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Thursday, November 30, 1911.

INEXCUSABLE, BRUTAL INDIFFERENCE.

On the main line of the Southern railway yesterday passenger trains Nos. 35 and 11 were running something less than an hour late. The trains are due to arrive in Salisbury about 9 o'clock, and as No. 11 follows right behind No. 27, and as both carry passengers and mail for Asheville, and the former carries a Pullman car for this city, a connection is made with No. 11, which is due here early in the afternoon. The connection is made, even when it is necessary to hold No. 11 at Salisbury for an hour or more, and it is sometimes held two hours. Yesterday morning, however, as soon as No. 11 on the Asheville division got the northern mail from No. 37 the train pulled out without waiting for about 15 passengers on No. 11 from the north, and the sickened passengers could still see the smoke a few miles up the line from the engine of the Asheville division train. It was a manifestation of the public-be-damned attitude with all variations which the peculiar circumstances seemed to afford. It is the rule, a sort of unwritten law, for the Asheville division train to wait at least an hour. Yesterday the train did not wait that long, and if it had waited just ten more minutes for the passengers it should have carried, it still would not have waited an hour. The railroad people about Salisbury were inclined to agree with the left passengers that it was an unusual, as well as a brutal, thing to do. A good deal of effort was made to find out who was responsible but of course, in the case of a large corporation, guilt is never personal. Passengers appealed to the ticket agent to see if it would be possible to get an engine to bring the sleeper on to Asheville. The ticket agent referred those complaining of the treatment accorded them—persons whom he doubtless regarded as a bunch of kickers and let it go at that—to the yard master, and he, in turn, and in time, communicated with somebody in Asheville, who said the passengers would have to wait for No. 21, due to arrive here an hour after dark. Some of the sympathetic railroad people seemed to feel that the trouble lay in the fact that, in their opinion, this Asheville division is being run by two or three dispatchers instead of by the division superintendent. Of course there was heard the usual talk about suits for damages, from men who had business here, and who expected to make connections in Asheville for other points, and equally of course, such suits will never be brought. Apart from such considerations, however, we believe that a railroad company makes a mistake in according the traveling public such treatment. If some railroad official, or some prominent railroad attorney, had been on board yesterday the company would not have allowed 12 or 15 passengers to be stranded at Salisbury yesterday. People realize these things and it makes them feel sure. There was not one of the passengers yesterday who, if he is ever called to jury service, would not gladly hand the president of the Southern if one of his work trains should run over a dog. It was the inexcusable, gratuitous and brutal indifference of the performance that hurt. It could have been avoided, not only in one, but in two ways, without the loss of a moment of time. Most of those who were left boarded No. 11 at Greensboro, or north of that point. Both No. 11 and No. 37 stood in the yard at Greensboro for some time, and when passengers inquired if No. 11 would be certain to connect at Salisbury with the Asheville train they were assured by trainmen that it would.

The higher officials of the Southern probably know nothing about such incidents and, as before stated, it is always hard to place the responsibility. But somebody whose business it is to place such responsibility should

trouble himself enough to perform this plain duty to the traveling public.
THE D'ESSEN "INTERVIEW."
Of more than passing interest is the article published yesterday in Paris Le Matin as an interview of President Taft by Francois D'Essen, in which the attitude of the President toward many international questions of moment was discussed. The fact that on its appearance a statement was promptly issued at the White House denying that the President authorized the interview and deploring the fact that one should so use information gained in the course of casual conversation does not lessen its interest. It has long been almost an unwritten law, very generally observed, that a President shall not give out direct statements in such form to the newspapers, and anyone would immediately conjecture that the writing was to that extent apocryphal. Some sage has observed that the unstated utterances of men were more to be taken account of than thought and premeditated emanations, as revealing their minds. Added to that the general tenor of the dispatch is so much in accord in most points with the known views of the president and so well in line with established American policies that it reads with much authenticity.

