The Plattsmouth Journal

B. A. BATES, Publisher.

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News in Brief

One hundred democrats of Boston have started an Olney presidential movement.

The scavenger law of Nebraska has been held to be valid by the state supreme court.

Speaker Cannon has introduced a bill "to incorporate the Carnegie institution of Washington."

Chairman Hopkins has issued a call for the Illinois democratic state convention to be held in Springfield June 14.

A certificate of incorporation of the Iroquois Memorial Emergency hospital has been filed with the Cook county recorder.

Over 800 Buffalo lithographers, who have refused to sign the agreement submitted by their employers, will be locked out.

Huen Sik Hong, secretary of the Korean legation at Berlin, committed suicide by shooting. He was engaged to an actress.

An avalanche in the Cascade mountains in the recent storm opened one of the largest veins of bituminous coal ever found in Washington.

Because she was jealous of another woman, Mrs. William Greenfield, of Des Moines, thirty-five years old, killed herself and one-year-old child.

The English house of commons adopted by a vote of 182 to 68, a resolution in favor of allowing women to vote for parliamentary candidates.

Nine members of the city government of Milwaukee are called upon to face sixteen indictments charging them with various brands of graft.

Sir Donald Currie has donated $17,000 to the University college and London university. It is intended with this sum to build a school of advanced medicine.

Commander Charles E. Colahan, U. S. N., until recently commandant of cadets at the naval academy, Annapolis, is dead at Lambertville, N. J., from heart disease.

John W. Springer of Denver, president of the National Live Stock association, has been formally listed as a candidate for vice president on the republican ticket.

Emperor William has begun giving commissions to sculptors for models to be placed in the Hall of Fame. The first ordered for the sarcophagus of Prince Bismarck was given to Professor Begas.

Mme. Shtchenovitch has been informed that her husband, commander of the battleship Retvizan, has become deaf as the result of the cannonading in repelling the Japanese assaults on Port Arthur.

Practically complete figures, with Formosa and some districts of Japan missing, show that the first issue of 100,000,000 yen of exchequer war bonds has been subscribed four and one-half times.

The house committee on merchant marine and fisheries granted a hearing to a delegation of cordage people who favored extending for five years the date for making the coastwise laws apply to the Philippines.

The thirty-fifth annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Potomac will be held in conjunction with the meeting of the department of Connecticut Grand Army of the Republic at Hartford, Conn., on May 18 and 19.

Commander Wm. E. Sewell, late governor of the island of Guam, died at the general hospital, Mare Island, Cal., as a result of intestinal disorders. He was taken ill several weeks ago at Guam and was brought to San Francisco.

Mrs. Appoline M. Blair, widow of James L. Blair, former general counsel for the World's fair, through her attorneys entered suit in the circuit court against two insurance companies in New York to secure $35,000 insurance.

The action of the British house of commons in adopting, by an overwhelming vote, 182 to 68, a resolution in favor of allowing women to vote for parliamentary candidates, was yesterday cheered in the chamber of deputies of Rome.

Senator Stewart and Representative Curtis, of the senate and house committees on Indian affairs, respectively talked with the president about some features of the Indian appropriation bill, especially features applicable to the Indian Territory.

After experimenting many years, a local grower at Grand Junction, Colorado, claims to have developed a method of growing seedless apples, which is destined to revolutionize the apple industry, just as seedless oranges revolutionized orange growing.

The program for the national and international press congress at the world's fair, beginning May 16, has just been completed. It is expected that 4,000 newspaper men will be in attendance and of these more than one hundred will be editors of leading foreign papers.

Allen P. Lovejoy, whose wealth is estimated at several million dollars, was found dead in bed at Janesville, Wis. He was seventy-nine years old. Mr. Lovejoy had large lumber interests in Oregon, Louisville, California and Washington. He leaves a widow and two sons and a daughter.

