

CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

Republican Harmony Emphasized by Clubs and Dagers

A Few Personal References

[Special Washington Letter.]

THE Jeffries-Fitzsimmons championship will be over, and Ruby Robert went down before the Californian. "Youth will be served." Wonder if Senator Marcus A. Hanna discovers in the result a prophecy of his own Waterloo in 1904 at the hands of a much younger man-to wit, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt? Perhaps the defeat Bob received at the hands of the toiler maker will cause the Buckeye boss to put on his studying cap, and perhaps it will not. Still, there is no disguising the fact that youngish men are now most in the public eye. The cool, calculating Kitchener succeeded the elderly "Bobs." The most potent figure in European politics is the German Kaiser, William of Hohenzollern, who, although a veteran emperor, is still a young man. Next to him comes Nicholas of Russia, who got up the Hague peace conference and who has just startled the world with a proposition looking to an international stranglehold of the trusts. On this side the water President Roosevelt, still in the flower of his years, holds the center of the stage. In both the cabinet and the field the youngsters are to the fore. Old things pass away, among them the ancient proverb, "Old men for counsel, young men for war." Temporarily at least the "boys" are usurping the functions of the elders. Is it for the best? Quien sabe?

No Politics in Teddy's Speeches.

Little Paul Dombey was always asking Floy, "What are the waves saying?" Certainly since the ocean first was formed no stranger message has come from it than that which now issues from Oyster Bay. It is given out that President Roosevelt in his swing around the circle this fall has no political designs whatsoever and that he is much annoyed that the ungody should have attributed to him such motives—all of which will be given the hoarse hoot by the junior senator from Ohio, who is one of Tom Johnson's most prominent constituents. But Mark's cynical thoughts and remarks will not count. He will not be permitted to pull down the ideal candidate, the altruistic statesman of Sagamore Hill, the harbinger of the political millennium, the philosopher who proposes to let the office seek him and catch him! No, indeed, Colonel Roosevelt is not going to tour the country in the interest of his own nomination. Perish the thought! He's going about the land to view the wonderful crops, which Mark's friends allege that Mark caused to grow. Of course Colonel Roosevelt has not gone so far as to say that he will not accept a nomination—not he. If the nomination chases and captures him, what can he do but serve his country and save it again by serving four years more? The bold, bad man who started the report that the president is going on an electioneering trip ought to be severely disciplined—sealily they ought.

Harmony in Missouri.

It will be a great pleasure to Democrats outside the state who have been alarmed by the rattle of the Globe-Democrat—if such there be—to know that harmony prevails among the Democrats of Missouri, the first Democratic state in the Union, and that all the signs of the times indicate a sweeping Democratic victory this fall. Nobody knows this better than the G.-D. It is merely whistling to keep its courage up. Both at Springfield, where three candidates for supreme judge were nominated, and at St. Joe, where the railroad commissioners, superintendent of public schools and chairman of the state committee were nominated, there were contests more or less heated about men and measures, which were to be expected—which were inevitable, in fact—but the platforms are good, what the people want, and while excellent men were defeated men above reproach and in every way capable were nominated. Of the thirteen Democratic congressmen eleven have been re-nominated, generally without opposition, and will be re-elected. The chances are that Missouri will have fifteen Democrats in the next house out of a possible sixteen, that the state ticket will have a satisfactory majority and that the legislature will be Democratic in both branches. Nothing succeeds like success, and no party anywhere ever made a finer record since states were first invented than have the Democrats of Missouri in the conduct of her financial affairs, the one thing which most nearly concerns the great body of taxpayers.

Roosevelt Stabbed by Organ Grinder.

A close and systematic reading of Republican papers will disclose the bitter warfare inside the G. O. P. In his Fourth of July speech at Pittsburg President Roosevelt, under the inspiring influence of a great concourse of shouting people and temporarily forgetful of Hon. Stephen B. Elkins and the rest of the senatorial boxers, exclaimed, "Reciprocity with Cuba is as sure as fate." Everybody knows that he did his utmost to induce congress to pass the Cuban reciprocity bill. He sent in a special message. His bosom crony and companion in arms, General Leonard Wood, governor general of Cuba, spent thousands of dollars "forming public opinion in America" favorable to the

scheme. The president threatened to call an extra session of congress.

