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Monday Evening, January 24, 1910.

SAVING THEIR FACES.

It begins to look as if Joe Cannon is not a real sport in his old days. This is too bad for the reputation of the man, for there will be an inclination to book him in the role in which he finishes. Just now he seems entirely unable to stand the gaff and smile when they turn it around in him. This is not the sort of showing we expect from the "joker" of the standpatters.

Why does not Cannon recognize the inevitable, smile about it and then bide his time. It may be because he realizes he has little biding time left. Twenty years ago he could fight and lose and still feel he would have another day; likely now he feels there will be no other day for him and that he must win now or go into the permanent discard. Even if this is true it will be better for the man's reputation among those who are his followers if he will accept the inevitable gracefully. Of course there is always some slight possibility it is not the inevitable; but even if there is a chance left for Cannon he will stand a better show to avail himself of it if he will introduce into his tactics some of the smile of the genuine sport, the thing that enables a few men to be pleasant with themselves and the world even when they are losing. This faculty or talent or inspiration is expected of men who go to the front in any movement; and the linchpin of the standpatters is not exempted from this expectation. The standpatters in their time have been a bold band of buccaners and their leader should know that the finish if it is here, he must contribute the smile that is always supposed to go with the daredevil's wild spirit.

It is beginning to be suspected that Joe Cannon is not built on those lines, that he does not measure up to specifications that have the authority of age, song and story. He breaks into a meeting of the congressional national committee of his party and runs amuck; and John Eversman has to signal to the brass band in attendance to start up a noisy piece that will drown out the growlings of the man from Danville. You see Eversman is sufficient always for propriety of appearances and is a man who has a keen sense of dramatic unities; and naturally he does not want one who has been paraded all these years as a hero in the rough to finish as a vulgar squall. Mr. Eversman is naturally anxious to preserve some appearance of the heroic until the curtain is rung down; and hence it is he signals to the bandmaster to get busy when Joe Cannon begins to throw a fit. It is an interesting exhibition and one worthy of study; but we doubt that John Eversman with all his skill and redheaded readiness is going to be able to save the face of the situation.

CAN CONTROL POLICE FORCE.

The present city administration here in Decatur has settled one thing, apparently; it is that the mayor may name his own police force if he has as many as five members of the council with him. Of course if he has six members he is fully equipped to handle that matter in his own way.

It is a subject over which there has been considerable discussion in the past. On more than one occasion it has been necessary to claim for a mayor the reasonable privilege of naming his own policemen. The argument in support of the claim is that the mayor is the one held responsible for the success of his administration and that therefore he should be given authority somewhat commensurate with his responsibility. That argument has not always carried the day, as we know, which perhaps means that logic is not at all times the strongest force loose in a community.

It took some time for the present administration to find a way to exercise reasonable prerogatives, but at last it has been found. Mayor Borchers kept at it until he got a solution, and now he is naming his own police force, is managing that department according to his own plans. Much study of the statutes has developed the fact that a mayor controls the police situation so long as two-thirds of the council is not arrayed against him. When this administration started on its work not a move could be made for weeks in the police matter; now changes in that department come and go as a matter of course and excite little comment. A way has been found by which the mayor under the law controls. At least this discovery will not have to be made anew by future administrations; coming mayors can start where

Mr. Borchers now finds himself. It is worth something to have worked this out.

A FINE DAY.

We wish the weather man could lay in a larger supply of the article he furnished us Sunday. If we could have that as a regular thing people would come here from Florida and California to experience some of the real delights of the winter season. That style of weather is the top notch in winter resort excellence.

We don't believe that they can beat it anywhere. It was not a summer day, but wise men are not hunting that; we shall have the summer article next July and August and a good many of us will try to move away from it. There was nothing in Sunday's balminess to cause the rose bushes to shed their flannels; not even the peach bud was lured to its destruction. It was a sane as well as delightful day; it made one feel good. It was tonic day with nature here in the garden spot and it certainly surpassed expectations. When nature and the weatherman get to working together for our benefit they do a turn that is entirely beyond the reach of all doctors of all the schools, and Sunday brought a fine demonstration of this.

We wonder the weather man does not arrange that thing for us oftener. He must know how it is appreciated. Possibly this appreciation was a trifle keener because of the fact that we seldom get such a day here in winter; but we think we could be reasonably grateful if we had something like it most of the time. It is noted that people who claim to have good weather as a regular diet never tire in singing its praises; we think we could be as appreciative as they are.

Anyhow, Sunday was a top-notch. Let us show that we appreciate that kind of a day, that we know the size and superior quality of the blessing; and then possibly the weather man will try to regale us a trifle oftener.

STAND FROM UNDER.