The Hon. George W. Judd, who superintended the construction of the Chicago & Alton railroad and was for many years agent for the road, is dead. He was seventy-five years old. Mr. Judd was an intimate friend of Stephen A. Douglas and Richard Yates, who was governor of Illinois.

John F. Carroll of Parkersburg, W. Va., a geologist and author of standard works on geology, died at Waldron, Ark.

Secretary Shaw has signed warrants authorizing payment of war claims which he had ordered while governor of Iowa.

TRUST QUESTION

CONGRESSMAN HEARST WOULD HAVE IT INVESTIGATED.

RESOLUTIONS FOR COMMITTEE

Evil Effects of the Great Combinations Recited—Means Already Existing to Curb Trusts Ought to Be Rigidly Enforced.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Hearst of New York on Friday introduced resolutions providing for an investigation of the trust question by a committee of five members of the house. The resolutions contain ten clauses, reciting the evil effects of trusts on the country, among them being the following:

"Numerous illegal combinations known as trusts have been formed to absorb or eliminate competition and establish virtual monopolies with a view to controlling production and raising the price of their products.

"Such extortionate trusts as the beef trust and the coal trust and the ice trust have arbitrarily increased the cost of the necessities of life to the public.

"Such speculative trusts as the shipyards and the steel trust have inflated their stock to many times its actual values and sold to the public, transferring the people's money from banks and legitimate investments into the pockets of trust promoters and speculators.

"Industrial unrest has been fomented by the increased cost of living and by the consequent necessary efforts of labor to make its wages keep pace with the increased cost of living.

"Such trusts as the steel trust, in spite of the increased cost of living, have ruthlessly cut down the wages of hundreds of thousands of employes in order to pay dividends on watered stock, and other trusts have wholly collapsed, throwing hundreds of thousands of workmen out of exployment.

"The purchasing power of the community has been diminished by the actions of the trusts by unsound methods, which have misled the people, swindled them and robbed them of their savings.

"All classes of the community are being made to feel the evil effect of of the unrestrained greed and lawless practices of the trusts."

The committee is directed to inform the house fully on the trust situation, to the end that more effective laws may be prepared and passed by congress, regulating and restricting combinations. The committee is empowered to send for persons and papers.

An additional resolution states that "it is the sense of this house, and it does recommend, that the laws, already existing against the trusts be in the meanwhile enforced by the executive branch of this government and the legal representatives thereof."

The resolutions were referred to the committee on rules.

Showing Projected Railway From Fusan to Its Crossing the Trans-Siberian in Manchuria.

BANKING BILL GOES THROUGH.

Lobby Fails to Kill Measure in the Iowa House.

DES MOINES, Ia.—The house of representatives passed the banking bill, which permits the state to deposit its money at interest, by a vote of 65 to 15. There was a strong lobby of bankers working against the measure. It is believed it will go through the senate with little opposition.

The bill to raise the compensation of county supervisors was killed by the house by a decisive vote. The outlook is that none of the measures asking for an increase in the salary of county officers will go through both houses at this session.

Wheat Crop in Good Condition.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Reports received from all parts of the Kansas wheat belt show that today's heavy rainfall was general. Santa Fee headquarters at Topeka has advices that wheat everywhere is in good condition.

Payne Continues to Improve.

WASHINGTON—The condition of Postmaster General Payne, who has been confined to the house for some days, continued favorable. Saturday night he slept ten hours.

Civil Service in the Philippines.

WASHINGTON.—The president has issued an executive order applying civil service rules to the service of the war department in the Philippines and also classifying employes in that service specially commended.

Grover is Sixty-Seven.

PRINCETON, N. J.—Grover Cleveland quietly observed his 67th birthday at home. There was no celebration except that he received some of his most intimate Princeton friends, who calledd to offer congratulations.

RATING OF PENSIONS.

Order Regarding Payment Under the 1890 Act.

