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### LUCK AND THE VICE-PRESIDENCY.

Vice-President Marshall professes to consider himself unavailable as the Democratic candidate for that office next year, quoting the President as authority for the statement that it is unlucky to run the same team twice. Probably his and kindred expressions on the subject by the Vice-President are put forth as feelers. No one else suggests his name for renomination, so he feels that it is incumbent to suggest it himself.

It has not been customary for many years, when a President is renominated to link with him the same man who filled out the ticket four years before. This is not because of any superstition about the same ticket being unlucky but because the man who is originally nominated for Vice-President in the belief that he will bring some political strength to the ticket nearly always loses that strength in the four years of comparative obscurity and inactivity that is the common lot of Vice-Presidents. A Vice-President after his four years of duty as presiding officer of the United States usually passes into a state of innocuous desuetude. If they live for any time the announcement of their death, when it finally comes, gives a rude shock to the public, which had settled into the belief that they had died long before.

Adlai E. Stevenson was perhaps an exception. He was elected Vice-

President with Grover Cleveland in 1892 and four years after his term expired he was nominated with Bryan in 1900. It was not Stevenson's fault that McKinley and Roosevelt swept the country in that year. The unlucky part of that team was the Bryan side of it. No consideration of luck prevented the renomination of James S. Sherman with Taft in 1912. That team was certainly unlucky, but no one has charged Sherman with being the hoodoo, though perhaps President Wilson regards it as a precedent that ought not to be followed.

With those two exceptions, no Vice-President has been honored by a renomination by any party since 1840, when Richard M. Johnson ran a second time with Martin Van Buren and was defeated by the Harrison and Tyler ticket in a log cabin and hard cider campaign, assisted greatly by the song of "Tippecanoe, and Tyler, Too." In our earlier history the Vice-President was considered the natural step to the Presidency, and as a rule men of supposedly Presidential stature were chosen to that office. At first the candidate for President who received the second highest vote became Vice-President. In 1804 the present plan of choosing a Vice-President was adopted and under it George Clinton, Daniel D. Tompkins and John C. Calhoun, after serving four years as Vice-President, were elected a second time to that position.

In the last half century, while the President has increased in power and

influence the second place has shrunken in relative importance and has become an extinguisher on the political aspirations of the man who secures it, Mr. Marshall has not succeeded in magnifying his office or himself while in the Vice-President's chair and it is creditable to his discernment if he recognizes himself as a political has been, The Vice-Presidency was altogether a very high place for him, and four years of Marshall are surely enough for everybody, regardless of party.

"Would you drop bombs on non-combatants, Mr. Pillsbeck?"  
"That depends on the circumstances. People are not always entitled to sympathy merely because they are non-combatants."  
"Explain yourself."  
"I was thinking of a certain class of diplomats. They never fight but they are responsible for most of the fighting that is done."

If we are as ill-prepared for war as they are trying to make it appear the president is certainly right in refusing to give anybody the first lick.

#### A GREAT SCHEME.

Great scheme! Let's pass a law requiring the millionaires to form the first line of defense in case of war. Then they could promptly buy off the enemy and we wouldn't have to fight. —Franklin Times.

### "DUMPING."

Speaking of the question of "dumping," and of trade competition following the close of the war, the editor of the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times gives expression to some good horse sense. He calls attention to the fact that the industrial plants of Germany are unimpaired and that throughout the war an association of German manufacturers and financiers has been busy perfecting plans for regaining markets after peace is restored and goes on to say:

"But in the more recondite workings of political and social economy there are factors which will have important influences in the impending fight for markets. The poverty of Europe and the prosperity of the United States may work to the advantage of the former, as a competitor and against the latter in the struggle. For example, the habit of self-sacrifice imposed even upon non-combatants of Europe while the wars is in progress and the tremendous burden which will follow peace for years to come as a result of unprecedented war debts, will make it easier for English, German and French people of all classes to consume less and produce more. They might be likened to an individual who is working off the mortgage on a home. He is more economical in personal expenditures and more industrious in production than the individual who spends as he earns. The prosperity of the United States, with its rapidly increasing wealth, the higher wages of its workmen, which make possible the gratification of creature comforts; the rising scale of living, which converts luxuries into the necessities of life—all these things add to the cost of production and become a determining factor in international trade."

### LITTLE BROTHER.

"Sis won't be able to see you tonight Mr. Jones," said her little brother. "She's had a terrible accident" (Lippincott's details and conversation.)  
"Is that so? What happened?"  
"All her hair got burned up."  
"Good heavens! Was she burned?"  
"Naw; she wasn't there. She don't know about it yet."

It would have a tendency to bring about peace if the little fellows would refuse to fight every time some big fellow thinks he has been insulted.

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### IS BELIEVED DEAD WHEN MOTOR TRAIN PLUNGES IN CREEK

Of Sixty-four Occupants Only Four Escape Wreck Without Injuries— Recover Bodies of Five Women Killed

Many Passengers Are Young Girl Teachers on Gasoline Express That Goes Through Bridge at Randolph, Kan., Recovery of Victims Hindered by Raging Torrent.

