

of the withdrawals and confirmations were made under the new law passed at the last session of congress which definitely authorized the president to withdraw various lands from entry pending their classification and special disposition by congress. The president urged this law as the first step in his plan for practical conservation. He hopes to secure additional legislation at the coming session of congress dealing with the terms under which water power sites, coal, petroleum and phosphate may be disposed of."

Twelve tons of frozen eggs shipped from Chicago to New York were seized by the federal government at a refrigerating plant in New York City. They were unfit for food.

Serious defects in armor plate have been discovered in the battleships South Dakota and Utah.

Secretary of the Interior Ballinger says there is no truth in the report that he intends to resign. He says: "I am not a quitter and never have been."

Chief Justice Fuller, who died recently at Bar Harbor, Me., served twenty-two years as Chief Justice of the United States supreme court. He was appointed by Grover Cleveland. Chief Justice Marshall served thirty-four years and Chief Justice Taney twenty-eight years. It is thought that Governor Hughes of New York will become chief justice in October.

Thomas Cowie has been appointed paymaster general and chief of the bureau of supplies and accounts for the navy.

Corporations have until July 20 to pay their corporation tax.

**WHERE THEY GET DONE**

"Among the gambling stories that the late Pat Sheedy used to tell in his art shop," said a New York reporter, "was one about a jackpot."

"A beautiful young bride, the story ran, entered a corner grocery one morning and said:

"Have you got any jackpots, Mr. Sands?" "No ma'am," Sands answered, and he hid a smile behind his hand. I've got teapots and coffee pots, but jackpots I don't stock."

"Oh, dear!" said the bride. A frown wrinkled her smooth and beautiful brow. "I'm so sorry! You see, Mr. Sands, my husband's mother used to cook for him, and nearly every night he talks in his sleep about a jackpot. So I thought I'd get one, for, since he mentions it so often, he must be used to it. Could you tell me, Mr. Sands, what they cook in jackpots?"

"Greens, ma'am," was the quick answer."—Detroit Free Press.

**Worried**

"Fer de life er me," said Brother Williams, "I can't see why dem white folks don't stop worryin' over things! Dey worry 'bout dis, en dey worry 'bout dat; dey worry kaze dey got ter live, en worry kaze dey got ter die; dey worry kaze dey ain't got no money, en dey worry kaze dey got too much! En life ez short ez a circus ter a boy dat never been ter one befo'!"

"Don't you ever worry over things?"

"No, suh—what's de use er it! Ef I ketch de 'possum, dat's good fer me; ef de 'possum git away, dat's good fer him. I go hungry—but des think how happy de 'possum is! De bes' way ter go thoo' life is ter quit worryin', en git happy kaze somebody else is happy—dat's what!"—Atlanta Constitution.



*Whether Common or Not*  
By Will M. Maupin.

**A Safe and Sane Fourth**

Hennessey, Okla., July 4, 9 p. m. Speaking of "safe and sane" Fourth this has been it for the writer. He spent the entire day with the best friend he ever had, bar a sweet-faced little woman who answered the summons sixteen years ago and went to her reward after being the best wife and mother and grandmother in history. The next best friend, with whom the day was spent, is a gray-haired, smiling-faced old gentleman who has reached the four-score mark, and is now going down the shady side of the hill, happily, peacefully and confidently. Eighty years old, did I say? I beg pardon—four score years young!

For the first time in more than forty years I didn't shoot a firecracker, didn't set off a rocket or roman candle, didn't explode a torpedo, shoot a blank cartridge or send up a paper balloon. After a breakfast eaten about three hours earlier than I am accustomed to getting up, the two of us, father and son, perched in comfortable rocking chairs on the porch, out of the sun, and sat there and smoked and talked politics, and quarreled about the tariff, and differed on the money question, and failed to get together on bank guarantee, and recalled old days and old friends.