We wondered if the Illinois legislature would overlook the present popular opportunity to investigate the cause of high prices. That is what law makers are doing in many of the other states, some of them by request of governors, and others of their own motion. Governor Deneen overlooked this recommendation, but he has a combination of primary plan and deep waterway that keeps him so busy he has no time for anything else. The legislators are not as badly disturbed as the governor, so it was up to them to move on their own initiative.

They are going to do it. Tomorrow in the house William Tudor ApMadoc of Cook county will move that a commission be named to investigate the why and wherefore and whither of high prices. At the same instant James Atlas Henson in the senate will move the appointment of a commission to gather facts and report for legislation at the next session. These two gentlemen will try to beat all others to it, and Mr. Henson in playing a game of this kind is willing to sit up all night. They say that larks get their keynote from William Tudor ApMadoc; so it is safe for us to assume that the two men will start something tomorrow.

None of us is prepared to say what will be the outcome, but all of us are watching intently the motions of these two honorable gentlemen and we are expecting great results. William Tudor ApMadoc will more especially represent the consumer in Cook county; James Atlas Henson for the most part has producers among his constituents. When these men and their commissions make report and recommendations we look for a new political economy system by which the farmer will get even more for his produce and the ultimate consumer in Cook county will have to pay only half present prices. It is a big program, but these are the days of big things.

ALWAYS ON THE JOB.

Word comes from the country that the farmer is again in the corn field and is busy taking in the last of 1909's crop. We are anxious that some of our critical friends in the east should make note of this and we trust they will revolve it in their minds until they get something pleasing out of it. Those eastern friends have been telling that foodstuffs are high because the American farmer is backward and careless about his work. They would leave the impression that our farmer as a matter of careless habit throws a few seeds in the ground and then waits for nature to grow and harvest and market the crop. To read what some of them say you would think the farmer works about three weeks to a month in the entire year and that he does that somewhat aimlessly. They have a notion that he does not care if most of the crop is lost, that the final outcome is a matter of indifference to him, and that anyhow it will be somebody else's funeral.

Folks with such views ought to get into our cornfields these days. They would see the farmer with stooped back all day long gathering the last

By the Wayside.

BY WALTER WELLMAN.



WITH OR WITHOUT.

Bella—I've made up my mind to one thing—I won't marry a man without money.
Della—It's pretty hard nowadays for a girl to marry a man without money.



IN CARTLOADS.

He—Wouldn't it be nice to be married and have some one to share your troubles with?
She—Yes, but marriage doubles your troubles.

Of the crop. It is true he is getting 80 cents a bushel for as much of it as he can save, but he is saving all of it. The price is not high because of any waste on his part. He is willing to and does work under any and all conditions to do his share. He is prospering, and one who will work that way is entitled to. He is working for his own material betterment, perhaps, but the point we want the critics to note is that he is working. He isn't waiting around for nature to do all of it; rather he steps in, bends his back and does a serious man's part any and every moment that nature leaves him an opening. The farmer is on the job all the time.

Of course farmers can have the circuit court room for their institute. They are the salt of the earth and it is enough that they mention what they need. Also they will find the ventilation good when they lower the windows.

What are the standpatters saying about high prices? If you could catch one of those fellows talking in his sleep you might learn many things to the point.

It is troubling the attorney general of Missouri to keep busier than anybody else, but he has to do it in order to survive.

It Judge Smith was looking for an easy berth he would not specialize as presiding officer in liquor cases.

BRITISH ELECTION IS ALMOST A TIE

London, Jan. 24.—Remarkable figures recorded at this stage of the balloting foreshadow how nearly equal both the popular vote and membership of the house of commons will be divided between the parties. The popular vote stands:

Unionists, 2,565,627; Liberals, 2,324,315; Laborists, 295,115. The total membership in the house of commons is a tie, the Unionists and combined Liberal and Labor party each having elected 238.

STANDING OF PARLIAMENT.
One hundred and sixty-seven seats remain to be filled. In the last parliament these were: Unionist, 36; Liberal, 115; Nationalist, 16. Should the present trend of voting continue, neither the Unionists or Liberals can muster a majority of more than a dozen, and the Nationalists with ninety-three votes will be wholly masters of the situation. The passage of the budgets will require the votes of both lords and Irishmen, and the house of lords can be reformed only by a bill which the lords would swallow.

MANY QUESTIONS CONSIDERED.
Nobody can divine which of the questions before the electors had the most influence, or whether the results mean that the people demand tariff reform, or are loyal to the lords, or are anxious to reject the Lloyd-George budget, or whether all three of these had equal effect. Under these circumstances neither party wants the responsibility of attempting to legislate, and since a division must be so close, the Unionists are better satisfied to be in opposition than to have won by a very small majority.

CLAIMS OF UNIONISTS.
The Unionists insist the elections have not proved that the country desires a change in the status of the upper house.

