THAT MAN EDMISTEN AS A REFORMER treasurer in Hamilton county when the default occurred there and when the court house was burned to cover populist officials can say "you repub" FOR LACK OF VESSELS

The Railroad Fare Record of One Who is Now Leading the Fusion Legislative State Committee.

A FINE SAMPLE OF THE FUSION FORCES

How He Tried to Work Every Working Hour of Every Working Day, and in Doing So Worked the Governor and Other Professed Reformers.

working hour of every working day" fare for any of the trips mentioned in to his salary has not only struck him the dates being given in the order in the face and sadly disfigured his written by Mr. Edmisten himself: countenance, but it has hit J. H. Edmisten, state cil inspector and chairman of the fusion legislative campaign committee, and in fact every state officer and employe who has anything to do with the administration. Governor Holcomb was out of the city yesterday and has been for the past few weeks, making campaign speches. Though he does not appear to put in every working hour of every working day at his office he continues to draw his salary and an occasional \$40 thrown in for house rent. The attorney general is in the same boat, the house rent, excepted. While Oil Inspector Edmisten puts in day and night trying to place Senator Allen back in office and possibly defeat some of the state officers who were not Edmisten men in the state convention, he keeps right on drawing pay as state oil inspector, inculding liberal allowances for railroad fare and other "expenses." Contrary to the attorney general's views in the Irvine case Mr. Edmisten does not go to the trouble of proving that he puts 1897. Some months he drew fare to in any working hours of any working certain towns and other months drew day. It is the general coinion about the state house that Mr. Edmisten and While Mr. Edmisten is limited to a other state officers care as much for the salary of \$2,000 a year the records in attorney general's opinion in this matter as he seems to himself. How much \$3,634.97 for the year 1897. Of that of the attorney general's opinion is amount \$716.17 was drawn under the "preached" and how much of it is practiced by him is too well known by those who are aware that he is spending most every working hour of every working day and part of Sundays on the trains.

BEFORE TAKING.

There are those who contend that Oil Inspector Edmisten did try last year to put in "every working hour of every working day" on his job as shown by his expense account and his expenses: reports of oil inspected by him. These reports taken together prove that he made a desperate effort, because he is shown to have been in two or three places at once, industriously drawing railroad fare for trips to distant parts of the state when he was at other points in the state industriously inspecting oil. Governor Holcomb made e mild protest and it was intimated that he thought Mr. Edmisten had railread passes on at least three of the main line railroads in the state, but like the governor has done on other occasions, he gave in and allowed Mr. Edwisten to draw the fare. It is reported that the governor consented only after Mr. Edmisten reminded him of the house rent affair.

How Mr. Edmisten explained his devote "every working hour of every that the attorney general's famous ers." holding had not been given then and that when the holding was made pub-He it was found not to contain anything about railroad passes or omni-

WHILE TAKING.

Regardless of whether Mr. Edmisten was trying to put in full time last year on his job, it is admitted that he is not doing much at it this year. As chairman of the legislative campaign committee he has no time to devote to work on behalf of the state. In order to make a showing for Senator Allen he is compelled to give most of the working hours of most working days and part of Sundays to working up a sentiment in favor of reform. His labor last year in the oil inspector's office is considered just the training necessary to make him valuable this year in heading a reform movement. This is a part of his record written in his own handwriting in his expense account for May, 1897, the dates mentioned being given in the order in which they were written in his account filed in the office of Auditor Cornell:

May 2, Pender and return, fare.\$ 8.37 May 8, Chappell and return.. 24.24 May 9, Omaha and return 3.30 May 12, Bentrice and return.. 3.00 May 15, Orleans and return... 13.26 May 17, Omaha and return. ... 3.30

Total for railroad fore\$ 45.48

AFTER TAKING. This amount was drawn by Mr. Edmisten for the month of May for railroad fare in addition to his salary, which is \$2,000 a year. It was not a year or two ago?" very large amount, but what Mr. Edmisten has not explained to the public turn on May 8, when his report of oil Edmisten happened to pay railroad of it." fare on May 2 from Lincoln to Pender | "Well," said Croaker, with a long and return and on the same day in- breath, "that's one on us. One re-

Attorney General Smyth's ruling | fare for round trips to Pender and that a state officer must devote "every | Chappell and did not draw railroad to his job before he can lay claim the following monthly report for May.