In the afternoon we found another shady spot for the chairs, and again we went back over the subjects we had discussed during the morning and came about as near agreeing as before. The only difference was that we hailed everybody that went by and asked for news from the sage brush state, and predicted rain and wondered if the Hennessey ball team had wiped up the earth with the Kingfisher team at the latter place.

After supper we rocked some more and grew reminiscent until the stars began to peep, and then the gray-headed old boy began nodding in his chair. He went to bed a few minutes ago, and this letter is being hastily written so as to get out on tonight's mail.

Oklahoma politics is warming up. Its normal temperature is about 150 degrees in the shade, anyhow; but right now the heat is going up at a frightful rate. The "grandfather clause" is raising Cain, capital removal has made sore spots galore, the Indian vote and the negro vote are being considered as never before. I had the pleasure of lunching with Lee Cruce of Ardmore today. He is seeking the democratic nomination for governor. Cruce is a fine, stalwart, upstanding democrat whom it is good to meet and know. He is an Oklahoman to the core, proud of this wonderful state, always boosting for it and known far and near as the "sunshine and prosperity" candidate. I have never met his chief competitor for the nomination, William Murray—"Alfalfa Bill." But from all I hear of him Oklahoma will have a wise chief executive regardless of whether it is Cruce or Murray. Naturally I am most interested in the success of Charley Daugherty. Daugherty is Oklahoma's labor commissioner, and he has made good. He is a young man, a printer by trade, and full of energy and enthusiasm. Oklahoma wisely adopted into her organic law a lot of beneficial labor legislation, and Daugherty has been enforcing these laws fearlessly. The result has been beneficial to the wage earners. He

is a candidate for re-nomination and re-election, and if he fails to win out I am going to be bitterly disappointed. So far as I have learned he will have no opposition for re-nomination at the democratic primaries.

The one thing I missed today was the noise of my own kiddies. Usually I am compelled to arise about 5 a. m. on the Fourth and from then until about 11:30 p. m. I alternate between digging down into my pockets for money and keeping the punk stick lit so the kiddies can keep the crackers going. This time I escaped—and I've wondered a hundred times today whether the "little feller" had a full complement of optics and digits, and whether the girlies still had enough hair to curl.

But it has been a wonderful day. I'll not have occasion to make many more such trips, for the gray-haired old father is close upon the sundown of life. He is approaching it gracefully and fearlessly, as young of heart as he was two score years ago when I first began to really know him. In the old rocking chair that has been in the family for more than a century, surrounded by the books he loves so well, amidst the fruits and flowers and trees which he so well knows how to cultivate, surrounded by as many friends as there are men, women and children who know him—amidst all these he is looking with fearless eyes into the future, knowing full well that in a few short years at best he will have solved the problem that has been the problem of the ages. Why should not such a Fourth be pleasant? I am sure that if all the middle-aged boys who might spend the Fourth in the same way, would do so, they'd agree with me that it is the best way.

Please God, I'll spend the next one the same way, and the next, and the next—and so on until there is no longer an opportunity to sit and swing in a rocking chair by the side of the gray-haired man who has always been father and comrade and chum in one. —W. M. M.

**Brain Leaks**

Only once does a business man take a vacation expecting to come home thoroughly rested up.

If the "muckraker" who opposes you would only become a supporter he would be an "ardent reformer."

Nothing quite equals the satisfaction of the housewife who has succeeded in making her canned fruit last until now.

The man who can not keep a 2x4 lawn in decent shape is usually quite sure he could successfully manage a half-section farm.

Scientists are asking us to wage war against the fly. A lot of us mechanics are too busy waging war against the "rats."

We shudder to think of what a famine would ensue if farmers would run their farms like the city men think they ought to run them.

A counterfeiting outfit has been found in the Missouri penitentiary. Perhaps the convicts succumbed to the example set by the prison shoe contractor who tacks pasteboard soles on the shoes he sells.

Men love to pass remarks upon the gossiping ways of women at "kensingtons," but it's a safe wager that the conversation of the women is of a higher order than that of a bunch of men in the back end of a saloon or cigar shop.

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