WASHINGTON.—Commissioner of Pensions Ware, with the approval of Secretary Hitchcock, has issued an order making the following change in pension rating:

In the adjudication of pension claims under the act of June 27, 1890, as amended, it shall be taken and considered as an evidential fact, if the contrary does not appear, and if all other legal requirements are properly met that when a claimant has passed the age of 62 years he is disabled one-half in ability to perform manual labor and is entitled to be rated at $6 per month; after 65 years at $8 per month, after 68 years at $10 per month, and after 70 years at $12 per month. Allowance at higher rate, not exceeding $12 per month, will continue to be made as heretofore, where disabilities other than age show a condition of inability to perform manual labor.

This order shall take effect April 13, 1904, and shall not be deemed retroactive.

The former rules of the office fixing the maximum and minimum years at 75 years, respectively, are hereby modified as above.

Committee Sees Private Report.

The special committee of the house on the postoffice report has, it is said, received the report known as "Exhibit Q." This document has never been made public and the feeling created among members by the thorough manner in which the special committee is dealing with the task assigned it, is growing somewhat intense.

Revelations of "new deals" are hinted at in the cloak rooms. In the meanwhile the special committee is carrying on its work behind closed doors. An all-day session was held today.

May Grade Consular Service.

Senator Lodge was authorized by the senate committee on foreign relations to make a favorable report on his bill to grade the consular service. The bill was materially amended and as approved by the committee provides that vice consuls may be appointed to perform the present duties of consular agents and that the latter grade shall cease. Provision is made that there shall not be more than two consul generals of the first class at $2,000 per annum; eight consul generals of the second class, at $8,000; thirteen consul generals of the third class, at $6,000, and thirteen of the fourth class, at $5,500 each. There will be thirty-seven consuls of the first class, at $5,000; thirty-five of the second class, at $4,000; sixty of the third class, at $3,000; forty of the fourth class, at $2,500; thirty of the fifth class, at $2,000, and fifty of the sixth class, at $1,800 each per annum. The bill regulates all fees, official or unofficial, and provides for the performance of notarial acts.

MANY RUSSIANS COMMIT SUICIDE

Several Officers at Port Arthur Succumb to Strain of Bombardment.

NEW YORK—News has been received from Port Arthur that several officers of the garrison, under the strain caused by the bombardment, have committed suicide, says a World dispatch from Shanghai. The total number of casualties in the town to date is 265.

Marquis Ito has held a large reception, which was attended by the foreign legation officials, cables the Seoul correspondent of the Times. He expressed the belief that under Japanese guidance Corea will advance commercially and intellectually, it being Japan's intention so to use its influence that the Coreans will never regret their connection with it. The marquis will return to Japan March 25.

Demand Statehood Rights.

LAS VEGAS, N. M.—The republican territorial convention selected delegates to the national convention at Chicago endorsed the administration of President Roosevelt and passed the following resolution by a unanimous vote:

"We favor and are of right entitled to statehood within the boundary lines of our territory as they now exist. We hereby express our confidence in the national administration and congress dealing with us in the matter of statehood fairly and justly."

Russia Warns the Chinese.

LONDON.—The Standard's Tien Tsin corespondent says that Paul Lessar, Russian minister to China, has renewed his protest against the dispatch of Chinese forces outside the great wall and has intimated that unless they are withdrawn Russia may be compelled to act on the assumption that China is abandoning her neutrality. The minister is also reported to have renewed his threat that on the slightest movement on China's part Russian troops will march on Peking.

THE BEEF TRUST

MAKING INVESTIGATION INTO ITS OPERATIONS.

THE HEARINGS ARE NOT PUBLIC

Secretary Cortelyou's Department Will Make the Investigation Without Assistance—Alaska Anxious Concerning Its Interests.

WASHINGTON—The department of commerce and labor, through the bureau of corporations, is making an investigation into the operations of the beef trust. A part of the investigation is being conducted in accordance with a resolution passed by the house of representatives recently. Prior to the adoption of the resolution, the department, through its regular channels, had collected certain information concerning the beef trust. The resolution which was drafted by Representative Martin of South Dakota, requested the department officials to ascertain, if possible, the cause of the difference in price between beef on the hoof and dressed beef. It was pointed out that western stockmen believed that they were being discriminated against by the trust and that the markets of the country were being manipulated to their detriment.

