

The Little Valley Hub

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The Training of a President

Up to the time that Theodore Roosevelt, now deceased, entered the White House, all but four of the 24 presidents that had succeeded him had had national legislative experience. The first three had been delegates to the Continental Congress; ten had served terms in the senate, 14 had been members of the house of representatives and seven had occupied seats in both branches of congress. Of the four presidents who came or who went to the White House without previous service in the legislative branch of the government, two, Taylor and Grant, achieved distinction in war; one, Arthur, was Vice-President and assumed the presidency upon the untimely death of Garfield; and one, Cleveland, came into the public eye by being elected governor of the state of New York.

It is probable that if the Mexican and civil wars had not focused the attention of the people upon two of our military leaders it would have become an unwritten law that a presidential candidate must have served terms in either or both houses of congress in order to be successful. But the voters departed from their practice of former years when they sent Grover Cleveland to the White House and with the election of 1884 as a precedent three other presidents have been chosen without previous service in congress. Col. Roosevelt had presided over the senate for a short time before he entered the White House, and thus may be said to have participated to some extent in legislation, but neither Taft nor Wilson had had any part in the enactment of laws before they assumed their executive duties.

It cannot be said that the country has profited by its desertion of the principles of former years that none but the tried legislators should be elected to the presidency. Judge Taft had served in the cabinet as governor of the Philippines, and hence had an understanding of legislation that he would not otherwise have possessed, but even with the knowledge that he had obtained through his executive positions with the government it cannot be doubted but that he would have made a more popular president if he could have relied upon experience gained by previous service in congress. But the climax has been reached in Professor Wilson, with no connection with the federal government in any capacity before assuming the office of chief executive, his ignorance of practical legislation has been painfully evident from the start. Constant clashes with congress have laid emphasis on the possibility of substituting merely the theory of government, treated of at such length in Wilson's earlier writings for a working knowledge of the methods followed in the enactment of legislation for governing the country. The apparent willingness of congress to give approval to suggestions from Mr. Wilson has been because of the anxiety of the Democrats in control of both houses to maintain a party solidarity, and to avoid all indication of friction between their political leader and his supporters. The war, too, has given an added weight to recommendations from the Commander-in-Chief that they would never have carried out in times of peace.

In the next two years Congress is to be engaged in the passage of reconstruction legislation that will revolutionize the economic structure of the nation. To get the best results from these laws we should have a man in the presidential chair who is able to put the interpretation upon them that congress and the people intended. Was there ever more need for us to return to the rule of our forefathers and elect a president from among the membership of the senate or house? There is ample timber from which to select, and some whose names have been mentioned already in connection with the presidential project for 1920.

The fact that Wilson has been a fairly good war president adds lustre to his prestige that otherwise would not have been there, and that lustre should not hinder us from correcting what appears to have been a grave mistake of the years when we were careless

about our politics.

Some Secrecy Necessary

It is hoped that it will not be necessary to discuss the remaining thirteen principles of the president's peace program to the same extent that point 1 has been discussed. No one seems to be quite sure just what President Wilson meant when he stated in point 1 that "the only possible program, as we see it, calls for open covenants of peace openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view."

Earlier in the same address in which the fourteen points were enumerated, the President said: "It shall be our wish and purpose that the proceedings of peace, when they are begun, shall be absolutely open and that they shall involve and permit henceforth no secret understandings of any kind."

If the correct interpretation of the president's words means, as some senators believe they do, that full publicity should be given to all phases of the peace conference, then the opposition to Point 1 is steadily gaining ground. Premier Clemenceau, whom the president named for chairman of the Peace Conference, is openly opposed to such a policy. This stand has been backed by the Republican leaders in Congress, the chief among whom has been Senator Lodge, who believes that such a policy will not hold in actual practice.

On the other hand, official circles in Washington have more than once denied that the President intended his first point to be thus interpreted, rather that publicity should come only after the preliminary differences had been adjusted and the real program prepared.

The Allies still have an enemy. The United States still has an enemy to discuss every phase of the hundreds of points which must be weighed back and forth in the blaze of unshadowed calcium, is, according to many who have carefully studied the situation, the same as laying your hand of cards, face up on the table. You can't win.

