

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

Roosevelt Said to be Repairing Fences

Some Big Republicans Bosses Do Not Want Him—Oleomargarine Bill.

Washington, Aug. 2.—"There will be no one but Roosevelt in 1904," is the latest political prophecy, and this forecast is attributed to that prince of politicians, Senator John B. Foraker of Ohio.

Only three or four weeks ago Senator Thomas C. Platt of New York allowed himself to be published in a similar prediction. Shortly before that utterance the Pennsylvania Republican state convention endorsed, with most cordial words of approval, the administration of Theodore Roosevelt. Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, and half a dozen other states have taken similar action. In fact, every Republican gathering during the past two months has adopted a like course and has endorsed President Roosevelt.

To the politician in Mars or the man up a tree who knows little or nothing of American political methods this would seem to indicate very clearly and very forcibly that Theodore Roosevelt will be nominated as the head of the Republican ticket in the national convention, to be held in the summer of 1904. But to the man who knows something of American political methods in "off years" the endorsements simply represent honorable mention in the political exposition—some other fellow may get the gold medal.

The big men in the Republican party councils today are Platt, Quay, Hanna, Foraker, Fairbanks and men of that ilk. No one is foolish enough to believe that Messrs. Platt and Quay, for instance, are more enthusiastic in their endorsement of Theodore Roosevelt for the first place on the ticket in 1904 than they were in their insistence that he take second place in 1900. Platt and Quay undoubtedly made the present incumbent of the presidential office a possibility. They forced him upon the ticket at the Philadelphia convention against his protest and in spite of the efforts of his closest friends to keep him off. They did it for their own purposes. Senator Platt expected to shelve Roosevelt—to bury him in the graveyard of presidential hopes. The senior senator wanted the gubernatorial track in New York state clear, and to remove the obstruction he forced the incumbent of the gubernatorial chair into the vice-presidency. He fooled no one by that action. Every one in the Philadelphia convention, including Mr. Roosevelt himself, realized that the purpose of the "Easy Boss" was to bury a formidable rival.

No one could foresee the Buffalo tragedy which made the shelled individual the president of the United States in fact. As governor of New York state Theodore Roosevelt made himself independent of his political creator. Because of this independence it became necessary for Mr. Platt to put the governor out of the way. Senator Quay, who easily saw the possibility of an independent and uncurable presidential possibility in Roosevelt in 1904, readily lent his aid to his friend and ally and the ticket was made McKinley and Roosevelt.

Is there any man in America today who really believes that Roosevelt as president is any more subservient to the wishes of the party leaders than was Roosevelt the governor? If there is such a man he is the veriest tyro in the art of partisan political science. On the contrary President Roosevelt has ignored the politicians day after day. He has made appointments and announced policies to suit himself and without consulting with the "party leaders." Of course he has not attempted to fill every office within his gift without the consent of the senators, who are usually consulted. But at least a score of instances might be cited wherein he has selected men for office from the state of New York without asking Senator Platt's advice—the appointment of Mr. Sawyer as assistant secretary of war is a case in point. Nor has he been any more interested in the feelings of Senator Quay when picking out appointees from Pennsylvania. The same may be said of every state in the union. Mr. Roosevelt has invariably followed his own bent. When the bent suggested consultation with "party leaders," well and good. Otherwise he simply told

them of his decisions and there was nothing else to do but to acquiesce.

That Mr. Roosevelt is a candidate for the presidency in 1904 needs no affidavit from the gentleman himself. That he has been engaged for months in building up his own organization is equally easy to demonstrate. If he can so construct political affairs during the next twenty-three months as to assure himself a majority of the delegates to the next national Republican convention he will be nominated by acclamation on the first ballot. On the other hand, should he fail to secure a safe majority of the delegates in advance of the assembling of the convention he will have a fight on his hands and it will be a bitter one. He knows this as well as any man knows it and he is not permitting political moss to grow very luxuriantly in his vicinity.

The endorsement of 1902 means that the party leaders, Hanna, Platt, Foraker, Quay and Fairbanks, are not foolish enough to jeopardize the chances of party success in the elections this fall by failing to enforce an endorsement of the president of the United States. An endorsement costs nothing. The convention which drafted and adopted those cordial expressions of approval of the president's course don't select a single delegate to the national convention. Such an endorsement in 1902 means simply a desire on the part of the leaders to hold the party firmly together. In 1904 similar action on the part of the various state conventions will mean delegates, but there are nearly two years ahead of us before the state conventions of 1904 will be called to order.

The internal revenue bureau of the Treasury has been kept quite busy lately answering questions from all sections of the country concerning the meaning of the oleomargarine tax law. One maker desires to know if he is at liberty to manufacture imitation butter with palm oil as its prime basis without being compelled to pay the 10-cent tax. Palm oil will make up into imitation butter very much better in color than a like article made from cotton seed oil. He is at liberty to do so. Others ask if they may sell a 20-pound tub of uncolored oleo, for instance, and send with it coloring matter and directions for use which will enable the buyer to turn the stuff into fine creamery butter.

They may. When the so-called Grout-Tawney bill was under discussion Chairman Wadsworth pointed out that if put through as drawn by Mr. Grout it would simply be evaded in some ingenious manner. So long as a dealer is permitted to sell oleomargarine out of a tub nine out of ten buyers will be fooled. Mr. Wadsworth proposed that no one be allowed to sell an ounce of imitation butter except in an original stamped package. "Put up oleomargarine exactly as tobacco is put up, with a revenue stamp upon each package, whether half a pound or half a hundred weight," said Mr. Wadsworth. "Then prescribe a heavy penalty for breaking an original package and the trick is done." No one ever hears of the sale of an ounce of smoking tobacco without a revenue stamp, and yet smoking tobacco is believed to be as harmful as oleo, by some people.