Now comes the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, organ grinder of Missouri Republicans, Missouri patronage having been disposed of, and stabs the president under the fifth rib. The G.-D., under the caption, "Going Beyond Reciprocity," says:

Senator Burton of Kansas made an extended speech this week at Topeka before a large assemblage in which he set forth the arguments that induced a large number of Republican senators to oppose the Cuban concession bill as reported by the senate committee. The main point is that the concessions proposed go beyond all former conceptions or definitions of reciprocity and assail the protective principle itself. It is clearly his intention, established in debate that Mr. Burton asserts, "There are not fifteen Republican senators out of the fifty-four who are in favor of the present bill at heart." The longer the bill was discussed in the senate the weaker it became, and the chief reason is the assault on protection coiled up in the measure. That bill breaks down all former limitations of what is called reciprocity. Reciprocity as advocated originally by Mr. Blaine, as Senator Burton points out, was the admission into the American market, without duty, of the articles which we do not or cannot produce on condition that the countries with which the arrangement is made should grant an equivalent reduction for our products. From this attitude on a reciprocity, strictly guarded as to our own productions, the Republican party has never varied. The last Republican national platform refers only to a reciprocity "so directed as to open our markets on favorable terms for what we do not ourselves produce in return for free foreign markets."

The same limitation, most lucidly expressed, appears in President McKinley's last speech, that made at Buffalo the day before he was struck down at the post of duty. "Reciprocity," said President McKinley in his address of Sept. 5 last, "is the natural outgrowth of our wonderful industrial development under the domestic policy now firmly established." The policy referred to is, of course, protection. President McKinley said in the same speech: "By sensible trade arrangements which will not interrupt home production we shall extend the outlets for our increasing surplus. We should take from our customers such of their products as we can admit without harm to our own industries and labor." The reciprocity which Blaine, McKinley and the Republican national platform favored is explicitly entrenched in behalf of protection. It was not intended to apply to any nation of our own. But what is going on in the Cuban concession bill? It is a removal of all duties on Cuban imports regardless of whether we produce the same articles or not. About twenty articles were to be admitted at a reduction, some of which we produce ourselves. To call this wholesale reduction anything resembling what the Republican party or leaders have hitherto favored under the name of reciprocity is ridiculous.

Free traders saw the vital distinction and eagerly jumped forward to get in their entering wedge. All sincere Republicans did not see it, but enough were sufficiently cautious to save the party from making a breach in "the firmly-established policy."

The truth about the Cuban concession bill is that it proposed a so-called reciprocity wholly unknown to the Republican party, to Mr. Blaine or Mr. McKinley. A Republican congress discovered the falsities in the case and, greatly to its credit, halted them outside of the trenchments of the protective policy.

A Dagger in the Back.
That editorial does not contain the name of Theodore Roosevelt, but every word of it is intended as a dagger not for his breast, but for his back. He can write it on the tablets of his memory that the Globe-Democrat is dead against him and will deprive him of the Missouri delegation in the next Republican national convention if it can; but it can't. Roosevelt may lose the delegation, but not through the influence of the G.-D., for it has none in selecting delegates. Hon. Richard C. Kerens will attend to that job. If the president will take the pains to read the foregoing editorial from the G.-D. carefully, he will be very much surprised to learn that he is to be fought on the grounds that he is not sound on the tariff and that he is a free trader. The war is on. The G.-D. has evidently sallied under the Hanna banner, and Colonel Roosevelt must look to the condition of his guns and ammunition. If he does not sleep with at least one eye open, he will be stabbed to death in the house of his friends.

I am aware that the G.-D. editorial is a very long question to make in these letters, but the space is well used if my readers learn from it the lesson which it teaches—that the Republicans are hopelessly divided into bitter factions, which will grow more bitter as the days go by. Democrats have every reason to be hopeful as to the results of the campaign now on. To your tents, O Israel!

There can be no question about the G.-D. having it in for the president. It virtually charges him with being a free trader in the following remarks about the Cuban reciprocity bill:

Therefore it is impossible to see how the new republic can be ruled by the defeat of the proposed double reduction. It would be much nearer the truth to say that the failure of the bill would be a source of loss to certain sharp speculators and a deep disappointment to free traders who are anxious to break down the protective principle at a new point and in a new way.

are not the president and other Republican statesmen also free traders for advocating the same thing?