NONE LEFT.

He—And have you no idea of marrying?
She—It seems that all the nice men are paying so much alimony that they can't afford to marry.



ONLY ONE.

He—Is there any secret in your life you never told me?
She—I had one of those secret divorces.

Dealers were displaying their stocks of valentines.

Colonel J. M. Clokey left on a canvass in the interest of his candidacy for the Republican nomination for state treasurer.

Ice dealers were hoping that the river would freeze over and make good ice. The water was so clear that the bottom of the river could be easily seen.

The Wilcox bridge was impassable for teams and was to remain so until repair work could be finished.

ASK DENEEN TO CALL A CAUCUS

Republican Leaders Went to See Cannon.

The Chicago Tribune, under a Washington, D. C. date, has the following to say regarding the primary legislation situation in the Illinois legislature.

The scheme of the Cannon following in Illinois to kill off the direct primary bill, so far, at least, as it pertains to the nomination of congressmen, has come to grief and its backers are running for cover.

This was the news that gained circulation here following a sudden and mysterious visitation of State Senator Ed Curtis and Len Small of Kankakee to the capital and a prolonged heart to heart talk they had with Speaker Cannon, who is their mentor in this as well as all other political affairs.

The upshot of the conference was a decision to try to induce Governor Deneen to agree to a caucus of senate republicans for the purpose of working out some kind of a measure upon which all factions can agree.

WAGES RAISED TO MEET HIGH LIVING

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 24.—It became known after Saturday's adjournment of the Lake Carriers' association, which has been in session here, that the directors decided to increase the salaries of marine engineers employed by the association.

The following advances were announced. Men formerly paid \$114 per month increased to \$125; those drawing \$125 increased to \$140; \$140 salaries increased to \$155. The rate above \$157 will not be changed.

President William Livingston, of the association, says:

The advance was authorized to meet the increased cost of living. The engineers are the only men receiving the advance, because wages formerly were out of proportion to those of other men and should earn proportionately more money.

Pittsburg, Jan. 23.—At the closing meeting yesterday of the laymen's missionary campaign, which has been in session here, the directors decided to increase the amount of the offering to foreign mission work from the \$194,000 last year to \$400,000 for 1910, and it was announced that \$350,000 of the desired amount has already been pledged by the various denominations. George Sherwood Elder, a missionary from India, prompted a look of astonishment when he said that \$5,000,000 more was spent last year for chewing gum in America than for foreign missionary work.

A. E. Marling, a New York business man, brought out that Pittsburg laymen were 10 cents behind New Yorkers in last year's per capita contribution for foreign missions. New York men gave \$1.23 each and Pittsburgers \$1.13.

ILLINOIS SOLONS WASTED A MONTH

JAN. 24, 1910.



NOTHING DOING.

He—I went to the fortune teller and asked her whom I would marry and she described you perfectly.
She—You ought to be able to sue her for misrepresentation.



TOOTING.

Cholly—There's a girl who wouldn't marry the best man living.
Bessie—How do you know?
Cholly—I asked her myself.

Springfield, Jan. 24.—Aside from the appropriation measure to pay the expenses of the "lawmakers" and the employees on the pay roll, no bills have passed both houses of the Illinois general assembly, which met in extraordinary session Dec. 14, 1909. The senate has passed the commission form of municipal government bill, which is held up in the house, and has approved a few other minor measures. Deep waterway and other important legislation has been almost forgotten by the legislators in their rough-and-tumble battle over primary legislation.

When Governor Deneen called the legislature and made primary legislation the paramount issue for the special session, many of the members came determined to obstruct progress of this legislation. Thus has the fight been prolonged. It has required weeks for the friends and foes of direct primary legislation to identify one another. Now that they understand one another a little better, a battle royal is on.

No Bills Have Been Passed by Legislature During Special Session.

The sale of seats for Louis Mann's appearance in "The Man Who Stood Still" will go on sale Tuesday morning.

Takes New Job.

Roy S. Horton has resigned his position at the M. B. Wilson barber shop and has taken a position with Frank J. Fahrnkopf at 222 North Water street.

\$290,000 IN SUITS AS RESULT OF CHERRY FIRE

Will Allege Twenty Violations of Mining Law.

Chicago, Jan. 24.—Twenty-nine suits for \$10,000 each growing out of the Cherry mine disaster were filed in the superior court Saturday against the St. Paul Coal company and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway company. Only the praecipes were filed.

The suits were brought by Patrick Carl and John McGillen, administrators who were appointed by the county court in Princeton, Ill., following the fire.

"We will file our declarations in a few days," said Attorney Belasco. They will set forth that the defendants were guilty of more than twenty violations, the main violation being that they allowed the mine to catch fire.