THE FORTHCOMING MESSAGE.

While the President's forthcoming message to congress will deal almost exclusively with the trust question, this does not mean necessarily that Mr. Taft intends to minimize the tariff revision issue. Mr. Taft has repeatedly said that he would make his tariff recommendations in the light of the report of the tariff board, which has not yet been transmitted to him. When he shall have had an opportunity to digest the findings of this body he will deal with the subject in a special message. In fact it would seem that Mr. Taft is standing squarely behind the Sherman act, wishing it buttressed by a federal corporation law, and is disposed to deal with the tariff in good faith. It is in other quarters that the effort is being made to paramount new trust legislation to the neglect of the tariff. Perhaps in these quarters it is reflected that trust legislation is mostly wind-jamming, anyway.

Yesterday we attempted to submit a few remarks about "the bread of humility" and "feaster and feaster." The compositor thought it looked like "bread of humanity" and feaster and feasters—and it probably looked as much like that as anything.

Sporting gossip now begin to look again to the diamond for its topics, and the pennant contests will be fought in advance wherever two or three fans are gathered together.

It is wrong to put off your Christmas shopping until the last minute. It increases other people's burdens.

Exit football.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Let us look back upon the years. When first the Pilgrims came to this Our native land. They left their homes amid their kinsmen's jeers. To find this land so full of bliss—Free from Oppression's hand. Amid the wintry winds they landed here. Upon our barren shore. Their only hope to worship without fear—They ask'd no more. Then labor'd they with hearty might and main. Building their homes and towns with strong elation. In such a manner thus they forged the chain That binds the basis of our nation. And in the Fall of 1621 They held a meeting, very large and vast—Thankful of their daily victories won; And of their safe protection in the past. In separate throngs they came at early morn. Each bringing something mighty fine to eat—The maidens with the pumpkins and the corn—The men with bags of dainty game for meat. Their quaint old tables, firm and very strong Grown'd with the weight of dainties highly heap'd. While they, with prayer and fervent song Gave thanks for their "Harvest of Blessings" rightly reap'd. And so it is, from then until the present day (No matter the mode of life we're living) With a loyal heart, we set apart This day as a time of true "Thanksgiving." —WILLIAM KEENER.

The Mission Hospital. Editor of The Gazette-News: If the people of Asheville know more about the Mission hospital, more of its work, of the suffering that it relieves and of the comfort that it gives to suffering humanity, they would come forward voluntarily and spontaneously and supply its every need. People generally are not mean and stingy and selfish, at least we do not have many of that kind in Asheville, but often they fail to respond to a worthy cause for the reasons that they do not have sufficient knowledge of it or their attention is not properly directed to it. The Mission hospital is not an expedient or a mere convenience, but is a necessity in this community. I have

had occasion recently to visit it often, and to observe its management and its work, and I have been brought to realize as I have never realized before the blessings it daily bestows upon suffering humanity. What we need is a new fire-proof hospital, equipped with all modern conveniences, which will accommodate several hundred patients, and cost not less than \$100,000, to replace the wooden structures which now occupy the hospital lot at the corner of Woodfin and College streets. No better location can be found. It is accessible to the public and convenient for the doctors, and yet is sufficiently remote from the business center of the city to be free from disturbing noises. It would be very acceptable indeed if Mr. Carnegie or Mr. Rockefeller or some other millionaire would build for us such a hospital and donate it to the city, and it would pay 1000 percent better dividend to humanity than any of the philanthropic schemes in which they are investing, but it will no doubt be a long time before we get a new hospital from any such source. So let's build it ourselves. There are a number of people in Asheville who will give \$5000 to this enterprise and never miss it, and many more who can give from \$500 to \$1000 and never miss it, and thousands who can give \$100 and never miss it and everybody can give something. It would be an enterprise in which we would not be divided by politics, religion, creeds or even race. The prohibitionist and the anti-prohibitionist could pull together in this undertaking. And when it is completed and the stranger comes in our midst and asks who built that hospital, we can say and say with pride, "we built it." I would head the subscription, but as I am one of the little fish in the pond, I wish for a few \$5000 men to come first. GEORGE A. SHUFORD. Asheville, Nov. 29, '11.