•	witteen by Mr. Bumbeen mimbell.
-	Darrels
	inspected.
1	May 18—Lincoln 296
-	May 22—York 117
)	May 10-Pawnee 152
r	May 21—Tecumseh 118
7	May 25-Grand Island 117
	May 26—Omaha 88
3	May 26-Lincoln 117
•	May 27-Nebraska City 87
3	May 27-Nebraska City 155
1	May 27—Beatrice 17
٠	May 28—Falls City 83
3	May 28—David City 118
1	May 28—Hebron 117
1	May 2-Grand Island 117
3	May 2—Lincoln 118
٠	May 8—Beaver City 205
3	May 15-Falls City 87
3	May 8-Omaha 117
1	
	Total barrels
I	
	HIT OR MISS.
	The record for May le a fair comple

The record for May is a fair sample of many other months in the year nothing for trips to the same towns. the state house show that he drew head of "railroad fare." His bill for fare increased from \$39 in August to \$82 in the month of October when the political campaign he was managing grew hotter. At that time he was chairman of the populist state central committee. The following is Mr. Edmisten's rec-

ord by months for the year 1897. It shows the amount he claims to have expended for railroad fare and also the amount he drew for salary and

	Railroad	Salary &
	fare.	expenses.
January	\$ 74.23	\$ 299.60
February		309.66
March		305.57
April	66.24	281.08
May	55.48	413.61
June		275.57
July		301.33
August		258.22
September		282.44
October	82.50	288.95
November	83.52	293 56
December		327.38
Tetals	\$716.17	\$2 624 97

Totals \$716.17

Mr. and Mrs. Croaker Talk Politics.

"I see by the weekly Growler," said rapid flight over the state and his Coaker to his wife, "that Attorney evident cmnlpresence is not known, General Smyth has drawed the Bible but it is claimed by his state house on 'em. He's skinnin' the republicans friends that he is fully able to ex- from the text, 'Thou shalt not steal.' plain anything. The most common ex- Gives it to 'em right from the shoulder planation given is that he was simply on the Bartley and Moore defaults. following the advice of Attorney Gen- | Says that wherever you see republiceral Smyth that a state employe must ans in office there you see stealin'. But wherever fusionists are in office there working day' to his job before he can you will see honest government. Says lay claim to his salary. Two obsta- the issue in this campaign is 'twixt cles in the path of his reasoning are honest men and republican default-

"Say anything about any other defaulters except republicans?" asked Mrs. Croaker innocently. "Hain't no others, Mariar, hain't no

"No defaults in this state except by republicans? Better read your paper

over again, You've missed something." "I've missed nothin', Mariar, nothin', Read every line of the Growler every week for the last six years an' if any reformer had gone astray it would have been in the paper an' I'd know about it. That's one thing, Mariar, about the weekly reform press. It always gives the news, the facts, the truth and nothin' but the truth. That's why the reform voters are so well posted. They read the reform press. Why, Mariar, here! Read this paper, the Weekly Growler! Look at it! There's a standin' notice, kept runnin' every week so that every subscriber can read it, which says: 'This paper prints all the political news and gives both sides so that the common people can keep posted. The Growler hews to the line, let the chips fall where they may.' That's why I like the Growler, Mariar. It gives both sides and hews to the line. And that's why I say there hain't been no reform officials gone estray in this state. If there had been the Growler'd had it in print an' I'd have read it. The Growler hews to the line, Mariar, hews to the line," and Croaker shook the paper at his wife as if to defy contradiction.

"Do you remember," said Mrs. Croaker, slowly, "about the burning of the court house in Gosper county a

"Yes," said Croaker, nervously; "yes, I guess I do. Yes, I remember is why he draw \$24.24 for the expenses | that. Read about it at the time, but of a railroad trip to Chappell and re- the Growler didnt say who caused the burnin'. Said it was a mysterious case inspected shows that on May 8 he was and that the county treasurer who was in Cmaha and Beaver City working a reformer an' was missin', would no like a beaver trying to get through doubt turn up all right. Didn't he

ask why Mr. Edmisten drew railroad beautiful fusionists who was county in the butterine case. Their customary at least some of her boats.