Randolph, Kansas, Oct. 16.—Sixteen persons are believed to have lost their lives when a passenger car of a Union Pacific motor train plunged through a bridge into Fancy Creek, near here today. Eight bodies had been recovered tonight and at least ten more were believed to be in the mud and water filled car. Most of the recovered dead, including five women and five men, were drowned.

Of the sixty-five occupants of the motor train, only four escaped unhurt.

#### Many Young Women.

Many of the passengers were young women school teachers. All went in a heap when the car struck the bridge, weakened by three inches of rain and plunged into the swollen creek.

A rescue of the passengers was extremely difficult and many were badly injured after they had been extricated from the half submerged car. It was necessary for the survivors to crawl up the sides of the car, using the window ledges and seats as the rungs of a ladder and many fell repeatedly after almost achieving success. Nearly all became unconscious from loss of blood or shock on finally reaching safety.

The New York bachelor, forty years of age, who testifies that he never hugged or kissed a female of the species in his life either "lies like a gentleman" or is constitutionally unable to recognize opportunity when it presents itself.

#### CAR CONDUCTOR IN CHURCH

A veteran car conductor in Boston recently lost his job and was obliged to take the next best thing he could find, the position of sexton in a church, says The Boston Globe.

He presented the collection box to a pillar of the church one Sunday and in fishing out some change from his vest pocket the man brought to light two cigars.

The ex-conductor leaned over him and in the most solemn of tones said: "Smokin' in the three rear seats only."

"Here is a sandwich for you. But don't you feel humiliated at living off the hospitality of others?"  
"Sometimes, mum. Still I'd rather do this than get me living by going to afternoon teas."

For one, we are not so sure that Mr. Wilson can have congress do anything he wants of it by a mere nod of the head.

It would be all right to be prepared for anything that might happen, but there is no use to put a strain upon our imagination.

#### TALKING ABOUT IT.

In compliance with the plain duty of a chronicler as we see it, nevertheless treading as circumspectly as we knew how, we have recorded that there is much discussion of the matrimonial affairs of the President, not all of it an approving nature. Personally we have felt no impulse in the matter, have been conscious of

no ruling desire to express a point of view—except the views of other folks. A correspondent this morning points out that in view of the old maxim to the effect that a man compliments the memory of his wife by taking another, the high position of the President means a compliment correspondingly high.

Within the past few days our contemporaries have begun to speak out more emphatically on the subject; and it appears to be one more of the hundreds of major questions in the world just now upon which individuals are finding it necessary to take sides. One of these contemporaries, Charity and Children has the following:

"The announcement that President Wilson is soon to wed the widow Gait brought to the friends of that great executive disappointment and regret, notwithstanding the stale compliments that are being paid him. His friends thought that his mind was too occupied with the tremendous issues of the time, to devote his evenings to the soft silly nonsense characteristic of a courting man. The country was more than surprised—it was shocked at the tidings. Somehow, we hardly know why, the public have little respect for and less confidence in the judgement of a man who is in love. Nobody but the poets take the thing seriously. We were all giving the President our prayers and sympathy as he staggered under the load of responsibility that was thrust upon him; but lo, instead of bending beneath this mighty burden, he was out sparring the widow and whispering airy nothings into her ear. But there is another thing that brings regret and that is the ease with which Mr. Wilson recovered from the sorrow the death of his wife brought into his home. Evidently Mr. Wilson has been courting the widow for some time; and Mrs. Wilson's death occurred only a little more than a year ago. It was supposed that the stream of the President's affection ran deeper than it does. The third note of surprise and regret is that so strong a man as Woodrow Wilson allowed the women

folks to arrange the business and that these women included his own daughters. It is hoped that the newspapers will have mercy on their readers and not compel them to wade through miles of slush concerning this wedding. The less said about it the better. Good taste would suggest a quiet marriage and the suppression of the reporter who would regale the public with the sentimental side of an affair that seems to be more of a business proposition than anything else. We are quite willing for the President (although he has a daughter with him) to take unto himself a better half to soothe the weariness of his loneliness, but we beg to be excused from reading about it. We would rather peruse the baseball page of a Sunday newspaper or an agricultural report seven years old."

The country is shocked with our charitable Thomsville neighbor. The public have little respect for and less confidence in the judgment of a man who is in love, ergo if the President is in love, the sooner he isn't the better, all things and these parlous times considered. Prayers and sympathy were offered under a misconception of the facts. The stream of the President's affection is not so deep as was supposed.

It is but fair to add, however, that in another place Charity and Children testifies "Woodrow Wilson is sufficient reason for national thanksgiving; while in still another the opinion is expressed that "The Ellen Wilson memorial fund for the education of poor girls has received a blow from which we fear it will not recover." —Greensboro News.

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