Dr. Baird's Point of View.

Editor of The Gazette-News. It seems that the small coterie of gentlemen who have been so zealously promoting the scheme for having a three thousand dollar physician for Buncombe county are still busy and that they have succeeded in getting the county board of health to adopt certain recommendations of the county government of the county which were prepared by the same committee that made a long and exhaustive report to the board of county commissioners some weeks ago upon this same subject and which was accompanied with a long didactic poem of somewhat doubtful metric beauty, but tending to show the necessity of having another high salaried officer for the county. It seems that these gentlemen, while succeeding in getting the board of health to adopt their recommendations are somewhat troubled as to how they are going to provide for paying the increased salary of this new officer. I submit that it is hardly fair to Mr. Erwin W. Patton for these gentlemen by their action to place him in a somewhat embarrassing position—being a member of the county board of health and at the same time chairman of the board of county commissioners he would necessarily have to pass officially upon a matter of his own recommendation—and this I am sure he has too nice a sense of propriety to do. But it is suggested that possibly the board of education may come to the rescue and pay the extra salary of this county physician—now if Mr. Chairman Powell and his board of education can find any law authorizing them to throw away a part of the seventy-five or eighty thousand dollars of school money which they have this year for any such purpose as contemplated by this committee then I would like to know where they find it—I doubt if they will be willing to use the school money in any such way, they certainly have too much respect for the taxpayers of Buncombe county to squander their money for any such unnecessary purpose and now while on the subject of salaries—if you will take the trouble to count up you will find that the people of Buncombe county are now paying annually to salaried officers nearly if not quite thirty thousand dollars and this does not include the salaries paid to city officers which is perhaps as much as that paid to county officials. If you are going to continue to create new offices with high salaries then let us have their incomes taken from the people—No small coterie of men in Asheville or anywhere else—no matter how progressive have a right to impose such unnecessary burdens upon the taxpayers of the county and they will find that the people are not going to submit to it. If this scheme carries and this high salaried officer is fastened upon the people then there will be a demand made upon the next legislature to make its incumbent as well as that of county superintendent of education and all other salaried officers electable by the people—when the time comes that the people are no longer credited with 'having sense enough to rule their own affairs then it will be time to change our form of government—some men seem to think that the time for that change is now here.

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don't. The greater does not look with favor upon either the means or the methods employed by the creature in dealing with the problems of national import, and it is a noticeable circumstance that in his efforts to make out a case against the president, the former president makes use of a letter written to him by James T. Garfield, My great friend, whom Mr. Taft has set aside for Ballinger. But, as we have hitherto remarked, it is by no means clear that the colonel expects to be the beneficiary of an article which got a rise out of the political world, and bulled the stock market. If one feels warranted in assuming that Mr. Roosevelt is himself approaching that state of mind which may be described as receptive, then it must be admitted that he did a better thing in directly inviting attention to the success which has attended the efforts of Senator LaFollette in dealing with problems incident to the trusts and corporations in Wisconsin. Senator LaFollette is under fire, a fire directed upon him mainly by the pro-trust newspapers in New York as a sort of iconoclast, a disturber of the peace in a way that tends to the destruction of legitimate business. Friends of the senator have invited the attention of the business world to the fact that business has been conserved in Wisconsin as it has been safeguarded perhaps in few other states; but it is doubtful whether the efforts of these active friends of the Wisconsin candidate have borne the fruit that will inevitably be borne by the Roosevelt editorial in the Outlook. If Mr. Roosevelt could make the country believe—as he manifestly believes—in the safety and sanity of Mr. LaFollette, then it is doubtful (Continued on page 7)

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