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AMUSEMENTS

POWERS CALENDAR.

Tonight—Victor Moore in "The Talk of New York."

Tuesday, Jan. 25.—Kyrle Bellow in "The Builder of Bridges."

Thursday, Jan. 27.—Louis Mann in "The Man Who Stood Still."

Friday, Jan. 28.—The White Squaw.

Tuesday, Feb. 1.—DeWolf Hopper in "The Matinee Idol."

VICTOR MOORE TONIGHT.

Pleasing Comedian Will Be Seen in Sequel Musical Play By Cohan. "The Talk of New York," a sequel to "Forty-five Minutes from Broadway," in which Victor Moore and the Cohan and Harris company will be seen at the Powers tonight, is an unusually clever musical play. It is Cohanesque and different. It has surprises. It is replete with wit and humor and singable songs.

The first act shows the exterior of the Club house at Sheephead Bay race track. The second act takes place in the lobby of the Hotel Astor, New York. The third act is on the Booth lawn at Claremont, Riverside Drive, at night, where "Kid" Burns has invited a host of friends to celebrate his re-signment from the racing world. The fourth act finds Mr. Burns at his home in New Rochelle, forty-five minutes from Broadway.

It will be entertaining and interesting to see Victor Moore still in the role of "Kid Burns," in which he is so pleasantly remembered from his visit here with Fay Templeton in "Forty-five Minutes from Broadway." But the story is all new, and the songs, and everything.

The supporting company is an able one, including John Conroy, Jo Smith Marba, George O'Donnell, Charlotte Lambert, Mae Phelps and Emma Littlefield. The same lavish scale of production as is usual in the Cohan and Harris presentations is maintained.

BELLEVILLE'S POPULARITY. Kyrle Bellow comes Tuesday night in his latest success "The Builder of Bridges," a play of today by Alfred Sutro.

Dramatic reviewers from time to time have stated that Kyrle Bellow first came to America in support of Mrs. James Brown Potter. As a matter of fact Mr. Bellow's popularity over here dates further back than that. He first visited America in 1882 when he made his premier debut at Wallack's theater, presenting for several years popular productions of "The Rivals," "The Busy-Body," "Valerie," "The Palace of Truth," "The Harvest" and "The School for Scandal." It was in 1887 that Mr. Bellow returned to London and subsequently he and Mrs. Potter came here for their highly successful tour.

For years now Mr. Bellow has been a theater idol. He is popular here and is certain to have a big house.

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MOULDERS SHOES

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Water and Main.

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PINCHOT IS ELECTED CONSERVATION HEAD

Work of Roosevelt's Association Will Be Pushed.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The election of Gifford Pinchot to succeed Dr. Charles W. Eliot as president of the National Conservation association was announced last night. Eliot retains the honorary presidency. Headquarters will be in Washington.

Eliot suggested to the executive committee the election of Pinchot and his selection followed.

The association was formed last July for the purpose of helping through large membership to put the conservation principles declared by the conference governors with Roosevelt into practical effect.

A campaign to extend the membership into every state will be vigorously waged.

UNITED SOCIETIES WANT TO KNOW

Chicago, Jan. 24.—A report denied by Chief of Police Steward, that he gave official permission for the circulation of the anti-saloon petition on downtown streets and in office buildings last week, will be acted upon at a meeting of the United Societies today.

While prominent members of the society declare that they are not afraid to lay the proposition whether Chicago shall be anti-saloon territory put on the ballot at the spring election, they insist that if Chief Steward sanctioned the circulation of the petition by women downtown he displayed a partisan interest in the matter.

They also assert that the police protection allotted to have been given the circulators of the petitions increased their prestige to an appreciable extent.

AMERICANS TO AVOID POLITICS

Admiral Kimball Warns His Countrymen to Nicaragua.

San Juan, Del., Jan. 24.—Admiral Kimball has notified Americans in Nicaragua to abstain from political controversy and from violation of the laws of neutrality. Revolutions have appeared at mining centers in the department of Chontales. There is a great tension throughout the republic on account of the conscription orders. A majority of the recruits are allowed to work in the day, but must sleep in the barracks.

ARRESTING CONSERVATIVES.

Managua, Nicaragua, Jan. 24.—The arrest of the conservatives continues. It is rumored the steamer Victoria has been captured by revolutionists on Lake Nicaragua. Also that Gen. Yaquez has gone over to the revolutionists. The government declares this absurd.

ROY GROSS HOME; RECOVERING NOW

He Was Regarded Much Of His Lost Weight and Is in Good Condition. Roy Gross, the Decatur hotel barber shop manager, has returned from Jacksonville where he has been in the state hospital for several weeks. He is in fine physical condition, having gained much of his lost weight. The authorities are satisfied of his recovery. He will not immediately return to work.

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