

The empire of Morocco is the most important state that is absolutely without a newspaper.

Within the last 95 years the population of Belgium has doubled itself, rising from 3,000,000 to 6,000,000.

Sound passes through air at the velocity of 1,142 feet per second; through water, 4,900 feet; through iron, 17,500 feet.

The queen's autograph fetches about £2; that of Blackmore, 12s; Mr. Gladstone, 10s; Lord Byron's cannot be bought as a rule for less than £5.

Moscow has the largest hospital in Europe, with 7,000 beds. There are ninety-six physicians and 900 nurses, and about 15,000 patients are cared for annually.

The famous clock "Les Trois Graces," now on view at the Paris exposition was once bought for \$20,000. Fifty thousand pounds has now been offered for it.

In Java a small state exists which is entirely controlled by women, with the single exception of the sovereign, who is a man. He is, however, entirely dependent on the three women who form his state council.

An example of patient industry is the sorting of hogs' bristles as it is carried on at Tientsin, China. Each one of the bristles has to be picked out, measured and placed in the bundle of hairs of corresponding length.

The new Duke of Argyll made a statement at Oban recently to the effect that he was innocent of music, and could not tell the difference between "Pop Goes the Weasel" and "God Save the Queen."

A group of miners in Queensland, have clubbed together and presented Major General Baden-Powell with a cake of pure gold, on which is inscribed, "This is 24 carat, what the Croydon miners take you to be."

An effort is being made to induce the Prince of Wales to open the Glasgow exhibition next May, and it is expected his royal highness will accept. There is to be a corner in the exhibition devoted to matters pertaining exclusively to Scotland, showing what the country was like some centuries ago and what it is like at the present day.

Railroads have taken little interest in acetylene gas for lighting and there have been many failures in this field. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway company are making experiments in the laboratory on a generator for lighting a car. One advantage of acetylene gas is that each car can be made a separate unit. There are to be service trials of the apparatus on the cars.

A curious coincidence is mentioned in the latest Melbourne papers. An Australian lady, who was just concluding her visit to London, left or lost her purse on the roof of a bus in the Strand. As it happened, the next passenger to take the seat she vacated was also an Australian and he found the purse. One of her visiting cards was inside, and the finder recognizing the name, communicated with the lady in Melbourne and the purse was restored intact.

A curious fact is related by the "Sydney Morning Herald" in connection with the realization of the estate of the late Mr. James Tyson, the Australian millionaire. It appears that on his private office at Felton being "tidied up," fixed deposit receipts for £30,000 in the Queensland National Bank, scrip for 97 shares in the same bank, and fixed deposit for £69,000 shares in the City Bank, and other scrip were found strewn about among a mass of valueless papers.

The English war office is experimenting with a new magazine rifle. It is the invention of an Australian and it possesses several advantages over the Lee-Metford arm, which is at present employed in the British army. The automatic feed of the cartridge from the magazine into the breech is a striking feature. It was tried at Bisley in the recent competitions and fired thirty shots in the minute, with 28 hits, of which 17 were bulls-eyes. The rifle is said to be vastly superior to either the Lee-Metford or the Mauser in strength, efficiency and simplicity of construction, while it is 35 per cent cheaper to manufacture and is one and one-fourth pounds lighter than the present Lee-Metford rifle. It has been strongly recommended by Lord Charles Beresford and there is little doubt that it will be introduced into the British army at the end of the South African campaign.

The famous Drum Lummon gold mine, which for years has been the chief gold producer of Montana, is virtually idle, only a small force of men being engaged in development work. This mine was sold by Thomas Cruse of Helena to the Rothschilds of London for five million dollars several years ago, since which time it has repaid its cost several times in dividends. Over five hundred stamps ceased to drop after a steady grind for years. The owners believe, however, that the mine still contains much hidden wealth.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE PEOPLES INDEPENDENT PARTY OF NEBRASKA OFFICERS J. H. EDMISTEN, Chmn. O. D. WILSON, Sec. S. J. KENT, Treas. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—First District, A. H. Weir, Lincoln; Second District, C. A. Whitford, Arlington; Third District, O. L. Gossard, Oakdale; Fourth District, S. H. Craig, Beatrice; Fifth District, C. W. Jester, Clay Center; Sixth District, A. M. Morrissey, Valentine.