Much disappointment is expressed that President Wilson should so word Point 1 (the only one to be exposed to existing and exacting criticism to date) that it should be necessary to debate its actual meaning. Then, too, the relation of point 1 to peace conference publicity is causing quite as much excitement in Paris as it is on this side of the water. As a result of Senator Borah's discussion of this same policy of "open diplomacy" in his stand for the open consideration of peace treaties in the senate the administration brought out a letter written by Mr. Wilson to Secretary Lansing last year, in which he said: "And certainly when I pronounced for open diplomacy I meant not that there should be no private discussions of delicate matters, but that no secret agreement of any sort should be entered into and that all international relations, when fixed, should be open and above board and exploit.

This letter, of which there appears to be little known by those on the other side, apparently contradicts point 1. In other words, the first article of the basis upon which the peace of the world is to be made, is found the subject for a strongly divided sentiment. If the right sort of peace is to be made in the shortest time possible, the basis for such peace should be set forth in unmistakable terms. Let us have plain language and no misunderstandings and above all, keep in mind that the enemy has ears to hear and eyes to see.

Would Curb Expensive Publicity

One of the greatest abuses of the bureaucratic system of government is the publicity and self-advertising for which each division of the federal organization is constantly striving. A species of competition exists by which each bureau attempts to outshine all the rest, and by attracting attention to itself and to its work to prevail upon Congress to grant its enlarged appropriations needed for the extensions of its activi-

ties. Periodical publications are resorts by which most of the bureaus acquaint the public with their wonderful(?) achievements and a lot of which periodicals are looked at just about once by the average man and then chucked in the waste basket, thereby wasting a lot of good paper that might have been put to better uses.

During the war this burden of advertising has become enormous. While the Official Bulletin has borne the brunt of congressional criticism a great many other weekly and monthly leaflets and pamphlets have been turned out at the government printing office and distributed to all parts of the country free of postage.

Senator Sherman of Illinois has set himself to collect information on the subject with a view to putting a check rein on what he considers "a menace to the free press of the country." He has introduced a resolution in the Senate which is quoted later in this editorial. It has been referred to the Committee on Printing, and anyone acquainted with Mr. Sherman knows that it will not be permitted to lie in a pigeonhole without action. The resolution is as follows:

"Resolved, That the newspapers, magazines, and other instrumentalities of a free press serve adequately all publicity purposes in the transmission of news and its communication to the public. That the practice which has developed of various government departments of publishing what is in effect a newspaper or a periodical which ostensibly reports to the public news from that department has become a system for promoting various economic proposals, schemes for extending the power of the department or bureau concerned, and in securing increased appropriations; it is a menace to the free press of the country, and a burden to the taxpayer thereof, and serves no useful purpose in promoting efficient economic or sound principles of government.

"Resolved further, That the Senate Committee on Printing be and is hereby directed to investigate the number of such periodicals or papers published by the departments, bureaus, boards and commissions, the number of persons employed therein, and the estimated cost of the same, and report such matter to the Senate for its further consideration."

Needless Time and Travel

A yell that the War Department is not practicing economy comes this time from officers themselves, who are bombarding senators and representatives with letters, telling how they are compelled to report to Washington in order to obtain their discharge. It does not seem to be a case of an isolated few, but hundreds of officers have been compelled to make the trip to Washington in order to assist in the unwinding of the red tape relative to their discharge. Such a procedure not only means that the government is paying at the rate of 7 cents a mile for the trip from the port of embarkation to Washington, but that the officer must pay the hotel bill and other necessary expenses while in wait for the wheels of government to grind out the necessary papers in the case.

Why is such poor management permitted when, it is said, that almost without exception, the various branches of the service have personal officers at the ports of embarkation, where the necessary discharge papers could be filed out, thus saving the government and the officers a tremendous amount of time and money?

Maybe it is to keep some prime favorite in a spur-gripping job in Washington.

