

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Some valuable farthings were sold at Sotheby's auction rooms (London) recently. A Charles II. pewter farthing sold for \$50, and an Oliver Cromwell farthing in copper for \$45.

As a result of the wreck of the New York Central's White Plains express near Bronx park, in which twenty-two persons were killed and more than 150 were injured, damage suits aggregating 1 1/2 million dollars will be brought against the company.

The vote in the Texas senate on the charges against Senator Bailey, stood 15 ayes, 11 nays. The charges were accordingly dismissed in the upper house. The other branch of the legislature was not consulted before the vote was taken.

President Roosevelt has accepted the resignation of the second assistant postmaster general, W. S. Shallenbarger. Representative James T. McCleary of Minnesota, who is to retire from Congress at the close of the present session, will be appointed as Mr. Shallenbarger's successor.

From \$175,000 to \$200,000 were stolen from the Chicago sub-treasury, and the government detectives have been working on the case to locate the thief. The money stolen was in large denominations. The shortage was discovered when the books were balanced.

The House committee on the District of Columbia has decided that it will make no report on the Webber bill to prevent the manufacture and sale of liquor in the District of Columbia. This is the bill which caused the demonstration by the temperance advocates in the halls of Congress a few days ago.

Mayor Tom Johnson of Cleveland, Ohio, is enthusiastic over the success of the 3-cent street car fare rate, and looks forward to the time when the city shall have free street cars. A proper system of taxation, he says, will make the free street car a success, and then congested districts will disappear, because the laboring man can then live where he pleases.

When Senator Thomas C. Platt was questioned at Washington concerning the reported filing of an action against him for divorce by Miss Mae Catherine Wood—his old-time Nemesis—in the New York supreme court, he said: "It is true that a suit for divorce has been filed. At present I do not care to discuss the case in the newspaper. I deny her allegations in every particular. They are as false as false can be." Miss Wood has long been threatening to sue Mr. Platt for divorce, claiming to have abundant evidence that she and the New York senator were married. It is understood that Miss Wood professes to have in her possession one or more letters from the senator which uphold her contention of marriage.

Senator Patterson, of Colorado, in an address to the senate, made a plea for government ownership of railroads. He predicted that such a condition would be brought about within the lifetime of the present members of the senate, but did not anticipate any speedy action in that direction. He saw little or no relief in the new rate law. Government control of the roads would supply the only remedy, he said. To show the value of his idea, Mr. Patterson presented figures from fifty-nine countries showing the presence of government ownership in some form, and he saw a steadily increasing sentiment in that direction so far as the United States is concerned. American roads he valued at between 11 and 12 billion dollars. They could be obtained by condemnation proceedings, the financial end being covered by a mortgage backed by the government's guarantee. Mr. Patterson ridiculed the idea that a vast political machine would be built up through federal operation of roads. As a matter of fact, he declared, railroad politics would be abolished. Among the benefits to be gained through ownership, Mr. Patterson mentioned extension of the postal system, a postal express and equitable rates.



In getting a successor to Wallace and Shonts at Panama to stick, your Uncle may be driven to this extremity.

Shonts will quit Panama March 4 and devote his abilities to managing the street railways of New York.—News item.

Out of only two-fifths of the population of the United States, more than half a million lives were offered up in 1905 as a sacrifice to disease. Startling as this death rate may appear, it was less than that for the preceding year, but was in excess of the number of deaths registered for any other year. This death rate is lower than that of Ireland, Germany and Italy for the same period, but higher than that of England and Wales, Scotland and the Netherlands. The death rate from nephritis and Bright's disease, apoplexy, diabetes and appendicitis is increasing, while that from old age, bronchitis, convulsions, peritonitis and scarlet fever is decreasing. The greatest death rate recorded for any one disease in 1905 was that from pulmonary tuberculosis, amounting to 56,770, while pneumonia follows closely with a death rate of 39,068, exclusive of broncho-pneumonia. The above are the more interesting facts brought out in a report issued by the census bureau giving the statistics of mortality for 1905.

