

NEED TWO FLEETS

PRESIDENT'S POSITION IS THE RIGHT ONE.

Little Doubt That Congress Will Fall in Line with the Suggestion—Protection for the Pacific Coast.

Report has it that in his message at the opening of the session the president will urge the building of several battle ships, and the naval committee of both houses will favor the scheme. Probably this is correct. The president is expected to urge this on the ground that it will be necessary to have two powerful fleets, one on the Pacific and the other on the Atlantic. As this need ought to be apparent to everybody, congress will be expected to fall in line with the president's suggestion. According to the present plan the big Atlantic fleet will be ready to start for the Pacific just as soon as the congress is called together. Two vessels of the fleet have just got under way, and are to make the trip before the rest of the squadron moves.

The present plan is for most of the fleet to return to the Atlantic after making the cruise in the big western ocean. It is safe to say, however, that several of them will be detailed for permanent duty. As the president announced, the Pacific coast is as much American as the Atlantic coast, and it needs the protection of the navy just as strongly. There is, indeed, more need of this service on the Pacific than in the other ocean. Trouble is much more likely to come from Japan than from any other quarter. For police purposes we need a large force on the western ocean border. Our coast line is much longer than it is on the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico. Some Democratic papers are saying that the purpose is to increase the number of the fleet to the Pacific is to arouse a popular sentiment throughout the country which will compel congress, in the coming session, to provide for a substantial increase in the fleet. Possibly they are correct in this surmise. The increase, however, is needed, and it ought to have been authorized last year or earlier. San Francisco, Portland and Seattle need the protection of our warships just as much as do New York, Boston and Philadelphia. The country will stand no favoritism in the distribution of the land or naval forces. The president is neither an eastern nor a westerner. He is an American, and as an American he will ask congress to legislate for the whole country.

According to some of the foreign authorities the United States stands in the second place in naval strength now, with England in the front rank. The American people want their country to retain the second place and advance readily toward the first place. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Why Farmers Are Protectionists. "If there is anyone who deserves the comforts of this life, it is the farmer. When a farmer has splendid gas lights all over his fine new house, big bathroom, hot and cold running water, furnace heat, hard wood floors, the piano, gas for cooking and even gas lights in his barn, we can't shed tears over his splendid condition. And we are glad that we can't. In addition, he of course, has rural free delivery at his door. All he needs is a trolley car and an automobile. As it is, he has more of the comforts of life than any resident of Belle Plaine. This is not an overdrawn picture. If you don't believe it we can show you, and within eight miles of Belle Plaine, too." —Belle Plaine Union.

It is the contention of things that makes the average Iowa farmer a protectionist. All of the good things that the Union speaks of have come to him through the beneficent operation of the protection tariff, which has not only afforded him better prices for his grain and produce, but has furnished him a wonderful market in which to sell. The unlimited amount of work done by the laboring man, and the splendid wages he receives, are made him to buy generously of the good things of this life, which include in large measure the products of the farm. With a scaling down of the protective schedule, the farmer would once experience a decrease in demand for what he has to sell and a resultant falling off in profit. There are those who strenuously deny the farmer is benefited by the tariff, and that not many of them exist among the farming classes. —Burlington Hawk-Eye.

The American Payroll. True it is that the American payroll has no equal anywhere. Compositors, stonemasons and plumbers, on an average the country over, receive 46 cents an hour. The general average in the skilled trades is 35 cents an hour, as against 12 cents an hour in Germany and 17 1/2 cents in Great Britain.

In the last generation, while the population has doubled, the wage paid to labor has tripled, the sums deposited in savings banks has more than quadrupled and the savings fund in life insurance has quintupled. It is to get a place on the American payroll that immigrants are coming in at the rate of a million a year. The American payroll means "the full dinner pail," and it means, as Mr. Corley says, something more than that. It means the American school and the American home. —N. Y. Mail.

NOW UP TO THEMSELVES.

Philippines to Settle Vexed Questions in Assembly.

It is not probable the members of the Philippine assembly or the people of the islands will be altogether satisfied with the promise of future independence given by William H. Taft, secretary of war, speaking in part for President Roosevelt. Yet there is good reason to believe that in their anxiety to see the complete independence of the islands and devotion to their energies to cultivation of civic virtues and orderly life will shorten the period of their dependence more than that of the Philippines. Content and resistance to American rule will simply prolong the present regime, to the disadvantage alike of the United States and the Philippines.

Secretary Taft's positive assurance that there is no thought of transferring the islands to any other power should have a good effect. There has been no serious question at that point in this country, however it has been discussed by the press, but the people of the Philippines needed that information. They are thus given the assurance that the "American yoke," as they are called, is not to be broken, and that it is to fit themselves as rapidly as they may for self-government.