But Grout and those who followed after him, including that prince of lobbyists who posed as a farmer and lived on terrapin at the expense of the dairymen, insisted that the substitute proposed by Mr. Wadsworth was in the interest of the oleomargarine manufacturers, and one may still buy a pound of imitation butter out of a tub and carry it home to one's boarders in the package supplied by the dealer without giving a hint that she has anything but the best creamery butter.

Oleomargarine is nutritious and healthful. It will continue to be made and, until something like the Wadsworth bill is enacted, will continue to be sold by unscrupulous dealers for real butter and the latest law helps to fool the people.

Charge Against Lynch

London, July 29.—The case of the government against Col. Arthur Lynch, who was elected to represent Galway City in the House of Commons, and who was accused of high treason, ended in the police court today and Lynch was remanded to give his counsel opportunity to review the evidence.

Among the last witnesses called to identify Col. Lynch was Geo. Greig, an American, who was caretaker of a mine near Johannesburg, and another American named Worthington. Both of the witnesses testified that they were arrested by Boers near Vereeniging charged with being British spies, and that Col. Lynch acted as public prosecutor at their trial.

If the people who can't write had the brains of those who can, and those who can had the skill of those who can't what a glorious literature we would soon have.

Job Printing at Nugget Office.

MUCH LAND IS RECLAIMED

Irrigation Acts Like Enchanter's Wand

Sixty Million of Valuable Land Made Arable in South West United States.

Tombstone, Aug. 2.—The new act of congress providing for the reclamation of arid lands will affect some sixty millions of acres. If the sale of public lands from which the funds for the reclaiming of arid regions are to come proves as profitable as it is hoped, and the government is able to raise every year \$2,500,000 with which to establish works capable of irrigating yearly 250,000 acres, it is obvious that a great deal more will have to be done by enterprise other than governmental if the prophecy of the entire reclamation of the whole sixty million acres within the next forty years is to be fulfilled.

About ten per cent, it is fair to calculate, of the total arid area in the country will thus be available for reclamation as arable land. Necessarily it will be the level stretches of country in arid regions which will receive the attention of the irrigators. These level stretches have natural water supplies only for a limited portion of their extent. To cultivate them artificially, mountain streams will have to be tapped by engineering process, and their water directed into made channels leading the life-giving element into the parched region below. This will, no doubt, be principally accomplished by means of dams at favorable points along the streams and rivers.

Arid lands, when reclamation is prospected, as a rule has those of its sections which lie closest to streams or to creeks reclaimed first. Valleys are also favored.

The coming government participation in arid land reclamation—which is now, by this act of congress, practically an accomplished fact, is amply justified by conditions. Individuals, operating in a purely private capacity, cannot be looked to to accomplish the task. It is too large a contract. In short, irrigation efforts on a large basis never paid. The government owns the land and the streams both and thus it is placed in a position of immeasurably greater advantage than any private or corporate irrigators could ever hope to be.

This congressional enactment has surmounted one great difficulty of the past—it provides for a fund for irrigation purposes which, instead of being an appropriation from the treasury, will be raised from the sale of public lands, which are to be sold to settlers in lots of from forty to one hundred and sixty acres, payment to be made within ten years, in annual installments. Full title will be given when all is paid up; the proceeds will be devoted to watering additional lands, and these will in turn be sold, everything being accomplished without imposing any charge on the people at large. The monies when invested in the work and later repaid, return to the treasury.

Altogether, for the arid regions of the west this new legislation will effect important results. It will, to some degree, keep the increase of arable lands in pace with that of our population.

Water works on an extensive scale will be, of course, established for this new scheme, and by means of these probably one-third of the arid area will be reclaimed at first. Smaller water works in times long past were used for irrigation. The same is true of New Mexico. And that was long before Europe had any knowledge of the existence of America.

Well-informed opinion concerning cost of the work of reclamation says that this will, in all likelihood, average about \$5 to the acre. On the other hand, it may in certain cases reach as much as \$25 an acre.

There should be no misapprehension however, as to just how much the government will actually undertake of the work. All the government will do for the settler is to bring the water into his lands. Beyond that, everything will be left to the settler himself, and he, too, will have to pay all further expense of making the land capable of cultivation.

One can easily conceive the enormous benefit that will accrue to the nation from this legislation. The work is to pay for itself, all the expenditure being reimbursed to the national treasury. Yet as a result of

the work done 60,000,000 acres of now useless land will become arable and settled.

For example, with reclaimed land in southern states, being used for fruit culture, as few as twenty acres of it would suffice for the maintenance of a family. In northern sections of the country, of course, producing grain crops, the farm would have to contain not less than 150 acres. If the average farm be estimated at seventy-five acres, then this coming reclamation of sixty million acres will furnish, say, farms and consequently the means of support for one million families. Not alone these families, but the agricultural laborers on the farms, and the people in other occupations whom the farms would indirectly support, must also be taken into consideration in estimating the total benefit to the people this legislation promises to bestow.

In addition to the purely agricultural aspect of the matter, we must remember what would also be bound to result from the settling of farmers on the present arid area—that is to say, the subsequent building of towns and cities, with all that that implies.

Invalid—I understand, it is quite dry out here?

Broncho William—Dry? Why, stranger, it's so dry here that the rain is wet only on one side—New York Times.

\$50 Reward.

Stolen Sunday, June 8th, one malamute dog, very dark grey, white breast, light chops, light grey stripe running from point of nose up between eyes, front legs white, hind feet white, extreme tip of tail white, belly light color, always carries tail curled over back or left side, nose very small like a fox or coon. I will pay the above reward for any information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the thief and recovery of dog.

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