.

Congressman Jenkins seems to consider the North Carolina imbroglio more serious than necessary. He says, "We may have earlier than we want another Civil War." He concludes by predicting: "This talk about state authorities resisting federal power by armed force will sooner or later end in bloodshed, possibly in the disruption of the Union."

The matter may not be as serious as that, but it is serious enough to command attention. It is a dispute between state authorities and the Federal authorities. North Carolina like some other states, passed a railroad rate law, fixing the passenger rate at 24 cents a mile. The transportation companies asked for a restraining order and United States Judge Pritchard issued the order, pending an inquiry regarding the constitutionality of the law.

But the state authorities, believing that the law is valid until repealed, proceeded to put the new statute into effect, and arrested certain railroad officials. The United States Judge ordered them released. That seems to be the entire North Carolina case, briefly stated.

The questions in dispute will have to be decided by the Supreme Court, and there is no danger of Civil war, as long as the people have confidence in that tribunal. Its decision will be accepted as the end of the controversy. On that point Congressman Jenkins is correct. He says:

"The supreme court of the United States may err. It may differ with the views of a great majority of the people, but however that may be, the Constitution says its decision is final and must be regarded as the supreme law of the land and that is what must govern us. Better live under a wrong decision than amidst anarchy, that must prevail in this country if each state authority is going to disregard the Constitution of the United States and assert its own power, right or wrong, thereby weakening and absolutely disregarding the great government that has cost so many generations so much to make and preserve it."

It doesn't seem to be Ralsali dead or alive or at all.

No nation proposes to strike in sympathy with Korea.

The summer sales are coming, love, the boom is on the die.

"A duel with auto knocks bull fight."

ing to smotherers," says the Boston Herald. Also the autos.

Once again the name "Duluth" is whispered o'er the land.

New York is having a regular carnival of crime. It beats the wild and woolly west all to pieces.

Inventor Maxim saved two girls from drowning recently. That is doing twice as well as Vice President Fairbanks did.

Over twenty thousand people died from snake bites in India last year. Is there no balm in India? Is there no whiskey there?

That fellow Pretiella who is doing all in his power to stir up trouble and anarchy among the Minnesota miners, is most decidedly an undesirable citizen.

The San Francisco Chronicle says that the Japanese who are pouring into Canada upon California as the promised land. Who promised it to them?

Egyptologists declare that Rameses II was a fraud. It may be (most great reputations are a little over size) but pray what are the names of the Egyptologists who say so?

Thaw has engaged new chief counsel to defend him. This surely means that there will be no dementia Americana plea to the jury whether or no the old insanity defense is retained.

The New York Commercial talks about "scientific tariff revision." There possibly may be tariff revision, in all probability there will not be, but in any event it will not be "scientific."

It is urged in behalf of Speaker Cannon's candidacy for the presidency, that "he has felt the pinch of poverty." To which it may be replied that his pinch is the common pinch of all.

To compare the dismissal of a New York policeman for cowardice to the degradation of Captain Dreyfus, is a very yellow straining after effect. But New York journalists are capable of just such things.

The British admiralty has decided to equip the magazines of all ships in the British navy with refrigerating machinery to keep down the temperature. Something like this should be done to keep down the temperature of the hot-heads who are crying out for big armies and great navies.

Commenting on the North Carolina railroad rate trouble and Governor Glenn's rather boastful talk, the New York Times says: "Under the administration of Theodore Roosevelt a governor of North Carolina trumpets it through all the land that he flouts the Constitution of the United States and will resist the enforcement of the orders of a federal court. As his sole response to this threat President Roosevelt dispatches the North Carolina Assistant Attorney-General Edward T. Sanford to propose a compromise and 'peaceful settlement.'" The governor was simply blowing off hot air. The President thoroughly understood this and acted in a commonsense manner about it.

## OUR ELDER STATESMEN.

Los Angeles Times.

Senator Pettus of Alabama passes away soon after the death of his lifelong friend and recent colleague, Senator Morgan. Edmund D. Pettus was born in 1821 and died in his eighty-sixth year. John T. Morgan was born in 1824 and died recently in his eighty-third year. Both were southern men, Pettus born in Alabama, Morgan in Tennessee. They were the only octogenarians in the United States senate. But William Boyd Allison of Iowa, near the mark, being in his seventy-ninth year. He is an Ohioan by birth. Henry Moore Teller of Colorado is a New Yorker, and is barely a year younger than Allison. Shelby Moore Cullom, of Illinois, is a few months the junior of Allison. He was born in Kentucky. William Pierce Fife of Maine was born a year later than Teller. He has always belonged to Maine. Thomas Collier Platt of New York drops down in the seventies compared with these elder statesmen, being only 74. He is a New Yorker first, last and all the time. His colleague, Chauncey Mitchell Depew, is a year younger, and is also a native of the Empire State.

## THE BOISE VERDICT.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The acquittal of Haywood by the Boise jury was not unexpected after the charge delivered by Judge Wood. This jurist, who, by some of the friends of the defendant, had been charged with being unduly friendly to the influences supposed to be back of the prosecution, proved himself not only fair minded, but also eminently able to cope with the difficulties of one of the most notable cases in the history of American criminal proceedings. The result has again emphasized the danger of relying too strongly on circumstantial evidence, and the folly of building up a prosecution about the uncorroborated testimony of a single untrustworthy witness.

## HUMORIST AND HUMANIST.

Philadelphia North American.

We have come to know that Mark Twain's humor is but the salt whereby he plentifully seasons the dish. His pungent flavor was a valuable advertisement, but he has risen to the first rank as much despite his reputation as a humorist as by its aid. Because he has made the world think while making it laugh he seems about to take a place among the immortals.

## JUST FOR FUN.

The Doctor—"To make my point clear, let me give you this sentence from Henry James—

"The Professor (interrupting)—If you do I shall take an appeal.—Chicago Tribune.

## Sure of a Sale.

Silas—Storekeeper Jason must have lost his mind, Cy. Why, by gum, he is taking down all the "Fresh Vegetable" signs and putting up "Stale Vegetables."

Cyrus—Oh, that's just a trick of trade, fellow. One of those minstrel shows came in today and soon as they find there are any stale vegetables in town they will buy them all up to keep from getting pelted with them.—Chicago News.

## His Own Business.

A Boston lawyer, who brought his wit from his native Dublin, while cross-examining the plaintiff in a divorce trial, knuckled forth the following:

"You wish to divorce this woman because she drinks?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"Do you drink yourself?"  
"That's my business!" angrily.  
"Whereupon the unmoved lawyer asked:  
"Have you any other business?"—Detroit Free Press.

## So Fatiguing.

"So young Richley Kadd, isn't it to marry Goldie Stiles after all?"  
"No, he got scared."  
"Well, well! And I heard they had even gone so far as to rehearse for the wedding."  
"Yes, that was the trouble. They had rehearsed five times. And Richley said the preparations for matrimony were such hard work he was afraid he couldn't stand the real thing at all."  
—Catholic Standard and Times.

Pat—the next wan o' them chaunt-furs as runs over me'll be sorry for it.  
Thomas—And why's that?  
Pat—I've got a tin o' nitroglycerine in me pocket.—Punch.

## For Purposes of Comparison.

"An English scientist says there is nothing more marvelous than the power of a crocodile's jaws."  
"Single man?"  
"Why do you ask that?"  
"I was wondering if he had a mother-in-law."—Houston Post.

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Entire line of White Wash Suits, ranging in price from \$6.50 to \$50.00.....Half Price

A line of Colored Wash Skirts.....Half Price

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