"Yes, I remember the court house default of the county treasurer, but pass business with this kind of remtime what his politics was."

"Do you remember," continued Mrs. Croaker, "about the \$30,000 default of the county treasurer in Platte county a year or two ago?"

"Yes; I remember about it, but Mariar, that man couldn't have been one o' the silver forces. Why, Mariar, it's impossible. Platte county has been in control o' the silver forces for years. Judge Sullivan lives there. Was district judge there for years. If a fusionist defaulted in Platte county when Judge Sullivan was on the bench there he got promptly punished, you can count on that, Mariar, for a reform judge lets no guilty man escape."

"Well," said Mrs. Croaker, "it was a reformer who defaulted and there was a reformer on the bench and a reform prosecutor, but there was no prosecution. The brother of the defaulter who was with him in business when the default took place has since been promoted to a situation in the state house at a fat salary."

"Must have had a strong pull somewhere, to saved 'em from prosecution and then give 'em promotion after-

"Yes, they had a pull, The man promoted into the state house is Senator Allen's son-in-law."

"But, Mariar-" "Wait a minute, John. Do you remember the \$20,000 default in Greeley county? There was another reformer and another bright and shining leader of the silver forces, in a fusion county where the people go wild with enthusiasm every time the Bartley default is mentioned. They shake hands and congratulate each other on every street corner and at every cross roads postoffice over the Bartley default as if it was an act of Providence, a drifting star to keep populism afloat for another two years. And there was Custer county! Keep your seat, John. I'm not through yet. There was Custer county, the very nesting place of calamity and repudiation, where Pop Holcomb was on the district bench; where Pop Sullivan was on the district bench; where Pop Billgreene was on the district bench; where all the county officers were pops; where the prairies burned all night with enthusiasm for wild cat money and wild cat reform; where each reform candidate is compelled to stand up and pledge himself that he will never steal and will never ride on a railroad pass, for they distrust each other as hypocrites always do; there in Custer county they defaulted in the county treasurer's office, in the county judge's office and all over the county among the township treasurers, and if you'd go there today you'd find 'em sitting 'round reading the Weekly Growler and gleating over the Bartley default.

short \$400 at the end of his term and in Grand Island no butterine has been they put him in again as they said to used. This claim is in direct contragive him a chance to pay up."

"Did he pay up?" had increased the shortage to \$700. The pop county judge was short \$600 and the county commissioners so an- the squaw man of the fusion adminisnounced it, but the ring renominated | tration. his for re-election.'

"Ought to taken him off the ticket, Mariar, in a case like that," said Mr. Croaker.

"Take him off the ticket? Why? He was no worse than the others. had defaulted for \$700, and there was smoughed \$1,200 or \$1,500 as investigator and there was Governor Holcomb who had raked in as much more from 'round the Bartley scandal and crying 'Stop Thief.' How could they take the township treasurer off the ticket while bulging with ill-gotten house rent and railread passes?"

foot up? "Well, there's \$5,000 in Gosper county and the court house burned; \$6,500

"Now, Mariar, how much does this

in Hamilton county and the court house burned; \$30,000 in Platte county and Senator Allen's son-in-law promoted; \$30,000 in Greeley county and \$15,000 in Custer county.' "That's \$86,500, Mariar."

"Then there's \$2,600 in Stanton county, \$17,000 in Howard county, \$5,000 in Thayer county, \$5,000 in Sherman county, \$1,540 in Sheridan county, \$25,-000 in Hall county, \$5,000 in Keith county and \$13,184 in Harlan county, making a grand total of \$204,384."

'Still, Mariar, that hain't as much as Bartley stole."

"No, it is not as much, but it was all they could get. Bartley turned over \$800,000 in money to his successor. What would have happened if that tends to the future prosperity of these house burners had been in the state treasurer's office?"

"But Meserve is in the state house," said Croaker.