WHY THEY DID IT REPUBLICAN LEGISLATURE OF 1899 VERY CUNNING. PARSIMONIOUS SPIRIT FOR A PURPOSE

Appropriations Made Small in Order That Fusionists Would Be Forced to Confront Deficiencies—In Part Checkmated By Fusion Prudence.

Our readers will pardon us for mentioning the distinguished dead, but the purpose of our article necessitates that we do it. Early in the campaign of 1898, Candidate Hayward, being desirous of making an aggressive fight for the republican state ticket which he headed, secured the services of one F. A. Harrison, now commonly known as "Thunder-Maker" Harrison, to prepare some figures and tables from the official records, so that Mr. Hayward might go out on the stump and everlastingly lambast the fusion forces. Now, Harrison knew the records would show adversely for the republican party and favorably for the fusion forces, but that did not deter him from manufacturing statements and tables galore, each one containing a tissue of truth and a vast amount of garbled figures. Mr. Hayward studied these tables carefully for some time and then opened his campaign in Lincoln. In that speech he made so many bad breaks that he was obliged to revise his speech very much before delivering it elsewhere. That year the fusionists had prepared a folder which gave correct figures on many items of interest to the taxpayers, and Mr. Hayward, after the election, admitted in private conversation that the "Reform Record" (as the folder was called) had done a great deal toward defeating him for the office of governor.

This year the same old "thunder-maker" is at his tricks. One of his recent articles is worthy of reproduction. It was sent out in "boiler-plates" to every republican country newspaper that would use it on the home print side. The article is as follows: "Omaha, Aug. 27.—It is a low estimate to say that at the close of the fiscal year the State of Nebraska will be facing a deficit in the funds for the maintenance of the various state institutions of not less than \$100,000. If anything the amount will be larger. "Neither is this mere conjecture. Already the records in the auditor's office at Lincoln reveal a large shortage, and, assuming that there will be no increase in the ratio of expenditures, the deduction leads up to these figures. At best the shortage cannot fall below the \$100,000 mark. "This is certainly a bad showing for the Poynter administration, considering the fact that the last legislature appropriated for general purposes more than \$2,000,000. "More than \$500,000 was appropriated for salaries and wages alone and yet, generally speaking, there will be a large shortage in these funds. "The records in the auditor's office at this very time, with six months' expenses unprovided for, show a shortage in the funds appropriated for the Normal School at Peru, the Institute for the Blind at Nebraska City, the Fish Hatchery at South Bend, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Milford, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Grand Island, the Institute for Feeble Minded Youth at Beatrice, the Asylum for the Insane at Norfolk, the Industrial School at Kearney, the Asylum for the Insane at Lincoln—in short, they show a shortage in the funds of every state institution. These figures are taken from the official records and they cannot be successfully refuted. The records also show an utter disregard for law in the matter of diverting funds. While the law contemplates that specific appropriations shall be used only to meet obligations against such funds, the practice in general is to use many specific funds as general funds. The custom is where a fund is exhausted, to draw on some other fund specifically appropriated for other purposes, an act clearly in violation of law. "That the present fusion administration has been an expensive luxury to the people of Nebraska can no longer be denied. It is a fact, which the official figures will substantiate, that at the end of Governor Poynter's present term the state of Nebraska will have paid out more money and incurred more indebtedness in the way of deficits and unpaid bills for the maintenance of the public institutions than for any other two years since the state

was admitted to the union. Neither is there any excuse for this large deficiency. The last legislature was liberal in its appropriations, and while it did not appropriate the large amount demanded by the heads of the various state institutions for the simple reason that it would have imposed a hardship on taxpayers, it appropriated an amount which, had the institutions been honestly and economically managed, would have been abundantly sufficient.

That's what Thunder Maker Harrison says. The records show differently.

It may be stated right here that the deficiency claims incurred in the maintenance of the various state institutions will not reach one-fourth of \$100,000, and the first statement can safely be branded as a lie.