But the most unkindest cut of all, to borrow a phrase from Shakespeare, that the G.-D. has administered to the president is the following:

General J. E. Smith, who was sent to quiet the island of Samar, in which the natives were massacring our soldiers to a shocking extent and who accomplished his mission with the highest degree of effectiveness, has been retired by the president in the alleged "loose and violent talk" in the presence of subordinate officers. General Smith is near the retiring age and has little to lose in that respect, but he is still a vigorous and capable man. He performed a great and extremely difficult service to his country in Samar and enjoys the highest esteem of his fellow officers and of his fellow citizens, as time will show. In the opinion of a great many persons General Smith's alleged offense is of a far lighter nature than that of General Wood in devoting funds from the Cuban treasury to further a political and economic object in the United States. General Smith will discover on returning to the United States that he is at no discount with his fellow countrymen.

Does not the Globe-Democrat know that President Roosevelt indorses General Wood's action in using funds from the Cuban treasury as he did use them? Aye, more, does not the G.-D. know that in his speeches in and about Boston the president held General Wood and Secretary Elihu Root up to the admiring gaze of all the world as great and virtuous men, whose example all creation would do well to imitate? The president lauds Wood and punishes Smith. The G. D. lauds Smith and intimates that Wood ought to be punished. The president is a Republican and so is the G.-D., and yet "the Republican column is solid." Anybody who says that the Republicans are split up is "a queer person." No doubt the truth appears "queer" to a Republican organ grinder.

It is clear as the noonday sun shining in his meridian glory that if the Missouri delegation to the next Republican national convention supports Colonel Roosevelt it will do so in spite of the Globe-Democrat. He might as well understand that now as later.

Hoo-do-o-o!
Judging from press comments, even from Republican papers, the senatorial days of Hon. J. Ralph Burton of Kansas will be few, not exceeding six years, which is not half as long as he was industriously endeavoring to break into the senate, for he was one of the most persistent seekers after a toga and curule chair ever seen on the American continent. At the Philadelphia convention in 1900, at the head of the Sunflower delegation, he was one of the loudest shouters for Roosevelt. Now he is at odds with the president on the Cuban reciprocity scheme. They say that rats desert a sinking ship, and it must be true, for the Kansas City Journal, which, though published in Missouri, is really the organ of Kansas Republicans, knives Burton in the following skilful fashion:

Kansas politicians who have the least bit of superstition readily account for Senator Burton's turbulent time. There are two senatorial lines in the state—the Lane line and the Pomeroy line. Burton is in the Lane line. The incumbents in that line have always had trouble, with one exception, and it is regarded as a hoo-doo. All told, ten men have served as senators in the Lane line, while only four have served in the Pomeroy line. In the Pomeroy line Pomeroy served from 1861 to 1871, since which time he has lived in political oblivion because of his vote on the Johnson impeachment; Alexander Caldwell from 1871 to 1873, when he resigned under fire; Robert Crozier from 1873 to 1874; James Harvey from 1874 to 1877; P. E. Pittman from 1877 to 1881, when he died in office; B. W. Perkins from January, 1882, to January, 1883; John Martin from 1883 to 1885; Lucien Baker from 1885 to 1891; J. R. Burton from 1891 to the present. Thus from 1871 to 1891, of the ten senators in the Lane line ever served full terms or longer. The other six were in for a year or two. Since 1892 the Lane line has had four senators. If precedents are followed in the Lane line, Burton will be a one termer, but he hopes to break the precedent.

A Strong Arkansan.
Everybody who is acquainted with congressmen and who takes an interest in the Democratic party will be delighted to know that Judge John S. Little of Arkansas has been renominated. Judge Little is a capable, indefatigable, conscientious member—Democrat without guile. Like Mark Antony, he "is a plain, blunt man, who loves his friends." No purer man in both public and private life ever sat in congress. While a most excellent speaker and debater, Judge Little's forte is work—work in the house, work in committees, work in the departments. His unflinching good humor, his perfect integrity and his loyalty to duty have made him a host of friends both in and out of congress. The Fourth district of Arkansas honors itself in honoring John S. Little.