"Yes, Meserve is in the state house, and his straw bond is in the state house, and we haven't settled with him yet," said Mrs. Croaker.

The Butterine Issue.

ply to the articles published showing making no reply because there is nothing which they can say to contradict a single statement that has been published. All the long record showing used in state institutions, is the absowhole truth, for if the entire butterine business was sifted to the bottom it would show double the amount used that any record has been made concerning it. While the populists state officials see the hopelessness of any rewas not given to the public.

licans did it," they seem to think it is a complete and satisfying answer to burnin' in Hamilton county, and the the public. They have treated the it didn't know that the treasurer was edy; treated the house rent record of a fusionist. Growler didn't say at the Governor Holcomb with this remedy; treated the do-nothing subserviency of the railroad commission with this remedy, but they cannot apply it to their ill-flavored butterine business.

> When the republican legislature in 1895, by the overwhelming vote placed upon the statute books a law which practically outlawed the product of packing houses and rendering establishments made up in the form and appearance of butter, public opinion was expressed in a way not to be misunderstood. For nearly two years following the passage of this law a republican state board was in power at the state house, and the board of purchase and supplies was a republican board. During that period not a pound of the butterine packing house product was purchased for the state institutions. The state board of purchase and supplies abided by the law and recognized public opinion. It was left for those professing higher integrity and more ability to recognize the voice of the people, to force upon the unfortunate wards of the state the tons of this unwholesome product which has been fairly and openly outlawed.

The attitude of Governor Holcomb when this law to protect the public from the fraudulent imposition of butterine makers was placed on the statute books, is more and more interesting the more one considers it, The governor was against this character of legislation; that he was is shown in the right, and that he had a veto ready when the law was first passed. He based his veto upon the claim that when the law compelled butterine makers to color their product pink that they were going too far. The dairy and creamery people of the state who urged the passage of the law, wanted to wipe out the fraud as completely and thoroughly as it had been already outlawed in such states as Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota. They knew, and Governor Holcomb knew, that if the stuff was colored pink that it would not be placed on the market at all as a food, product. They knew that people would not make a practice of eating pink butter any more than they would purple lard or black axle grease. So the attitude of the governor in vetoing the first bill passed was to make a way for butterine manufacturers to foist their product upon a community and fool them into the use of it. That it has worked to the governor's satisfaction, at least, is shown very conclusively in the showing made of the wholesale purchases made in the last fourteen months for state institutions.

There is one feeble protest that has "One township treasurer in Custer | been made in semi-defense, and that is county (Elk Creek township) was the claim that at the soldiers' home diction to the statement of scores of old soldiers who insist that they have "At the end of his second term he been fed upon the stuff and there is the word of these old soldiers standing out against the one feeble protest made by

But what if this were true? What kind of a defense is it that attempts to justify the feeding of the stuff to inmates of all the institutions and then making one exception? Is there any There was the township treasurer who reason why the blind children at Nebraska City, who cannot see what they Beal renominated for senator who had are being fed, or that the dumb children at Cmaha, who cannot speak their protest against that kind of food, should be given butterine and some the state as house rent and it was other institution be given the real a merry ring of reformers all dancing | wholesome product? Is there any reason why the boys and girls in the reformatories, or even the poor, helpless defaulting judge and the defaulting insane should be given this product of some grease foundry of unknown lineat the head of the ticket was the name | age, while some one institution is beof a governor whose pockets were ing made an exception? This is a very conclusive kind of defense to put up for an intelligent public to accept.

Nebraska is just fairly entering the company of the great dairy states of the northwest. Its resources and possibilities in the creamery line are equal to any possessed by its neighbors. Other states have builded their creamery and dairy business into great prominence and profit by absolutely er was promptly wiped out by an stamping out by legislation the packing house false butter competition. Nebraska has started in to legislate on this question, and this legislation has the confidence and the support of the public behind it. When, therefore, those who represent the state in its highest capacity attempt by their acts and influence to nullify existing law and fly in face of public opinion, they simply brand themselves as enemies of the state and its people, and as enemies of one of the greatest industries the commonwealth.