Beyond these announcements, "by authority," Secretary Taft gave the members of the assembly good advice. He wisely refrained from specifying any legislative measures they ought to take. He did suggest careful attention to their civil service and also discussed broadly the subject of good government. On the whole, the address is another proof of the diplomat's ability of the secretary of war, containing evidence of positive warning to restrain an ebullient people from enough optimistic good wishes and confidence to incite friendly feeling. The task is now for the assembly, and the people of the United States, to note with interest how the membership approaches its duty. It may mean the lightning or the increasing of the "white man's burden" in that quarter.

A Virginia Free Trader. Says the Norfolk Virginia Pilot: "The Dingley bill does more plundering in a day than a thousand 'debtors' law' yielded in a decade. Of all schemes of robbery that by law is the most thorough and comprehensive. The pirates of Tarifa had a glimmering idea of the principle, but they did not have 50,000,000 of subjective victims of people on whom to wreak its practice."

This is in the good old free trade key with which a few years ago the country was familiar. Protection is robbery. Cut it out, therefore, from the people from the system—no by degrees, but immediately. Why longer tolerate an abuse so shameless and offensive. Make it go—no on any order of government. We shall not see the Democratic party make any such pronouncement next year. A comparatively recent experience taught it a lesson it will not soon forget. The measure of 1892 was too fresh. The people recall the promises of the last Cleveland campaign, when protection was challenged to a fight to the death, and then the Democratic party, in a Democratic congress—a body which many of the protected industries dominated. There never was a more ignominious surrender. Mr. Cleveland pronounced it "dishonorable," but Mr. Gorman and others who had consented to the record in the main and in the essential is unchallenged and unchallengeable. The Democracy was on its platform and with a candid consent to it, yet violated its promise. Protection was not only not destroyed, but actually codified. The sugar trust has bought its schedule with a campaign contribution, and got the goods. The bill was a botch, but this grew out of the efforts to hunt with the hounds and hold with the hen. It is another proof of the failure of bunco—a word which Mr. Bryan has applied to the whole of Mr. Cleveland's second administration.

Secretary Root. Mr. Root has returned from Mexico, where he was on a special mission. The fruits of his visit may not show at once, but that they will show in time and prove of great and lasting benefit to both countries is certain, says the Washington Post. As a special commissioner, so to say, the secretary of state has revealed high talents. In Central and South America he favorably impressed his hosts, and in Canada he was quite as successful. And now the Mexicans have set their approval on him. Mr. Root is not a "jollifier," nor anything of the typical courtier, nor an unemotional man of some reserve. Still, in Spanish and in English America he succeeds equally well. In warm and in cold countries his temperament pleases alike, and the people recognize in him one to be treated and who has a message worth hearing.

Always Had Bryan Stated Up. Mr. Bryan says the large metropolitan cities are open to the highest bidder. The large bid of an inflated currency did not catch any of these and the silver barons failed to get the support of a newspaper of any consequence. Mr. Bryan's charge is the reverse of the truth. The leading newspapers have always sided him up correctly.

ON THE TRAIL OF THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY. By WILLIAM T. KELLIS. China Does Not Want the Missionary, But Needs Him.

Hong-Kong, China.—Exclaims the fervid missionary speaker, "China's millions are crying for the Gospel! Rubbish! China's millions would like to throw Christianity into the Yellow sea, and they would have a fine day in the banishment or murder of every missionary within the borders of the Middle Kingdom, if they had their way. It is only the fear of foreign gun-boats and armies that makes China endure the missionary. Everybody in China knows that, be he missionary, merchant or legislator. The untruthfulness of the sort of sentimental presentation of the missionary cause that is so frequently indulged in throughout Christendom is clearly understood and earnestly deplored by every thinking missionary. China does not want missionaries or missions. Sir Ernest Satow was right when he declared that China does not desire the spiritual side of western civilization. Not for a minute. From the shrewd, unforgetting lips of the Chinese statesman, the ignorant, superstitious, oil-like coolie straining at a horse's head, the Chinese people may be said to be practically one in not desiring the 'Jesus way.' True, they now want the appliances of western civilization, to make more effective their old spirit, as when the officials of North Central China conspired by telegraph against foreign-administered families. Put the principles of Christian civilization they care for not at all. Desires Versus Needs. China does not want the western religion. But does she need it? Ah! that is another story. While there is almost no basis for the enormous mis-

age to maintain their simplicity and open-heartedness in this land of guile is a marvel of religion's power. Being less the Chinese is also, logically, a 'faked.' That assembly clerk thought no more of stealing two dollars from a stranger than the river boys think of 'queesteing' the public purse. And also doubts would have worked off his conscientiousness in change, had change been required. On that very occasion I discovered, by the refusal of a Chinese to accept it, that I had been the victim of the counterfeits with which the land is flooded. When I threw it into the river the surrounding Chinese plainly looked at it as if they thought that I should be thrown after it, as a fool and a madman. Simple honesty is a most matter seems beyond the Chinese man, although they have a scrupulousness about keeping contracts once made, and about fulfilling trusts, which has been frequently and justly praised.