Champ Clark, of Missouri, gave a dinner to seventeen "lame ducks," as retiring members of congress are termed. Heading the list were General Charles H. Grosvenor, of Ohio, who ends a twenty years' service in the house March 4, and who has been a debating companion of Mr. Clark's at many Chautauqua gatherings, and Representative Joseph Sibley, of Pennsylvania, a millionaire. These were the only Republicans present. The Democrats included Representative Bankhead of Alabama, who was defeated for the nomination by Richmond Pearson Hobson, and Representative Robertson of Louisiana, senior Democrat of the present house. In addition there were present: Messrs. Kline of Pennsylvania; Gudger and Patterson, of North Carolina; Smith and Trimble, of Kentucky; Butler of Texas; Senor, of Indiana; Hunt of Missouri; Sullivan and McNary, of Massachusetts; Towne of New York. The only other person present besides Mr. Clark was his son, Bennett Champ Clark.

As nothing came of the attempt last year to raise in Balaklava Bay the British ironclad sunk with her treasure during the Crimean war, the Russian admiralty officials at Sebastopol now propose to intrust the task of bringing up the treasure to a Russian salvage syndicate.

William J. Bryan in a paper on "Our Dual Government" in the Reader magazine, takes advanced ground. He plants himself squarely against President Roosevelt on the San Francisco school question and on the proposition for general federal control of all corporations. It is, however, on anti-trust legislation that Bryan takes his most radical stand in a discussion of why it is not necessary to have a new amendment to the Constitution in order to control monopolies. Congress, Mr. Bryan asserts, has complete authority in respect of interstate commerce and its legislative power to regulate it in the interest of the people has been upheld by the courts. Mr. Bryan, on proof that any corporation or corporations had become a monopoly, or that any combine of interests

The man who is always talking can never expect to learn a lot.



Congress—I really could not earn my increased salary unless I gave you this package.

It has been decided to continue the free distribution of seeds by Congress.—News item.

A MEMORY SYSTEM.

Forget each kindness that you do As soon as you have done it; Forget the praise that falls to you The moment you have won it; Forget the slander that you hear Before you can repeat it; Forget each slight, each spite, each sneer, Whenever you may meet it.

Remember every kindness done To you, whenever its measure; Remember praise by others won And pass it on with pleasure; Remember every promise made And keep it to the letter; Remember those who lend you aid And be a grateful debtor.

Remember all the happiness That comes your way of living; Forget each worry and distress, Be hopeful and forgiving; Remember good, remember truth, Remember heaven's above you, And you will find, through age and youth True joys, and hearts to love you. —Frisella Leonard in Youth's Companion.

JUDGE WOFFORD'S WAY.

How He Dealt With Criminals That Came Before Him.

The late John W. Wofford, judge of the criminal court of Jackson county, Mo., had an original, if blunt way, of dealing with cases that came before him that won the confidence and respect of the bar and the community.

He was always courteous to the newspaper men and numbered many friends among them. When a big murder trial was on he would order the marshal to supply a table and press accommodations for the reporters. Once an unfortunate was before him for sentence, a shiftless, down-trodden, irresponsible sort of fellow whose only virtue was that he was not vicious. The judge was in doubt about sending him to the penitentiary. He called a reporter to his bench. "You newspaper men have a chance to study human nature," he said, "and maybe you can help me in this case. What do you think I ought to do with him?"

The newspaper man advised a parole. "I'm going to let you decide," he said. "I was in doubt. Now I'm decided. I'll parole him. If he goes wrong and it proves to be a mistake I'm going to hold you jointly responsible."

The judge once saved from the gallows a negro who had been convicted of murder. The negro had killed another of his race whom Judge Wofford called a "bad nigger" and who himself had slain two men. The judge in assessing a penitentiary sentence for life, said:

"Well, you're guilty of murder all right, but you're a poor, ignorant, no account black man, and I don't want to hang you. You have no friends. You have no one to plead that you were insane when you killed this man. If I sentence you to hang you will hang just as sure as there is a God in heaven. There will not be a whole lot of women circulating petitions to save your neck. There will not be a lot of fool men writing to the governor to save you. No one will send you flowers. You'll just be forgotten until the day set for your hanging, and then they'll hang you."

A letter written by Judge Wofford to J. B. Shoemaker, justice of the peace, contained these aphorisms:

When you find a man that everyone is for you find a fellow that is of no account.