CLEARING DECK FOR ACTION What Disposition Is to Be Made of the Boats.

Clearing away all deck hamper for action is the question. What is to become of the ship's boats which hang on davits fore and aft? In case of se-The fusion forces are making no re- rious action every boat would become a source of grave danger, says Chambers' up their butterine record. They are Journal. If an enemy's shot struck any one of them (and they are in such exposed positions that they must inevitably be struck), the splinters of their purchases of butterine, giving the | wood and iron would carry death and number of the vouchers, and the destruction to the guns' crews and othwholesale way in which it has been ers on deck. The scattering fragments, too, would be almost worse than the lute, undeniable truth. It is not the bursting shell. It could not be hoped that, after an engagement of half an hour, there would be a single boat left that could float, and meantime their presence would have added heavily to the already inevitable loss of life in sponse to the facts of record as pub- action. So speedily has this been recthe latter place and 117 barrels at the former place. When this is explained the people will probably ask how Mr.

"No, he never did. Robbed the county for every dollar it had, set fire to the court house and ran away by the light of three or four tons was compiled that would drop their heats over the shinks." lished, they are hoping that it will go ognized that many naval officers of exthe whole record in all its greasiness side and let them drift. When the action was over a victorious ship could at the foretop of more than one- paid this snug sum, but Uncle Sam Even the usual defense resorted to then cruise round the place where it twelfth of the ships that carry Ameriis that much richer, and none of it and 118 barrels at Lincoln. Then when this is answered some reformer may this is answered some reformer may this is answered some reformer may the best of the laborate some reformer may be the laborate some reformer may the best of the laborate some reformer may be the laborate some reformer may the best of the laborate some reformer may be t

FREIGHT FOR ASIA REFUSED ON THIS ACCOUNT.

Why President Hill of the Great Big Foreign Manufacturing Plant to Be Northern Railway Was Obliged to Decline the Haul of Cotton and Steel for China and Japan.

A correspondent of the American

Economist, referring to a recent expression by James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern railroad, in favor of a bounty of \$2 per ton on all export tonnage as a means of reviving the American merchant marine, makes the following caustic comment: "It seems that J. J. Hill is merely a subsidy hunter and an advocate of free ships. Our steamship people are all that kind, pretty much. All they want is support for their lines, and

let the nation go to the dogs. They don't want too many lines in competition with theirs, even if American, Now, what we want is the national interest attended to first, private enterprise second. Subsidy is monopolistic. Three great corporations comprise most of the German steam marine, That will never do in the United States."

There is much force in these terse observations. American sentiment in favor of a fair and open field for individual enterprise will not take kindly to the policy of subsidies, free ships and marine monopolies. That is not the kind of a merchant marine to suit the people of the United States. Subsidy carries on its face the fact of favoritism, and an export tonnage bounty is only another name for sub-

If American shipping were as efficiently protected in the oversea traffic as it is in the lake and coastwise traffic President Hill would not now be refusing the transcontinental haul of steel rails for Japan and raw cotton for China because of lack of ships to carry the freight across the Pacific ocean. He has already solved this tempted revision of the tariff. But the

ing trade, and you will bring back the marine supremacy that has been lost for nearly forty years. Then and not until then.

PROTECTION VICTORY.

Transferred to America.

The proprietor and manager of the largest tin plate plant in the world, William Williams, has sold his Welsh interest and will locate in Pittsburg. The Worcester and Upper Forrest works, at Morristown, Wales, were sold in August at a public sale for £88,000. The plant was equipped with furnace and steel mills, but had been idle for some time. Two sons of Mr. Williams spent some time in the United States last spring, and, it is understood, leased land in the vicinity of Pittsburg for a tin plate plant.

The loss of the great American market, the heaviest consumer of tin plate in the world, has necessitated this migration from Wales to the United States. It all comes of protecting the manufacture of tin plate in the United States. Now we are making the greater part of the tin plate used here, and the cost to the consumer has steadily fallen to the lowest point ever known. To have forced the largest manufacturer in the world to close up his Welsh plant and invest his millions in an American plant, where the American rate of wages must be paid, is another of those protection victories that have been coming thick and fast in the past

Loses Much of Its Force.