No Work for Capital. One day a certain native pastor was pointed out a man who really loved his wife. This was considered so rare as to be noteworthy. Marriage here is a matter of barter and convenience. Yesterday I dined with a progressive native, whose head wife sat at table with us, while his subordinate wives stood around the room, or peeped in at the doorway, and two of the little slave girls waited on the table. The family feeling, or rather clan feeling, is not based primarily on affection, but on some sort of interest. The quarrel of some of the Chinese family is patent to the ears of every stranger. If any one thinks that the ordinary Chinese woman, especially after she becomes a mother-in-law, is a crushed and down-trodden creature, he should hear her in action for five minutes. No man is better able to look out for himself than this same small-fatted creature.

The absence of anything approaching the home life known to America or Great Britain is a conspicuous fact about China. The cities are noisy, not with the roar of machinery, but with the perpetual and everywhere-present sounds of squabbling and strife. Here it is "Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost." Only yesterday a man rode along the street in a rickshaw, I saw a grown man trying to steal a bundle of old straw fuel from a group of boys whose names I have ranged from four to eight. And in the rickshaw in which they were assailing him showed how early young China learns to look out for itself. China is a synonym for selfishness.



Chinese Family Dining While Surrounded by Indescribable Filth.

In all these observations I have not had out of mind the virtues of the Chinese—their patience, their industry, their frugality, the obedience to authority and their respect for established order. All these have been magnified in their place. The present design is simply to point out certain deficiencies which Christianity, in the best of the world, has established order. All these have been magnified in their place. The present design is simply to point out certain deficiencies which Christianity, in the best of the world, has established order. All these have been magnified in their place.

Are the Christians Better? A study of the facts compels the statement that in the case of many native converts these objectionable Chinese characteristics have been eliminated, showing that Christianity really has the power to make over the people. From one viewpoint this is the crux of the missionary question. Are these converts genuine? Do they display the virtues which are commonly supposed to accompany the Christian religion?

While it is true, as the oldest living missionary to the Chinese said to me recently, that "There are more heathen in China to-day than there were when Robert Morrison began work 100 years ago," owing to the increase in population, yet there is also a body of native Christians whose lives is incredible. The Boxer movement convinced China that Christianity among her people here to stay, and cannot be stamped out.

Chinese Family Dining While Surrounded by Indescribable Filth. Ten-Ten on which he was working, his work fellows laughed heartily. As our ship was being warped into her moorings at Shanghai a boatman fell overboard, and the crowd laughed; although he spotted the point of the joke by managing to scramble out. At an execution I saw heads being hurled into the water, and laughing merrily over his fate. One must hear on the spot the unreportable ferocity of the Chinese mobs toward massacred missionaries to realize the unfeeling and unchristian Chinese cruelty. The gentleness of Jesus, who taught: "Blessed are the merciful," is sadly needed in China.

A Nation of Liars. The "truth in the inward part" was supposed to accompany Christianity, the utterly lacking in China. This is a nation of liars. Not to lie is considered foolishness. There is nowhere the Anglo-Saxon assumption that the other man is playing a trick upon you simply have to watch him in guile or suffer. The inconvenience, the annoyance, the exasperation of having to live surrounded with liars must be experienced to be appreciated.

Take one of countless incidents, as illustrative; the fare from Ching-ling to Nanking by boat is two dollars. Upon buying my return ticket I was told by the agent that it was four dollars; when the gentleman who was securing me to the boat, a missionary, made it plain that he was no spotted traveler, the man promptly and without embarrassment, accepted the right fare. That missionaries ex-

These native Christians are for the most part sincere and steadfast. Subtracting all those who may in any way be called "false Christians" and who, so far as I can ascertain, are a decided minority, there remains a body of men and women who have been made over by Christianity. The light in their faces alone is enough to mark them. Repeatedly, in various parts of the empire, I have seen hundreds such; some I have come to know personally. The unpleasant traits of their fellow countrymen which have just been enumerated have been cast off by them; they bear the marks by which sincere disciples of the Nazarene have been distinguished in all ages.

Slow, hard and discouraging are the labors of the missionary, but a handful of such converts are his reward. Despite the dead weight of native conservatism, the missionary party, and the more or less active opposition and hostility of the people as well, he is steadily winning his way, undercutting the foundations of the old creeds, and bringing to the light of understanding, tolerance and sympathy among the people, and preparing for the advent of that day, whose dawning is confidently expected, when the century seed-sowing in China will bear fruit in a great harvest of conversions.

His Sunday. "Have you devoted much time to the study of the economy?" "No," answered Senator Burghum. "My attention has been largely engaged in keeping down campaign expenses. I have been studying economical politics."