The people that are of any account in the world are those that some people hate.

A man that wants to do right every time will do right most of the time. And that is the only course for a public officer to take.

Judge Wofford's comparison for the unfortunate and down trodden is illustrated in a homily on the "Under Dog." He delivered it one morning to a thief before him for sentence. The thief was friendless and had been defended by an attorney who had been appointed by the court and who had served without pay. Judge Wofford said to the convicted thief:

"I hate to send you to the penitentiary. Since I have been here in this court I have fallen into the habit of getting on the side of the under dog. I can't help it; my sympathies are always with the under dog, and I actually have to restrain myself from climbing down off this bench and helping him out when I see him floundering around down there and the rest of them jumpin' on him and flayin' the life out of him.

"Why, I'm even on old John Rockefeller's side; he's the under dog; yes, sir, on poor old Rockefeller's side; I feel sorry for the poor old fellow, and he's got my sympathy because he's the under dog. He may be an old scoundrel and an old reprobate, but I'm on his

side, just because everybody is peckin' on him. Every paragraph, every editorial writer, every newspaper man in this country is peckin', peckin', peckin' on poor, friendless, deluded old John Rockefeller. He's got no friends; he's followed the same course that you have; he's done wrong and society is against him for it."

Father of a Juvenile Court.

Judge John W. Wofford, of Kansas City, is dead.

He had presided for fifteen years over the criminal court, and was noted as a just judge, philosopher, and keen observer of the effect of punishment upon criminals.

He was the father of the juvenile court of Jackson county. When he became judge fifteen years ago there was no law making a distinction between child criminals and adult criminals except that the law prevented the sending to the penitentiary of a boy under 16 years. But children of any age might be sent to jail, and before Judge Wofford's time upon the bench there were many little boys in the jail.

"My feelings naturally revolted against the imprisonment of children," said the judge, "and a young man of 20 is a boy in all his thoughts and actions. I refused to send any of them to the penitentiary and only a few of the worst ones would I send to jail. There was no law to uphold me, but I made a law of my own. I was criticised for it. When I began my system of paroling boy criminals upon their promise to reform a newspaper in this city went so far as to print an editorial with this heading: 'Boys Should Have the Butt End of the Law.'

"I am proud of what I have done in saving the boys. That is the one thing in my life that has been worth while. I feel that I have saved a great many boys and that in doing so I set the example which resulted in a permanent juvenile court here and elsewhere, with probation officers to look after the boys and reclaim them if possible."

Judge Wofford, a few years ago, before the establishment of the juvenile court, used to have a class of between fifty and 100 boys and young men whom he had paroled. They reported to him once a month, and he had a probation officer to help them between times. In the jail he established a school to teach the boys there.

Judge Wofford often received letters from these boys from all parts of the world, thanking him for the chance he gave them. These letters were the pride and comfort of the judge's declining years.

Money and Manners.

We of this blessed country have more money and less manners than any other people on earth.

The more money, the more neglect of manners.

We rush through life in such a hurry these days that there is little time or thought for the refinements and courtesies that in the good old days of our grandparents were considered necessary elements of good breeding.

We have cut courtesy out of business hours. We have come to regard it as a time-consumer and a waste—an indefinable and rather bothersome something in the way of an affectation which we may put on with our best clothes for weddings, parties and other such affairs, but not to be carried about with us on ordinary occasions.

The man or woman who has really good manners, nowadays, we distinguish as being of the "old school." Unfortunately, the old school is passing away and there is no new one to take its place.

So far have we sunk that the man of genuine courtesy and polish must balance it with some sort of coarseness or be damned as a "sissy."

Maybe it is ill-mannered to say such things, but the fact, no less than the ill-mannered assertion of it, fits the times.

Garish vulgarity taints what is regarded, commonly at least, as the best society.

How much richer may we get before degenerating into utter savagery?—Des Moines News.

Amsterdam and Ghent are both built on small islands, Amsterdam coming the nearest to Venice in the number of islands and bridges. Venice is built on 118 small islands, connected by 378 bridges; Amsterdam on nearly 100 islands, connected by almost 300 bridges. Ghent stands on 20 islands, joined by almost 270 bridges.

All men can not be great; all men can be good; many men are neither.