For a few years at least manufacturers, importers and exporters need have no fear of a derangement of business due to tariff agitation. The tariff cannot be touched so long as Mr. Mc-Kinley remains in the white house, which brings us up to March 4, 1901, and, even if the Republican party should be defeated in the next presidential election, the Republicans might still be able to retain control of the senate, and effectually block an at-

FOR LACK OF SHIPS.



"The Great Northern road alone has been compelled to refuse the shipment of 60,000 tons of steel rails and 30,000,000 pounds of cotton-all demanded by Asia-simply because there are no water facilities by means of which this merchandise may be transported to Asiatic ports."-President J. J. Hill in a recent interview.

problem as regards rail and lake carrying, and he would solve it as readily in the matter of rail and ocean traffic if the conditions were the same, trade is wholly without protection.

Some years ago Mr. Hill undertook to reduce the cost of transporting a bushel of wheat from the granaries of Minnesota and the Dakotas to the terminal elevators at Buffalo. He ordered a reduction in the Great Northern's charge for hauling the grain from interior points to Duluth, only to find that the hoped-for addition to the price realized by the wheat growequivalent increase by the lake transportation companies in the charge for delivering the wheat from Duluth to Buffalo. President Hill thereupon took matters into his own hands. He caused to be built and put in service between the head of Lake Superior and the foot of Lake Erie a fleet of fast steel steamships, each with a freight capacity of over 3,000 tons. From that moment he was master of the situation large decrease in purchases abroad and the power of the Great Northern | must have been offset by increased exrailroad to make and maintain a rate was once for all established.

Lake shipping was protected then as for foreign vessels of cheaper construcinjuriously against the new Northern day President Hill would not now be production at home? Are not these refusing freight for lack of ships to ideal conditions of commerce, indussteamships to handle its traffic with the party and the policy by which China, Japan, Australia, and the Phil- these conditions are brought about? ippines.

With a system of discriminating duties in force these ships could be certain of return cargoes at remunerative rates, instead of having to take their chances with the underbidding tramp steamers manned by underpaid tramp crews. Discriminating duties made and maintained the American merchant marine from 1789 up to the time when that wise and sensible system

tariff is not the live issue it once was. Figures are more potent than theories. With an enormous balance of trade, with a demand for American products The trouble is that while the lake in all parts of the world, with imports carrying trade is amply protected from | failing off, and the American market alien competition, the ocean carrying supplied by American manufacturers as it never was before, the argument against protection loses much of its

The Republican party has always been a party of "good times" and profited by fortunate trade conditions. So long as the farmer receives high prices for his wheat and other cereals, and the manufacturer finds a ready market for his wares at a fair profit, there is little disposition shown by the country to exchange protection for free trade. There is the danger to be feared from a "boom" and overproduction and reckless speculation. If business is conducted on conservative principles there need be no fear of the Inture .- Maurice Low, in the National Review.

Ideal Conditions.

"The inference is plain that this penditure and production at home .-New York Times, free trade,

Is it not well? And if well, must now by laws which made it impossible | there not be some virtue in an economic policy which decreases the voltion and cheaper payrolls to compete | ume of purchases abroad, increases the volume of sales abroad to the highest line. If oversea traffic in American figure ever known in our commerce, bottoms were similarly protected to- and also increases expenditure and take it across to Asia. Long before this | try and finance? What nation of the the Great Northern railroad would earth can make a similar showing? have had in operation its own line of | Is it wise, sensible or patriotic to fight

Right Sort of Annoyances. A strong protest was made by the

free traders when the Dingley tariff imposed a duty on the wearing apparet of returning tourists purchased in foreign countries. They said it was petty and annoying and the revenue that would be derived from it would not amount to enough to pay for the collection. The record shows that durwas abandoned for the folly of "mar- ing the last year under that head ine reciprocity." Then the American \$343,518 was paid, as against \$87,425 flag gradually disappeared from the the previous year. It might have been sea, until today it is, not displayed annoying to the wealthy tourists who that in times past made our shipping ing people. Let us have more such