It may not be amiss to say that different legislatures adopt different methods of making appropriations to cover deficiencies, and it was always a favorite trick of republican legislatures to put deficiency claims in with the miscellaneous claims bill to hide them. Deficiency claims which appear on the face of the records are as follows: Allowed by the legislature of 1891.....\$ 9,000 00 Allowed by the legislature of 1893..... 4,001 09 Allowed by the legislature of 1895..... 11,177 27 Allowed by the legislature of 1897..... 15,798 17 Allowed by the legislature of 1899..... 13,723 03 The principal item of deficiency in 1897 was \$12,548.17, incurred by Commandant Culver of the soldiers home at Milford.

Now, it should be understood that legislatures have a trick of dividing up the appropriation of an institution into as many as twenty or twenty-five little funds, each one for a specific purpose. If the fund for fuel and lights becomes exhausted, coal, etc., cannot be paid for out of the fund for board and clothing, even though that fund may have ten thousand dollars more in it than will be needed, and the result is a deficiency against the fuel and lights fund to be met by the next legislature, while a portion of the board and clothing fund lapses into the state treasury. Under fusion government the unused balances have always more than covered the amount of deficiency claims, a fact our republican friends never mention.

Referring to the auditor's books, the following is a true statement regarding the institutions mentioned in the "boiler-plate" article: Normal school at Peru: Here the fuel and lights appropriation is exhausted. It was only \$3,000, although the fusion legislature gave \$4,000, or \$1,000 more for that purpose. A small deficiency will be the result of republican parsimony toward this educational institution. The lectures fund (\$250) are also exhausted, but there will probably be no further indebtedness incurred in these lines. Institute for Blind at Nebraska City: Not one of the funds for current expenses or salaries is exhausted. The "thunder-maker" simply lied, that's all.

Fish Hatchery at South Bend: The necessary labor fund here is exhausted. It was only \$1,000 in 1898 as against \$2,000 in 1897. Another case of niggardiness by the republican legislature, and goes to show how well that party loves the laborer. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Milford: The employes' wages fund of \$1,500 is exhausted, but none of the other current expense funds are. There will be a small deficiency in the maintenance and clothing fund; it was only \$8,000 as against \$7,500 in 1897, yet the population there is 55 per cent greater. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Grand Island: Here again republican parsimony struck a blow at a state institution. With all their great professions of love for the old soldier, when it comes to acting the republicans give him the worst end of it every time. On May 31, 1900, there were 298 inmates of this home, yet during the biennium of 1897-8 the average population was only 202. Notwithstanding it was well known that the population at this home would increase considerably, the legislature of 1899 appropriated only \$8,000 for fuel and lights, \$1,500 for drugs and instruments, \$500 for stock and implements—exactly the same as the legislature of 1897 had appropriated. These funds are exhausted and deficiencies will be incurred, for the fusion administration has no notion of allowing the old soldiers to

freeze this winter simply because a republican legislature was too stingy to give them sufficient money to buy fuel. Institute for Feeble-Minded Youth at Beatrice: Three little funds, aggregating \$900, are exhausted! All the other funds have ample balances, part of which will probably lapse the first of next April.

Hospital for the Insane at Norfolk: Here again the republicans got in their work on the fuel and light fund. In 1897 \$12,000 was appropriated for that purpose, and it proved to be hardly enough. An additional wing was completed in 1898 and the population has increased nearly sixty, yet the legislature of 1899 gave only \$12,000 for fuel and lights. The fund is not yet exhausted but it will be inadequate to provide fuel and lights until March 31, 1901.

Hospital for Insane at Lincoln: Only the paints and oil fund (\$500) exhausted. Probably not a cent of deficiency will be incurred, yet the "thunder-maker" includes it in his list. Industrial School for Boys at Kearney: Not a fund exhausted. Score another lie for the boiler-plate.

Now, what do you think of that? Do you care to know the real reason why there will be any deficiencies whatever? It need not take long to convince you. During the campaign of 1898 the fusionists showed by incontrovertible proof that they had succeeded in maintaining the unfortunate ward of the state at a greatly reduced cost to the taxpayers, and had rendered better service than ever before. This so incensed the republican legislators that they made a determined effort to give the fusion administration a "black eye" if possible by making inadequate appropriations for the state institutions. At nearly every place a new building or two had been erected, thereby necessitating more fuel and light. By copying the appropriations of 1897, the legislature of 1899 could cripple nearly every state institution by making a shortage in the fuel and lights fund, because the necessity for more fuel and lights was present in nearly every institution. It will be noted that probable deficiencies nearly all come under this head.