Neither Secretary Cortelyou nor Commissioner Garfield of the bureau of corporations will discuss the investigation in any way. It is made perfectly clear, however, that this investigation, as well as all others conducted by that department, will be made by the officials of the department themselves, without assistance; that the department will not stoop to detective work in the conduct of the inquiry and that the proceedings will be devoid of any spectacular features. There will be no public hearings and publicity will be avoided so far as possible.

The pending investigation is being conducted by Commissioner Garfield, under the direction of Secretary Cortelyou. Beyond that fact, practically nothing is obtainable. Whether the results of the investigation are to be made public at its conclusion will depend entirely on President Roosevelt.

Alaskans who have been in Washington all winter pressing the claims of that territory for remedial legislation fear now that congress will adjourn without according their claims the attention which in their opinion they warrant. They have seen the president during the winter in the interest of the legislation they are seeking and today several of them called at the White House again.

JAPS EMULATE THE EXAMPLE.

Togo's Activity Spurs the Enemy to Action.

ST. PETERSBURG.—Vice Admiral Togo's activity at Port Arthur is being emulated by the commander of the Japanese forces in Corea. The report of General Mistchenkow shows that the Japanese have taken the precaution to erect earthworks near Anju, which are being held by a Japanese division until the remainder of the First army corps comes up from Ping Yang. The advance of the Japanese shows that they are losing no time and they are more rapid than the Russians expected. Nevertheless, the fortifications of Anju shows the Japanese are accompanying movements by all proper military precautions.

So far as the Russians are concerned they have no intention of attacking Anju, but the 5,000 or 6,000 cavalrymen under General Mistchnekow will harrass and retard the Japanese in every way possible.

TO INTERCEPT JAP SHIPS.

Rumor Regarding Russia's Vladivostok Fleet.

PARIS—The Echo De Paris correspondent at St. Petersburg says it is rumored in naval circles there that Captain Peitzenstein's Vladivostok squadron has been ordered to overtake, at a certain point on the Pacific, the battleship and two cruisers bought from Chili by Japan and return with them to Vladivostok.

The correspondent says it is rumored that Emperor William of Germany has refused to accept three cruisers built at Kiel and Stettin, on the ground that they did not conform to the terms of the contract, and that Russia is negotiating for their purchase.

The Russian general staff, the correspondent says, estimates that the number of Japanese troops landed in Korea does not exceed 75,000.

Preparing for a Long Siege.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The Russians are continuing preparations for a prospective siege of Port Arthur by rushing large quantities of supplies to that point. According to the Novi Krai as many as forty cars, loaded with barley, chickens and other foods, arrive daily.

You cannot make clouds for others and live in the clear ligat yourself.

Naval Captain Commended.

WASHINGTON.—Captain Royal B. Bradford, commanding the battleship Illinois, is warmly commended in the report made public of the finding of the court of inquiry which investigated the collision of the Missouri and Illinois off Guantanamo for his splendid seamanship, which, the report says, saved the Illinois from what would almost inevitably have proved her total destruction had it not been for the excellent judgment shown by her captain at several critical moments.

Kansans Ask Big Appropriation.

WASHINGTON.—A large delegation of Kansans, comprising senators, representatives and prominent citizens of the state called at the War department and were heard at length by General Mackenzie, chief of engineers, upon the pending proposition to straighten out and change the course of the Kaw river with a view to the prevention of a repetition of the flood which engulfed part of Kansas City and other Kansas towns. The delegation wants $1,500,000 to begin work

INDIAN AFFAIRS IN THE SENATE.

Senator Dick of Ohio Makes His First Appearance.

