

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT

WHEN he was campaigning recently in Wellington, the place of his birth, Governor Elect Herrick of Ohio told how years ago he and some other boys combined mischief with study at the schoolhouse in Bull Hollow, near Wellington. "We had a teacher named Lewis," he said, "and I remember some trouble we made the poor fellow merely because he was unable to enforce discipline. There was a queer character in the neighborhood known as Ike the Skunk Hunter. He made his living hunting skunks and wild bees. The two things



MYRON S. HERRICK

don't seem to go together somehow, but that's what he did. We went to Ike for advice as to how to get even with the teacher for some petty tyranny. Naturally enough, Ike resorted to something in his own line, and I still remember the delight with which we received from him a small package of skunk essence, which was certainly a little bit the strongest thing ever manufactured in this world.

"Acting under the instructions of Ike the Skunk Hunter, the essence was inserted in the schoolroom stove just before the fire was lit. When that stove got down to business there was something doing in the schoolroom. It took days to get over the effects of it, and, of course, in the meantime there were no lessons. The teacher left and was succeeded by a mere girl, who ruled us all big and little, with a rod of iron. How she did it no one knows, but she was master of the situation, and she taught me something as to how a woman can rule by tact where man fails with force."

Mgr. Merry del Val, whose appointment to the important position of papal secretary of state was the surprise of the new administration of Pope Pius X., is probably the only occupant of the post who has achieved distinction as a football player. The new premier of the Vatican was born and educated in England, his early school days having been spent at Eton and Stonyhurst, and that accounts for his familiarity with the pigskin spheroid and the strenuous life of the gridiron.

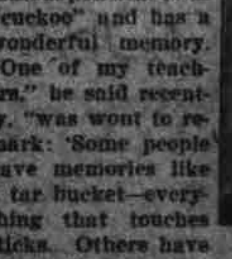


MGR. MERRY DEL VAL

son was born in London. A few years after Raffaele Merry del Val had been ordained a priest his father was appointed Spanish ambassador to the Vatican, and Leo XIII., taking a liking to the young priest, kept him for several years as one of his private secretaries.

When the school question in Canada threatened serious consequences, Leo XIII. sent his young secretary to Ottawa as apostolic delegate, and in a few months Mgr. Merry del Val had settled the question to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Senator John T. Morgan of Alabama, who is still fighting for the Nicaragua canal route across the isthmus of Panama, is one of the wife of the senate. He invented the once famous political term "cuckoo" and has a wonderful memory.



JOHN T. MORGAN

"One of my teachers," he said recently, "was wont to remark: 'Some people have memories like a tar bucket—everything that touches sticks. Others have memories like a John T. Morgan's back—everything that touches scoots off.'" The senator rose from private to brigadier general in the Confederate army and then voluntarily resigned as a brigadier to become a colonel.

It is doubtful if any man holding so humble a position in the government service has attracted more attention from press and public than has William A. Miller, a southern man holding the post of assistant foreman of the book bindery in the government printing office at Washington.

For some months Miller has been the central figure in a contest in which the labor of organized labor have been arrayed in protest against the action of the president of the United States. Some time ago Miller was expelled from the membership of the Southern Railway and the Southern Railway Printing Co. by the action of the president of the United States.

W. A. MILLER, United States. Some time ago Miller was expelled from the membership of the Southern Railway and the Southern Railway Printing Co. by the action of the president of the United States.

before President Roosevelt, who promptly ordered that he be reinstated. The president took advantage of the occasion to announce that the government's shops would hereafter be open to both union and nonunion labor without prejudice, efficiency and character to be the sole determining tests of employment. There the matter rests at present.

It is said that meat has not passed the lips of General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, since he was twelve years of age. During his trip over this country last year he stopped, while in Kansas City, at the Hotel Baltimore. A colored waiter in the hotel was detailed to look after the general's wants.



GENERAL BOOTH

"The general had to have everything just so," said the waiter afterward in relating his experience. "His meals were served in his room, and at every meal he would raise his hands over his head and say, 'Lord, bless the waiter.' The first time he said it I smiled and waited for a tip, but after the blessing he forgot me. After that whenever he blessed me I just looked the other way."

Justice David J. Brewer, whose recent expression in favor of abolishing the right of appeal in criminal cases as a means of checking lynching has attracted wide attention, has been a judge for nearly forty years, fourteen of them on the supreme bench of the United States. "My grandchildren have been in Vermont with me for the past two summers," said the judge recently, "and one day I took them driving. The road led by the poor house, which I described to them as a place where poor old people were kept. Finally one of the youngsters said, 'Grandpa, aren't you old?' 'Yes,' I answered, 'Aren't you poor?' 'Yes,' 'Where are they going to put you in Justice Brewer, that house?' And then the judge laughed heartily.



JUSTICE BREWER

Judge Brewer's early years were spent in Kansas, and he tells with gusto an incident of a buffalo hunt in which he took part in 1870. "The boys knew I was not much of a shot and had considerable fun at my expense, telling me that I could not hit a buffalo if I had the muzzle of my gun against him. One evening I saw a jack rabbit jump. 'Here is a chance for you good riflemen,' I said to them. They all began popping away, but without stopping poor Jack. Then I took up my rifle and plugged him right through the head. It was a lucky shot, but established my reputation as a marksman, and the boys made no more fun of me during that trip."

In an address delivered in Pittsburg the other day Judge Peter S. Grosscup paid his respects to "The Moral Side of Our Present Corporation Policy."



PETER S. GROSSCUP

"It has come to the point," he said, "where three or five gentlemen can assemble in a room, lay a silver dollar on a table, call it assets, capitalize at a million dollars, get a state seal on a charter, pocket the dollar and go on with the enterprise. A few weeks ago the country learned that corporations were capitalized at fifty times above their real value. It has come about that no man knows what corporate investment to trust. The government, states, cities and schools dispose of bonds to individuals, the dividends are paid regularly and the principal at maturity. This is teaching bondholders to favor government ownership. Private bonds of corporations which cease payment of dividends and in the end default payment are potent factors against private ownership. I hope to live to see some political party get into power that will compel corporations to protect stockholders as the banks and insurance companies now are regulated."

With contracts in his pockets assuring luxury for himself while he lives and a fortune for those he remembers in his will, Mark Twain recently sailed with his invalid wife and two daughters for Italy, where he will pass the winter.

Packing up was no joke, and as he rested his weary back after the last day's labor the humorist said: "Getting ready to sail for a trip abroad requires a vast deal of trouble. I've always felt sorry for Noah; he had such an awful lot of worry getting all his animals on the ark. Does Dewie resemble the kind whom I describe?"



MARK TWAIN

Mark Twain, settled in Huckleberry Finn as being outlined with a sequined spoon and exhibited in the Iowa hall for monetary purposes? I can't answer that. I've never seen Dewie with his clothes off. "I don't know for a Alexander Dewie, but I have a suspicion and an awful conviction that I shall meet him in the next life. If I do, however, I shall be sure to recognize him."

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Sour Stomach

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and the year 1903 will be numbered among the past

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