

# Men and Women WHO ARE IN The Dispatches

**I**N view of the crusade against alleged grafters in public office, especial interest attaches to the case of United States Senator John Ralph Burton of Kansas. He is charged with using his influence as a senator in behalf of the Rialto Grain and Securities company of St. Louis. It is alleged that he intervened in an improper manner to prevent proceedings being brought against the company by the postoffice department. He was tried and convicted on the charge, then procured a new trial and was again convicted.

There is an unwritten rule of the senate that a member indicted for malfeasance in office must not vote with his colleagues until his innocence is established. When the question of admitting New Mexico to statehood was up for consideration last winter Burton was in the Republican cloakroom, willing and anxious to vote against the admission of the

present territory. He stood there waiting for the word. Sturdy Republican leaders like the late Senator Platt of Connecticut and Senator Allison of Iowa knew that with Burton's vote to be had for the asking they could win. No power on earth could prevent Burton from walking into the senate chamber and voting if he had the nerve to brave the displeasure of the senate.

They wanted the vote, but here was a senator under indictment who had been told to stay away from the senate chamber until his case was decided. It was agreed that the dignity of the senate must be upheld, that a senator under indictment could not vote until he was cleared, and the leaders who were against New Mexico saw the bill to admit that territory passed, although the vote that would have beaten the project was within call. However, disagreement between senate and house resulted after all in defeating the plan to make a new state.

Senator Thomas C. Platt, who testified regarding campaign contributions from insurance companies before the Armstrong committee and is engaged in an effort to reorganize his party in New York, appeared very infirm when he took the stand in the insurance investigation. When he had concluded his testimony he was assisted from the room by four men, and on leaving it sank wearily into a small chair. This was then lifted by the men, who in this way conveyed him to his carriage.

Senator Platt has a sense of humor that has often helped him out of perplexing situations. In the course of his career he has been appealed to by all kinds of persons for all kinds of favors. On one occasion he received a letter regarding a young army officer who had been denied promotion because of some defect in his eyesight. His mother wrote to Senator Platt, asking for his assistance, closing her letter with the words, "I leave it all to you and the Lord." The senator forwarded this appeal to the secretary of war, saying in his own note: "I have noticed that when a matter is left to me and the Lord I am held responsible in case of failure. Therefore I beg that you will assist me."

Representative William Peters Hepburn of Iowa is a veteran of the civil war and a veteran in politics. He will shortly begin his tenth term in congress, was born in Wellsville, O., in 1833 and was first elected to public office in 1856. He participated in the convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and he made a gallant record on the Union side in the war which began soon after Lincoln's inauguration. In the last congress Mr. Hepburn, who was chairman of the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, introduced a bill in regard to regulation of railroad rates which was much criticised on the ground that it was inadequate to effect the objects desired. He was a member of the congressional party that recently visited the Philippines. At a banquet in Tokyo, Japan, he responded to the toast "Views of the American Congress on the Philippine Question," in the course of which he remarked that the congress was made up of "386 human beings and 90 senators," consequently no one could foretell what their views would be.

Colonel Pete, as the congressman is sometimes called, was once criticizing the logic of a colleague, which reminded him, he declared, of a certain surgeon. "This surgeon," said he, "one Saturday afternoon performed before a large class in a fine amphitheater some thirty swift operations. At the end, as he was washing his hands, young assistant tiptoed over to him and whispered in his ear:

"In the Higgins case, sir, there appears to have been some mistake."

"A mistake in the Higgins case? I think not," said the surgeon.  
"Yes," the other insisted. "You cut off Higgins' wrong leg, sir."  
"Oh, well, that is of no consequence," said the surgeon. "We can cure the other one, so it comes to the same thing in the end!"

Rear Admiral Francis M. Ramsay, retired, the presiding officer in the court martial of Midshipman Meriwether of the Annapolis Naval academy, served on the famous Sampson-Schley court of inquiry. He knows something about such affairs as that in which Midshipman Branch lost his life, as he was once superintendent of the Annapolis academy. The admiral was born near Washington in 1835 and entered the navy in 1850. He won distinction in the civil war and commanded the Choctaw at Haines' bluff in the engagement in which that ironclad was struck over fifty times. Rear Admiral Ramsay succeeded Rear Admiral Sampson as superintendent of the Naval academy, and it was during his administration that an investigation was ordered by congress in respect to a report that a cadet named Strang had been killed by hazing. It was said that his tormentors rolled him downhill in a barrel which had spikes driven through its sides. It was proved that the cadet did not die from such a cause and that he had never been hazed. It was also during his administration that a rebellion among the cadets occurred. The insubordinate students were members of the first, or highest, class, and their action rendered them liable to dismissal. They were confined on the prison ship Santee and deprived of all privileges until the rebellion was quelled. A curious feature of it was their allegation that they had rebelled because Rear Admiral Ramsay had ordered all their heads shorn in order to get hair for the mortar used in building a new residence for the superintendent, but this was not the real reason for their action.