WASHINGTON—The senate spent the greater part of Tuesday on the Indian appropriation bill. Mr. Lodge took exception to the provision exempting candidates for the position of Indian agency farmer from civil service examination and on his suggestion the amendment was passed over without action. Other features arousing discussion were those relating to the designation of Indian school superintendents as Indian agents and authorizing the payment of claims made by Indian tribes on account of the difference between the value of payments made them in greenbacks and coin payments as required by the treaties.

Late in the day Senator-elect Dick of Ohio appeared in the senate chamber the first time since his election. He went direct to Senator's Foraker's seat and was cordially greeted, but their conference was cut short by the announcement of an executive session, from which Mr. Dick, not yet having taken the oath of office, was excluded.

IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Information Asked Regarding Recent Pension Order.

WASHINGTON.—The senate adopted the following resolution offered by Mr. Overman:

"That the secretary of the interior be and he is hereby directed to inform the senate:

"First—Whether an order has recently been issued enlarging the pension act of June 27, 1890, and amendments, as to disabilities of applicants for pensions, and if so to send to the senate a copy of said order.

"Second—By what amount, if any, will said order increase pensions annually, particularly when the same shall become fully operative."

The senate passed the house bill approving the act of the territorial legislature of Arizona authorizing a bond issue of $100,000 for the enlargement of the insane asylum of the territory.

The bill authorizing the incorporation of the American academy in Rome was passed. The senate then went into executive session and later adjourned until Monday.

A NEBRASKAN'S CITIZENSHIP.

Lost Papers and State Court Can't Restore His Rights.

WASHINGTON — The supreme court of the United States, in an opinion, by Justice Brown, affirmed the finding of the court of claims in the case of Charles Gagnon against the United States and the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians, an Indian depredation case, involving the question as to whether a common law court has jurisdiction to enter a judgment of naturalization in a case in which it is alleged that naturalization papers had been granted thirty-three years ago, but of which no record remained. The point was decided in the negative. Gagnon, claiming to have lost his naturalization papers, applied to the district court in Richardson county Nebraska, where he claimed to have been naturalized in 1863, to declare him a naturalized citizen. This the court did, notwithstanding no record of the former proceeding was found. The court held this process to be irregular and refused to allow the claim.

GET FINAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Canal Commission Meets and Receives Letter from President.

WASHINGTON.—Preliminary work was begun by the Isthmian canal commission. The first full meeting of the commission was held in the offices of Admiral Walker, the chairman. The session resolved itself into an informal discussion of various features of the preliminary work and of preparations for the first visit of the commission to Panama. President Roosevelt entertained the members of the commission and Secretary Taft at luncheon. During the luncheon there was a general discussion of various phases of the canal question.

General instructions to the members of the commission were contained in a letter from President Roosevelt to the commission, under date of March 8.

COMBES WILL HOLD HIS PLACE.

French Premier Says He Has No Intention of Resigning.

PARIS—In the course of an interview Prime Minister Combes denied the reports that he will immediately retire from the premiership as a result of the recent cabinet reverses. M. Combes says he recognizes that the situation of the ministry is delicate, but that so far as he is concerned, he proposes to pursue to the end the work he has undertaken without deviating a hair's breadth from the course he planned.

This statement is interpreted as applying to the work in connection with the pending law for the supression of the teaching orders, which probably will be passed in a fortnight, when the premier' main work will have been accomplished.

Nationalists Win Victory.

DUBLIN.—The nationalists in the St. Stevens Green division of Dublin elected Lawrence Waldron to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the death of James McCann by a majority of 620 over the unionist candidate. Mr. Waldron is a wealthy stock broker. While he was not an official nationalist candidate, he is pledged to support home rule and the proposal to establish a Catholic university in Dublin and to oppose the present financial relations between Ireland and Great Britain.

Anarchists After Police.

