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John W. Gates has organized a thirty million dollar bread trust and will have branches in all cities and will practically control the price of bread.

A Bellefontaine, O., dispatch, carried by the Associated Press, says: "Judge William H. West, aged eighty-seven, widely known as the 'blind man eloquent,' who lost his sight while a member of the supreme court of Ohio, is dead. In his career he was a member of the general assembly, attorney general and a candidate for governor. He nominated Blaine for the presidency in 1884.

The city council of Oconto, Wis., has imposed a tax of \$6.00 upon bachelors between the ages of twenty-one and fifty years. The money thus raised is to be used for the support of needy children.

The initiative, referendum and recall for all cities and towns in California becomes a law in sixty days. Governor Johnson has signed the measure passed by the legislature. All elective municipal officers may be recalled four months after they assume office upon petition of twenty-five per cent of the registered voters of the town. The official sought to be recalled will be subject to an election and must leave office immediately if another man receives the majority of votes. The initiative and referendum can be invoked upon petition of 25 per cent of the legislators. Unless the governing body passes or vetoes the measures desired within thirty days, an election will be held to enable the people to pass upon the measures. If the petition carries only 10 per cent of the voters and the governing body refuses to act, the measures come up for a vote of the people at the next regular municipal election.

A Berlin dispatch to the New York Sun says: "Count von Reventlow, the famous writer, is about to publish a critical opinion concerning the relation of the United States and Japan. He asserts that Japan unquestionably is preparing for an aggressive war against the United States with as much care as she prepared for the struggle with Russia. The count asserts that statesmen are convinced that Japan cannot continue to exist as a great power unless she possesses absolute naval supremacy in the Pacific, which is also indispensable to her commercial prosperity. The desire for this supremacy is the logical result of her efforts to command the Chinese markets and defeat the attempted conquest thereof by the Americans."

A Chicago dispatch to the Denver Times says: "Congressman Champ Clark of Missouri is a candidate for president. He 'admitted' today he would make a good candidate. This is the way he put it: 'Well the democratic party might go further and fare worse—and I think it will.'

The United States court at Los Angeles threw out the suit brought by George E. Roberts and others to dispossess the Southern Pacific railroad company of oil lands in California.

The New York investigation disclosed that James R. Keene's ice boy had made \$30,000 on a tip he had

received through his work, but the Louisville Courier-Journal says: "Of course it would have knocked all the romance and selling quality out of their stories if the New York correspondents had mentioned that Keene's 'telephone boy' who 'cleaned up' \$30,000 in Wall street was a man well over thirty years old."

A Yankton S. D., dispatch to the Sioux City (Ia.) Journal, says: "L. E. May, a relief express messenger of St. Paul, working for the Great Northern on the run into this city, lost a package containing \$1,000 in bills. The package of money was consigned from Sioux Falls to a party in Davis. Instead of following the usual practice of putting it in the safe, May put it in his pocket, and when near Tea he dropped it out of his pocket and it fell from the car. Being an inexperienced hand May did not think that he had authority to stop the train, and it had gone a couple of miles when the conductor learned of the accident and backed the train to the place where the messenger thought the package fell out. It could not be found, however, and the train came on without it. Section hands were sent out from Tea and May returned to Sioux Falls from Lennox, and after a prolonged search the place where the package was dropped was discovered, and \$950 found, the package having broken and the rest blown away."

The Kansas legislature has passed a state utilities commission bill something like the New York and Wisconsin laws. Concerning this measure the Kansas City Star says: "The utility bill, as reported from the conference committee and finally adopted, provides for a board appointed by the governor. It carries with it a re-enactment of all the present railroad laws, with additional provisions regulating railways. It also includes all telephone, telegraph, street railway, express and sleeping car companies. The utilities commission is given the power to regulate rates and tolls charged by all public utilities corporations, and to order competing companies to establish joint rates. It has the power, also, to make physical valuations of the property of the companies to determine what constitutes a fair and just rate for the company. The commissioners may institute proceedings upon their own initiative to compel

public rates or to readjust their charges to the public. It gives the utilities companies the right of appeal to the courts, but pending the appeal the rate ordered by the commission must remain in force. Any citizen may appeal to the commission for the adjudication of any franchise council which controls a public utility. Upon appeal the state commission has the power to regulate local public utilities companies. The commission is also given the power to regulate and control the issuance of stocks and bonds by public utilities companies.

President Diaz of Mexico says he will not treat for peace for the revolutionist. He says he has his own ideas about bringing "rebels" to terms.

The governor of Texas has signed a bill providing or a vote on the constitutional amendment for statewide prohibition. The special election will take place July 22.

The Mexican revolutionists say that before they enter into any conference looking toward peace, Diaz must resign as president and permit an honest election and a free ballot to be held.

A Chicago dispatch, carried by the Associated Press, says: "Nine men, including a former railroad president; bankers, brokers and financiers were indicted by the federal grand jury in the Matunski river coal land cases. The men are charged with having conspired to defraud the United States government out of 10,000 acres of coal lands valued at \$10,000,000. Those indicted are: A. C. Frost, former president of the Alaska Northern railway; former president and promoter of the Chicago-Milwaukee electric road and president of A. C. Frost & Co. George M. Seward, Chicago, receiver for A. C. Frost & Co. Pierre G. Beach, Chicago, secretary of the Alaskan Northern railroad and secretary and treasurer of the Frost company. Frank Watson, Spokane, Wash. George A. Ball, Muncie, Ind., said to be financial backer of Frost. Duncan M. Stewart, Alaska, former manager of the Southern Bank of Toronto, Canada. Harry G. Osborne, Toronto. Gwyn L. Francis, Toronto, Francis H. Stewart, Toronto. The last three are bankers and brokers."

Frank Work, a New York multimillionaire, died, age ninety-two.

Governor Dix signed the bill incorporating the American Scandinavian foundation to receive and maintain funds, the income of which is to be used for the purpose of main-



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