REAR ADMIRAL F. M. RAMSAY.

Poultney Bigelow, who has recently published the fourth volume of his history of "The German Struggle For Liberty," has recently been in Munich investigating the famous Munich weekly Simplicissimus. This paper, edited by Thoma, the popular author, dramatist, poet and satirist, makes it its special business to point out to the emperor how he is regarded by his people. It hates war, ridicules the army's code of honor and the dueling fads of the students and advocates popular liberty—all this with much brilliancy and freshness. Naturally it is forbidden by the police at Prussian railway station bookstalls, but the moment the train crosses the border into the next state all the passengers clamor for copies. Every page is submitted to expert legal talent in order to see how far it is safe to go and avoid arrest, but occasionally Thoma goes to jail for the crime of lese majesty. Mr. Bigelow is especially interested in Simplicissimus, as he believes the kaiser to be one of the most maligned men in Europe. His intimate knowledge of the kaiser's real self dates back to the days of the Franco-Prussian war, when he was living with his tutor at Potsdam, and by reason of his father's personal relations with the late Emperor Frederick was often invited to spend his holidays with the present emperor.



POULTNEY BIGELOW.

He has ever since been on terms of intimacy with the kaiser. At one time thoughtless people chaffed him concerning this comradeship until he became tired and irritable at remarks of the kind. It culminated at a dinner in a New York club, where one of the guests told a story of personality. In the pause which followed Mr. Bigelow remarked:  
"You remind me of"—  
"Not the Emperor William," interrupted the facetious story teller.  
"Oh, no!" replied Mr. Bigelow quietly. "The kaiser is a gentleman."

Octave Thanet was once described as "the only female writer in America who is a humorist." In private life she is Miss Alice French, and she lives at Davenport, Ia. President Roosevelt is quite an admirer of her work. A Davenport citizen, Colonel Nutting, recently journeyed to Washington to attend a convention of business men. Just before he went with other delegates to the White House to meet the president he told several of his fellows that he was going to test the much vaunted ability of Mr. Roosevelt to remember every one whom he had ever met. He had had two meetings with the president, the last being two years ago.

At the reception he reached the president, who, as he grasped the colonel's hand, exclaimed:  
"Hello, colonel! Glad to see you. How are all my old friends out in Davenport, and especially how is Miss French? You tell her I read all she writes. Do you know, that woman knows as much about factories and the machine business as a man."



OCTAVE THANET.

## CORPORATION PROBLEM

How Judge Peter S. Grosscup Would Solve It.

PEOPLE MUST BE THE OWNERS

Chicago Jurist Favors Actual Control by Stockholders Under National Supervision—Regards Two Classes of Securities as Sufficient—Would Interest Labor.

Judge Peter S. Grosscup of the United States circuit court of appeals of Chicago believes he has found the solution for the control of great corporations. He proposes a plan for their "peopleization"—that is, their actual control by stockholders—under the supervision of the government. In an elaborately developed argument in the December number of the American Illustrated Magazine, from which this summary of the article is compiled by the Chicago News, he shows that corporations are gradually not only adding to their great holdings of property, but are practically owners of the immense wealth of the country.

"The butcher of today," he says, "is a corporation. The loaf of bread as it comes to us on the table is almost exclusively a corporation product. From whatever point of view, visual to the mind and eye, we may look at it, the domain of property, covered by the corporations, stands out as the great central fact in the industrial life of the century that is just opened."

Judge Grosscup does not hesitate to say frankly that the corporation of today is not a safe field for the small investor. It is its tremendously complex organization that makes it particularly unsafe, for, he says, there never was any need for the labyrinthian constructions that seem to be the order of the day—securities so overlying each other and often so involved that no one not an expert in buying a security can locate his claim. It is this state of affairs—this fear of being bunkoed—that leads the small investor to put his money in a savings bank.

Judge Grosscup points out the way whereby the corporations can be made not only safe, but so simple that the average investor can understand their organization and see clearly what he is getting for his money when he invests. He also places corporations in their proper light. He shows how they are the creatures of the law—a line or two in the statute books—and then puts forward his "peopleization" plan.

The conclusions arrived at by the jurist are as follows:

First.—The beginning of the way out is national incorporation.  
Second.—The new corporation must be constructed on simple lines. Two classes of securities ought in every case to be sufficient—the security that represents actual cash paid in or its equivalent in property and the security that may be issued from time to time as the value of the property actually increases and to cover such increased value. The corporation that cannot be financially launched upon lines thus plainly put before the eye ought not to be launched at all, for here, as elsewhere, mystery means not something essential to success, but something open to uses other than the corporation's success.

Third.—Provision should be made to insure labor in ownership. The securities issued on account of increased value should be issued only as the increase is shown, not by prediction or expectation, but by such experience as proves the fact, and provision should be made that such securities may be divided equitably between the capital invested and the labor put in and expedients be adopted to encourage corporations formed on that basis.