And then they wonder why it was that the first year of the government ownership of the railroads have run so sadly lack as a paying investment. The reason, for one, is that there hasn't been a careful enough record kept on some of these foolish expenditures of money until now the records (those that have been kept) have to be revised and adjusted to tell how much of an expense has been entailed through carelessness and favoritism.

Balancing Wheat Accounts

Much speculation is in evidence concerning the policy that the government will pursue with regard to the purchase of the 1919 wheat crop at the price fixed by the government, \$2.26, Chicago basis. Indications are that the crop will be so large and the market price so small that the government will lose in the neighborhood of a billion dollars by paying the price it has set.

Some are wondering if the government will adhere to the undertaking or call it off and knock the

price down to a figure that will be somewhere within reasonable bounds in consideration of the existing price of the commodity.

There is a feeling that the government will go ahead and keep its pledge. The price fixing was adopted by the president and Mr. Hoover with the opposition of the farmers. After having fixed a price upon them, the grain farmers have laid their plans with that price in mind. By fixing the price in 1917-18 the government bought the farmer's wheat for less than its value in the open market and now it will pay up for its mismanagement by losing in 1919 all that it saved in 1917-18; provided it sticks to the figure.

And thus is our government operated under the hands of a few men who do as they darn please about some things upon which devolves considerable expense to the whole country.

If the four liberty loans are managed the way the railroad administration has been where in Sam Hill will the fellows come out who have so loyally supported the loans even with their last dollar?

The time to pay off those loans will come when Mr. Wilson has no interest in government affairs and if the funds are mismanaged now, then the situation will be indeed regrettable, and may entail considerable private loss to the loyal ones.

Let us hope that such will not be the case.

Somewhat Under a Cloud

There has arisen a very lively bit of procedure following the actions of investigation begun by the committee on sheriff's reports and which committee is composed of some of the county supervisors as an executive order for the investigation and adoption of such reports.

It seems that there is a discrepancy in the accounts of former sheriff Nichols, and that the discrepancy or discrepancies are not atoned for with the proper vouchers that should accompany such and all sheriff's expenditures in connection with the county.

The deficiency are in connection with the disposal of certain produce from the plot of ground belonging to the county and worked by the prisoners at the county jail.

The committee on sheriff's reports has met in a special session and has called in what witnesses were procurable and has gained no particular information upon the affair, and so they have summoned the aid of the state comptroller to help straighten the affair out and see who is at fault.

The witnesses wouldn't all talk and under the power of the committee of supervisors they were not compelled to talk if they did not wish to do so. But when the state comptroller gets hold of the case they will talk up or be compelled to do so, as he has the right to make the witnesses speak either by persuasion or force of the law which he has behind him to a surprising degree.

Then we will see where the fault lies.

To have any county official put under such a cloud is regrettable, not only to the man himself but to those who are his friends and those with whom he has dealt; also to those who have entrusted him with the responsibilities connected with his office.

Mr. Nichols has, we believe, endeavored to serve the county well during his term of office and we have heard no complaints as to his laxness or inability to carry out and uphold the law, and we are sorry that he has been placed under a cloud, even though that cloud may be the result of his own past errors, and we hope that when the state comptroller gets the facts boiled down that Mr. Nichols won't be such a great offender as some may think him to be.

Phone Rates Opposed

The Illinois Public Utility Commission has entered an order suspending for five months the enforcement of the new telephone rates inaugurated by Mr. Burlington. The Florida Railroad Commission has made application in the courts to restrain the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company from putting into effect the new rates.

The State Railroad Commission of Michigan has declined to give immediate approval to the rate change on the ground that the new rates have not been advertised sufficiently, nor have they been published in an application for a hearing, as required by the law in Michigan.

And so it goes. State sovereignty and government operation of public utilities are incompatible, and clashes will continue to oc-

CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BANK

LITTLE VALLEY, NEW YORK

Resources over \$500,000

Safe Deposit Boxes For Rent

Cattaraugus County Bank

our just as long as they are retained under federal control.

Cheaper Than Government Operation

At a hearing before a congressional committee recently the head of a large meat packing business submitted figures showing that his company received a profit of only two cents on every dollar's worth of business done.