The following table shows the aggregate amount appropriated for all the state institutions (penal and charitable), excluding the amount for new buildings and permanent improvements, made by different legislatures, together with the average number of inmates during each biennial period, and the amount per capita allowed for the maintenance of each inmate.

Table with 4 columns: Biennium, No. of Inmates, Appropriation, Per capita. Rows include 1891-2, 1893-4, 1895-6, 1897-8, 1899-1900.

Does that look as though "the last legislature was liberal in its appropriations?" Only \$15,000 greater than in 1897 to maintain 320 additional inmates. The fusionists have accomplished wonders in reducing the cost of managing state institutions, but there is a limit to all things. Bedrock was reached in 1898, when the average per capita cost of maintaining an inmate of a state institution was only \$155. It cost \$155.62 in 1897 and \$148.18 for eleven months in 1896, in which year the fiscal period was made to end November 30 instead of December 31, as had been the practice theretofore. But why not give it in tabular form?

Now, the appropriations of 1899 would allow only \$153.68 for the maintenance of each inmate, if all the funds were so nicely graduated that every cent could be used. Under no administration has so small a per capita cost been reached, and it is extremely doubtful whether it ever can be reached. The 1899 appropriations were niggardly—and that's about all that can be said for them—so far as concerns the maintenance of state institutions; but the republican legislature had no qualms about appropriating money to pay some hoary-headed claims of doubtful merit. That there should be some deficiency claims to be paid by the legislature of 1901 is not to be wondered at, in view of the figures above; in fact, the republican legislature intended that there should be such. But it is a monstrous falsehood to say they will reach \$100,000.

A Correction. In our article published recently, "Call on Bed Bugs," one sentence read: "Now, Poynter may not be a consistent strong man. Among a certain set of people, but out among the farmers he is almost idolized, and when that portion of Nebraska speaks you'll find that they are more interested in those questions affecting their interest than they are in unproved cases of mismanagement and mismanagement of state institutions." We readily plead guilty to poor proof reading in this instance. The way the article was written in copy was as follows: "Now Poynter may not be considered a strong man among a certain set of people, but out among the farmers," etc.

AMONG THE BANKS. Three Chicago Concerns Consolidate-- New York Gets New One. The directors of the Continental National Bank of Chicago have voted unanimously in favor of increasing the capital stock of \$1,000,000, making it \$2,000,000. Three of Chicago's oldest and largest banking institutions are to be consolidated. The Corn Exchange National, the American National and the Northwestern National are to pool issues and reorganize under the charge of the Corn Exchange, retaining its title. President Ernest A. Hamill, of the Corn Exchange bank, will be president of the consolidated corporation. The new Corn Exchange National bank will have a capital stock of \$2,000,000, a surplus of \$1,000,000 and undivided profits of \$500,000. The Federal National bank of New York city is the proposed title of an institution for which the application has been approved by Acting Comptroller Kane. The proposed capital is \$500,000, and the responsible applicant who has conducted the correspondence is Joseph T. Hall, the real estate man at 35 Nassau street. The other four incorporators required by law are Walter D. Johnson, broker; Charles A. O'Donoghue, merchant; Percy B. O'Sullivan, and Jason C. Moore. It is announced that the United States treasury's third call for \$5,000,000 from government depositories will be the last. The remaining \$10,000,000 needed for the retirement of the \$25,000,000 old 2 per cent bonds, it is stated, will be made up from the growing treasury surplus.

The three banks all over the country having government deposits, and the eight depositories in Philadelphia, after responding to the last call which was payable July 16, contributed something like \$750,000 in all.