ROME.—Another anarchist outrage was attempted, but the infernal machine, which was placed on the window sill of the residence of Police Commissioner Binet, was discovered in time to prevent any damage being done. The machine was identical the one which was exploded March 18 outside the residence of Commissioner of Police Laurent, and which wrecked the house, killed an artillery officer, Major Papin, and fatally or wounded half a dozen others.

IT IS RUMOR ONLY

REPORT TELEGRAPHED THAT PORT ARTHUR HAS FALLEN.

THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION

Japanese Said to Have Captured the Place After Combined Land and Sea Attack—Troops Get in Rear of the City.

LONDON—A number of rumors are printed in newspapers here this morning which must be read with reserve. The Telegraph's Tokio correspondent cables of the Japanese occupation of Port Arthur after a combined land and sea attack Saturday and Sunday.

It is asserted that a division of Japanese landed on the Liao Ting peninsula Saturday and engaged the Russians near Port Arthur, while the fleet bombarded that place from Saturday evening until Sunday morning. The same correspondent reports a sharp encounter at Chyong Syong, on the Yalue river, about thirty miles northeast of Wiiju, in which the Russians lost 600 killed or wounded.

The Daily Chronicle's Shanghai correspondent hears from New Chwang that the Japanese crossed Tat Tung pass and that collisions with the Russians occurred.

Reports from Seoul and Korea are to the effect that Marquis Ito has arranged to lend 5,000,000 yen to Korea on easy terms.

According to the Standard's Tien Tsin correspondent, China is appealing to the powers for an extension of a year in the period for the payment of the indemnity growing out of the Baxer troubles.

The Tien Tsin correspondent of the Daily Mail reports that Katoka, a Japanese merchant and Russian spy, has been assassinated by being buried alive, but that the Japanese authorities disavow any knowledge of the assassins.

The Morning Post's Hamburg correspondent says that Russia has purchased the Hamburg steamer Hafis which is now at Vladivostok, for $25,000, and that the vessel's name has been changed to Alexetrapant.

CHINESE ARMS MENACE RUSSIA

Forty Thousand Troops Drilled by Foreigners Ready for Field.

PARIS—The Figaro's correspondent in Berlin telegraphs that a German officer who has just arrived there from Mancuuria says serious operations in the far east will not be begun before the end of June. The principal obstacle to Russian victory according to this officer, is the fact that 45,000 Chinese troops, well trained and with German and Japanese instructors, are menacing Russia's lines of communication. Russia, with the support of Germany, will protest against this concentration of Chinese troops.

According to the Tokio correspondent of the Petit Parisienne official confirmation has been received of the destruction of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Skerl at Port Arthur by the explosion of a submarine mine.

The correspondent says that the mikado yesterday bade adieu to 495 officers who were leaving for the front.

MILLARD SEES THE PRESIDENT

No Change in U. S. District Attorney at Present.

WASHINGTON. — While at the White house Senator Millard talked to the president about the case of Williamson S. Summers, United States attorney for Nebraska, whose removal from office it is said, has been promised by the president to Edward Rosewater of Omaha and Senator Dietrich of Nebraska. Senator Millard put the matter to the president in such a way that no change will be made in the office for some time at least, and Summers will remain where he is until Senator Millard is fully agreed that he ought to be succeeded by someone else. Senator Millard has not yet reached the point of assent to this proposition.

It is said there is no question that Summers will eventually fall of reappointment, but the president will not care to hasten his removal until Senator Millard is willing.

CUTS THE APPROPRIATION.

Money for the Lewis and Clarke Exposition.

WASHINGTON—The house committee on industrial arts and expositions considered in an all-day session the report of its sub-committee on the senate bill appropriating $1,750,000 toward the Lewis and Clarke exposition to be held at Portland, Ore.

The sub-committee cuts the appropriation to $200,000 for a government exhibit; $225,000 for government buildings; $25,000 for an Alaskan exhibit; $25,000 for a Philippine exhibit, and authorizes the coinage of 250,000 souvenir dollars. These dollars are to sell at $2 each and the profit will go to the exhibition company. The full committee will consider the bill again Saturday.