While the meat packers probably have some sins to atone for like most other people, it is safe to say that no government operation could take over the packing plants and run them for a two per cent increase over the present cost of the business.

In other words, if a government operator bought the animals of the farmer and sold the meat to the consumer there would be lost in the transaction more than two cents on every dollar's worth of

Citation

The people of the State of New York:
By the grace of God free and independent.

To George H. Tarbox, Napoli, N. Y.; Clarence J. Bushnell, Napoli; Ida Tarbox, Napoli; Myrtle Waite, Napoli, Mabel Brisley, Napoli; Lynn Bushnell, Kane, Pa.; R. F. D. 2; Louis LeRoy, Dunkirk; Ivan LeRoy, Washington, D. C.; Clara Burroughs, Manila, Philippine Islands; Fred Whipple, Little Valley, N. Y.; Geo. H. Tarbox, Little Valley, N. Y.; and to all persons interested in the estate of Amelia E. Blake, late of Napoli, in the County of Cattaraugus, deceased, as creditors, legatees, next of kin or otherwise, send Greeting:

You and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate of the County of Cattaraugus at the Surrogate's Court of said county, held at Salamanca in the County of Cattaraugus on the 17th day of February, 1919, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why the account of Clarence J. Bushnell as administrator of the goods, chattels and credits of said deceased should not be judicially settled and allowed.

In testimony whereof, we have caused the seal of the Surrogate's Court of said county of Cattaraugus to be hereunto affixed.

Witness, Hon. Albert A. Bird, Surrogate of said county of Cattaraugus, at Olean, in said County this 14th day of January, A. D., 1919.

KATHARINE H. MAYER,
Clerk of the Surrogate's Court.

business done. Do you doubt it?

The First Nomination

If we are to have a league of nations then King Albert of Belgium, who made the heroic stand that saved France from immediate destruction, should, in our opinion, be the first in line for the presidency of that league.

And the Professors Predominate

The personnel list of the president's corps of "experts and specialists" who are accompanying him in Europe reads like the roster of a college faculty. The professional atmosphere no doubt will serve to give the chief executive pleasant reminders of happy days in Princeton.

George Woodard and family spent the week end with his parents in Olean and to visit his two sisters who are at home on a furlough from Camp Pike Hospital in Arkansas.

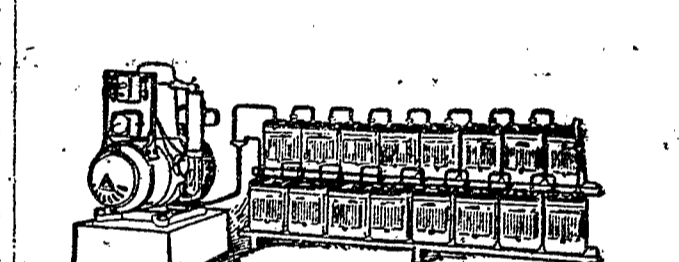
Robert, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Kahler has been quite ill but is better at this writing.

Mrs. George Gamp of Lilydale is visiting Mrs. John Brasch and other friends for a few days.

Here it is, the

DELCO-LIGHT

The complete Electric Light and Power Plant



D. H. Andrew

Dealer Little Valley

\$100 Reward, \$100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one cured disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is catarrh. Catarrh being greatly influenced by constitutional conditions requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Medicine is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in the curative powers of Hall's Catarrh Medicine that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address P. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all Druggists, Etc.

PERUNA

Made Me a Well Man

Mr. Louis Young, 205 Merrimac St., Rochester, N. Y., writes:

"I suffered for thirty years with chronic bowel trouble, stomach trouble and hemorrhages of the bowels. We bought a bottle of Peruna and I took it faithfully, and I began to feel better. My wife persuaded me to continue, and I took it for some time as directed. Now I am a well man."

Suffered thirty years with stomach trouble and hemorrhages of the bowels.

Liquid or Tablet Form

SHOE SHOE

Over WHITNEY'S Store

All work neatly done

...J. S. MILLIKEN