A Valuable Georgian.
Georgia has done herself proud by renominating that sterling Democrat, that capable legislator, that faithful public servant, Judge John W. Maddox. He is instant in season and out of season—if it is ever out of season—in proclaiming the faith once delivered to the fathers. John Maddox, as he is popularly known, is not a skyscraper orator, but no man knows better what he wants to say, and few say it better. In his speeches he sticks to the facts of the case, and he hammers the facts into his hearers with rare force. Georgia is to be congratulated on such men.

As it is Today.
Famous Patient—Doctor, please give me my medicine now.
Doctor—Pardon me, I'm simply the doctor in charge of issuing bulletins. The other doctor will be here presently.—Chicago Journal.

HIGHWAY LESSONS.

SPECIMEN ROADS CONSTRUCTED TO SHOW THEIR VALUE.

How Macadam, Sand and Dirt Highways Are Built—The Steel Track Wagon Road on Which a Horse Drove Eleven Tons.

The immense number of crude and frequently impassable roads to be found in all parts of the United States and the serious extent to which they have handicapped the marketing of farm products in various sections of the country lend especial significance to the crusade in favor of good roads which is being conducted by the office of road inquiry, a division of the department of agriculture, says a writer in the Scientific American. As yet there have not been secured appropriations of sufficient size to enable the government to undertake on its own account the provision of better highways, but this will come in time, and meanwhile highly important results are being accomplished solely by the presentation of forceful object lessons.

The investigations of the office of road inquiry are mainly directed in seven general fields—namely, to ascertain as nearly as practicable the actual



OBJECT LESSON ROAD (MACADAM). (From Good Roads Magazine.)

cost of bad roads and the benefit of good roads, to demonstrate the interest of cities and towns and the owners of property of all kinds wherever situated in the improvement of country roads, to develop the methods whereby all of these interests may co-operate with the farmers in the work of road improvement, to discover what actual and systematic road improvement is being carried on in any part of the United States and how the same or modified methods may be applied to other sections, to discover road materials in various sections of the country, to discuss new plans for road construction and encourage experiment in this direction and finally to actually construct sample roads.

Probably the most interesting phase of the work has been found, however, in the construction of specimen roads of various kinds in different parts of the country. Ordinarily three styles of road have been represented in this experimental road—a modern macadam, a sand and a dirt road. Of these three the macadam highway is the most interesting from the point of construction. After a uniform grade has been secured by the use of wheeled scrapers, drag scrapers and plows and possibly road graders as well there are placed upon this foundation three separate layers of the best quality of stone that is procurable in the vicinity. The foundation course, which is about five inches in thickness and made up of two and a half inch stone, is thoroughly rolled before the second course, composed of one and a half inch stone, is put on, and this layer in turn is sprinkled and rolled before the surface layer, or "binder," as it is commonly called, consisting of three-quarter inch stone and dust, is put in place.

The sand road is formed by placing six inches of river sand on a bed of natural clay, neither the bed nor the surface of the road being rolled. The dirt road is made by grading in the usual manner. As a rule neither of these latter classes of highways is constructed save to demonstrate the superiority of the macadam road. Considerable attention has been given to the construction of steel track wagon roads, decidedly the most novel type of highway yet introduced in any country. The steel road might be compared to a street car track of modified design, and the plan for its utilization was doubtless suggested by the well known tendency of teamsters to make use of urban and interurban trolley and cable lines on highways where locomotion would otherwise be difficult.

The steel track wagon road consists of two parallel lines of steel plates or rails each eight inches in width and not supported on wooden cross-ties, but simply made solid in the road by flanges projecting into the concrete of the roadbed. The rails are accurately spaced so as to receive the wheels of all vehicles of standard gauge without regard to the width of tire, and each plate or rail is fitted with a flange on the inner side to prevent wheels from easily leaving the tracks. Unique roads of this type have been constructed in half a dozen different states, and in some instances the records made upon them have been little short of marvelous. In one instance a load of eleven tons which required twenty horses for its movement over an ordinary road was readily drawn along the steel track by a single horse. This load was twenty-two times the weight of the animal, but at Ames, Ia., recently a horse started and moved on a steel track highway a load fifty times the weight of the animal. It may be noted that the cost of the steel track roads has ranged from \$1,500 to \$3,500 a mile, according to the original condition of the roadbed.

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