Exposition Officials Deny It.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—When shown a dispatch from New York to the effect that a concern managed by J. D. McGregor proposed to furnish a large number of non-union persons to fill employment contracts with the World's fair, Walter B. Stevens, secretary of the exposition company, said: "The exposition company has no knowledge of McGregor and his plans. There is no agreement between concessionaires and the World's fair as to the employment of labor, union or otherwise."

Remarkable Marksmanship.

WASHINGTON—In a private letter received at the navy department from an officer on board the Kearsarge, the following remarkable record made by that battleship in her target practice, just completed at Pensacola, is given: One thirteen-inch gun made six hits out of seven shots in five minutes and twenty seconds. An eight-inch gun made ten hits out of ten shots in five minutes and twenty seconds, and a five-inch gun made eighteen hits out of eighteen shots in two minutes.

Wit and Wisdom

Natural Resentment.

The Rev. Dr. Fourthly was reading the morning lesson.

"'Doth not even nature itself teach you,' he said, 'that if a man have long hair it is a shame unto him?'"

Whereupon Cactus Bill, who happened to be in town that day, and had gone to church for the first time in 25 years, fingered his revolver ominously, but thought better of it, and avenged himself by withholding the $5 gold piece he had intended to drop into the basket when it came around.

Temporary Truce

"What do you do when your wife asks you if you ever cared for any other woman before you met her?" asked Ruggles.

"I temporize," said Boggles.

"Temporize?"

"Yes; I tell her I haven't time to enumerate them all."

He Saw Double.

Mrs. Booze (3 a. m.)—What keeps you so long in the hall. Why don't you come up to bed?

Mr. Fuller Booze (loaded)—Theresh two—hic—hall racksh down here—hic—and I don't know—hic—which one to hang my hat on.

Mrs. Booze—Hang one hat on each.

Rather Unappreciative.

Cecil (sentimentally)—Don't you feel gloomy when the sky is overcast with gray, when the rhythmic rain sounds a dirge upon the roof, and the landscape's beauties are hid by the weeping mist?

Hazel (sweetly)—Yes; it's dreadfully annoying. It does make one's hair come out of curl so!

His Confession.

She had worked her leap year prerogative and he had balked at the hurdle.

"Ah," she sighed, "this is a cruel and unexpected blow!"

"If it will make it any easier for you," said the marble-hearted young man, "I'm willing to admit that I snore dreadfully."

Same Old Story.

Muggsby—That fellow Naggs is the biggest fool crank I ever met.

Juggins—How's that?

Muggsby—I argued with him two hours yesterday without being able to convince him that I was right and he was wrong.

That Young Man Is Doomed.

Anxious Mother—What are the intentions of that young man who calls on you three times a week?

Pretty Daughter—Oh, it doesn't matter in the least. This is leap year and I know what my intentions are all right.

A Living Proof.

Willie Sapphedd—No, I have no bwothers or sistahs. I'm the only child of my pawents.

Miss Oldestile—Dear me! And there are people who will persist in assert that marraige isn't a failure!

No Market Left.

"You know my intentions are good," he pleaded.

"Of course," was the reply, "and I suppose you might sell them for paving blocks if hades wasn't pretty well paved already. As it is, it looks to me as if you had loaded up with goods for which there is no market left."

Would if She Could.

"I believe you'd stand before a mirror all day," said Mr. Closely snappishly, "doing nothing but changing your dresses."

"Perhaps I would," replied Mrs. Closely dreamily, "if I had the dresses."—Stray Stories.

A Toast.

"Put down that glass!" cried Mrs. Jawsum, catching her husband in the act of taking a wee nip. "If you drink that liquor I'll never speak to you again as long as I live."

"My dear," said he, as he gulped it down, "here's long life to you."—Philadelphia Press.

Cautious.

"Is he the author of the piece?"

"Well, I wouldn't care to make that an unqualified statement, but he is the man who draws the royalties."