BEAUTIFUL FEET RARE. Present-Day Footwear Distorts the Extremities Abominably. A man who denies that he is prejudiced, but claims that he is a good judge of feminine beauty, declares that there is scarcely a beautiful foot to be found among the women of today. The high heels, the exaggerated curve at the ball of the foot, the stiff heel stays and the pointed toes, he declares, have distorted the foot in a painful and ugly manner. The ankles are misshapen. In some cases the bones are enlarged until they bulge out so that every bone is perceptible. The weight of the body thrown upon the toes has caused them to spread out. Crowded into pointed toes, they stick up in clusters of knotty corns. The foot should be as shapely as a glove fits the hand. Footwear should fit as a glove fits the hand. The perfect foot is slender, with an arched instep and toes that lie smoothly and easily. The first step toward acquiring a pretty foot is to wear shoes that fit it comfortably. The next is to take exercises that will render the toes strong and supple. Begin by spreading out the toes to the utmost extent; then hold four toes still and attempt to move the remaining one. Every toe should be straighter and shorter than the next one and the arch should be shapely and pliant. The feminine foot of today renders a graceful carriage an impossibility. And all because Dame Fashion has decreed that a short, high-heeled, pointed-toe shoe is the correct thing in dressy footwear, forgetting that there never was a human foot built that way.

Does Electricity Kill Trees? New Haven (Conn.) Special to Philadelphia Inquirer: Indignant citizens who desire to save the noble elms that are the pride of New Haven have threatened to bring suit against the trolley car companies of the city for alleged damages to the trees. The assertion is made that the trolley wires charged with electricity are in some streets held in place by connecting wires fastened to the trees, and that charges of electric fluid are sent into the trees, which are thus killed. The trolley companies have sought to stave off damage suits by an offer to test the scientific correctness of these assertions. Permission has been obtained from the department of public works and police supervision assured for the interesting experiment within the week of charging the big tree in front of City Hall with the full voltage of the trolley system. If the tree dies a score of suits will be filed by property owners, who have been compelled to cut down trees, some of them 150 years old, since the trolley ran through the avenues.

Boy's Spartan Courage. Altoona (Pa.) correspondence Philadelphia Record: Fifteen-year-old William Van Aliman, while picking berries west of the city, was nipped by a rattlesnake, which he failed to observe under a bush. The fangs of the reptile caught one of the boy's fingers near the end. First killing the snake, the lad drew his pocketknife, and, with Spartan courage, cut off the injured finger at the second joint. He bound the wound with his handkerchief and hastened to Altoona, where the injury was dressed. The physicians say he is in no danger.

Mechanism of the Carp. People marvel at the mechanism of the human body, with its 492 bones and 60 arteries. But man is simple in this respect compared with the carp. That remarkable fish moves no fewer than 4,386 bones and muscles every time it breathes. It has 4,320 veins, to say nothing of its 99 muscles.

Honorary Degree from Austria. Simon Newcomb, the American astronomer, has had an honorary degree conferred on him by one of the leading Austrian universities.

Lord Russell's Soldier Boy. The youngest son of the late Lord Russell sailed for South Africa early in the year as a lieutenant in the Royal artillery. The occasion was marked by one of those intimate touches of family affection which excite universal sympathy. As the great troopship swung slowly from her mooring the lord chief justice, standing on the quay, failed to describe his son among the crowd of faces that lined the bulwarks. At last he gave a shrill whistle, using his fingers in a manner well known to schoolboys, and the evidently familiar call quickly brought young Russell to the side of the ship to wave farewell. The touch of nature evoked a hearty cheer from all who witnessed it.

Shirt Waist Euclyre Party. At a Bath Beach progressive euclyre party the women wore white shirt waists and black skirts the men white duck trousers and shirt waists of rainbow hues. No one was admitted in other than shirt waist attire.

Diana's Disfigured Leg. During the thunderstorm in Philadelphia a few evening ago lightning struck a marble statue of Diana at an entrance to Fairmount park. Immediately afterward the left leg of the statue turned brown. Next morning all the coloring had disappeared except one large spot, which has so far resisted persistent scrubbing and the application of powerful acids.

Boer Girl at Chautauqua. A typical Boer young woman of the wealthier class is a student at Chautauqua, N. Y. She is Miss Carrie Rousseau, of Kenilworth, a suburb of Cape Colony, and is the daughter of a cousin of President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, and a grandniece of General Botha. She and her mother left South Africa at the outbreak of the war and have been traveling in this country since.

It is a noteworthy fact that in the state of Utah there is not one Irish Mormon.

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In driving a nail a woman either drives it crooked or hits her finger.

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