Fourth.—The corporation being trustee for its owners, the government must be given opportunity to exercise a constant watch that the trust is executed. Under supervision, something like the watch the government holds over the national banks, personal schemes would be reduced to a minimum. And, what is more, corporate activity would be lifted to a higher plane of personal and moral responsibility.

Fifth.—Provision should be made for a government exchange, or a private exchange under government supervision, through which securities of national corporations could be bought and sold. In this way would be drawn a distinctly visible line between the securities of national corporations and securities in corporations that refuse to nationalize—a line that would soon be understood as the boundary between corporations that were willing to be faithful trustees of the owners, faithful at the same time to their duties to the people, and corporations that had inner and ulterior designs. My own opinion is that this distinct differentiation of the national from the hybrid corporation would in time lead every corporation engaged in interstate commerce voluntarily to incorporate under the national law. A just plan of organization and supervision being offered, the people would not long permit the bank and insurance accumulations to be absorbed in corporations that refused the plan.

Throughout the article Judge Grosscup stands for individualism. He shows the benefit which the country received from the method of distributing lands in the west.

### Insurance Magnate's Anthem.

My company, 'tis of thee,  
Sweet mine of graft for me,  
Of thee I sing,  
Graft for my sons and heirs,  
Graft for my friends and theirs,  
All that the plum tree bears  
To me you bring.

Let critics howl away,  
But here I'll calmly stay  
The winter through,  
Insurance laws are made  
But to be disobeyed,  
Come on, sons! Who's afraid?  
Pa stands by you.

Let premium payers fret;  
We've got 'em in the net;  
They can't get loose,  
The golden eggs we'll store  
In our nests as before,  
And when they come no more  
We'll kill the goose.

My company, 'tis for me  
And for my family  
That you are run,  
Will I resign? Well, say,  
Will cows quit eating hay?  
They can't pry me away,  
It's too much fun.  
—Chicago Record-Herald.

# The One That Made Greensboro Famous Greensboro Life Insurance Co.

GREENSBORO, N. C.

Has not only brought fame to Greensboro, but has enriched the entire state by keeping at home money that went to other states. It has strengthened the confidence of North Carolina people in home life insurance, and, although only a little more than two months old, has made a record for itself as the

Foremost Life Insurance Company in the SOUTH

This is not an idle boast, but a substantial fact, proven by figures. In winning the banner as the leading insurance company doing business in North Carolina, the Greensboro life has written

Over One and a Half Million Dollars of Paid Insurance in Eleven Weeks

It's the business that counts, and there is no secret about the Greensboro Life Insurance Company's business. It was not secured by sentiment, nor by attempts to belittle the efforts of other companies. It was the Income Indemnity policy that did the work—the best policy in the world. This is the verdict of our policy-holders, who are among the best business people in North Carolina.

Not a Single Policy was Issued on the Life of any Applicant Who was Ever Rejected by any Other Insurance Co.

Directed by financiers and insurance men of recognized ability, backed by the confidence of the people, and selling the best and most liberal insurance policies on the market, it is no wonder that the Greensboro Life Leads Them All.

N. A. CARTER, Local Agent,  
SMITHFIELD, N. C.

## Hides - Wanted

We want to buy a large lot of Hides and will pay the highest market price for them. We deal in Fancy Groceries and run a First-Class Market. Beef, Pork and all kinds of Fresh Meats for sale. Call to see us.

J. L. & J. D. Johnson,

CLAYTON, - North Carolina.



On September 1st Mr. Milton R. Stallings came to Smithfield to help me again this fall in selling Sewing Machines. We have the machines just from the factory and are ready to carry them out to you. Let us know at once if you want one.

New Home and Domestic  
J. M. BEATY,  
Smithfield, N. C.

Bring your old  
Metals, Rubbers,  
Rags, Etc. to  
M. M. Gulley  
Fancy Grocer  
CLAYTON, N. C.



### PAINT FILMS

The paint you put on your house should be a protecting film that will stay on and keep decay out.

Some mixtures, called paint, never do this, others do it sometimes, but

**THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINT** does it always.

It is the best protection you can give your house. It does not powder, flake off or crack. It forms a tough, durable film that will last longest and look best.



SOLD BY

**J. E. PAGE**

General Wood and Blacksmith Shops and Planing Mills, Dealer in Wagon and Carriage Material, Builders' Material, Mill Supplies, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Etc. Undertaking a Specialty. Clayton, N. C.

**Fire! Fire!! Fire!!! Fire!!!!**

First the fire,  
Then the smoke,  
No Insurance?  
Then you are broke!

Insure your property at once with  
**Sam T. Honeycutt, Agent**  
And you will be protected against loss.

# The Furniture That Pleases Everybody

We carry the neatest, most attractive line of Furniture to be found in Johnston county. In Lounges, Settees and Couches we can't be beat for quality and price. We make a specialty of Carpets, Rugs and Matting. Window Shades and Lace Curtains. The best cheap chair in town.

Call to see us.

**Smithfield Furniture Co.,**  
Smithfield, N. C.