According to an announcement given out about this time last year there were at the beginning of September of 1908, upon various sidetracks, 170,-652 idle cars. This was a great decrease from the number that were out | confidence and | confess | that | there of commission at the beginning of last year. A recently published authoritative statement declares that only 68,-502 cars are now idle. It is surprising that even this number are out of use, considering the fact that practically all of the big railway systems, and many of the smaller ones, have been placing big rolling stock equipment orders during the past few months. The unmistakable inference to be drawn is that the railroads are already in pressing need of more freight cars of all descriptions.

The bureau of zoology of the state department of agriculture has recently issued an admirable and novel bulletin on the subject of plant pest treatlist of the commoner ills plants are heir to. Then another list gives the appropriate treatment, while a third tells the most effective time to do the work. These three schedules are connected by cross references so that hey are made easily available to anyone. In most cases the grower knows only too well what is the matter with his crop. If he does not the bureau invites him to send specimens of affected growth securely packed so no to the cloakroom. danger of spreading infection or risk of damaging by mail may be incurred.

More even than sailors, before the days of steamships, who had to depend upon the wind for the success of their voyages and had to watch the weather for their lives, the men who manipulate flying machines must be students of the air currents, the skies, the signs of storms. The more this young century interests itself with the navigation of the air the more it will learn, perforce, about the great invisible enveloping fluid which surrounds the globe. The airships and the aeroplanes are going to make this generation the first in weather lore of all that have felt the power of the the most muscular Pullman porters he elements.

The banana is to have a much wider market than the United States affords, the rear end of which the president's if the growers of the fruit in Central private car Mayslower was coupled at America co-operate with the carriers who are willing to take the fruit to England. Fifteen steamers are ready to enter the trade if the growers will pledge fruit enough to keep them busy. It is estimated that these steamers will require defiveries of between 4,000 and 5,000 tons of fruit per month at the shipping docks in Central America.

According to consular reports from Constantinople the New Turks have been seized by the world's fair idea. They believe that a great exposition revealing or suggesting the immense possibilities of their land would give a marked impetus to development in the cently when he told of a negro servmanufacturing industries and to com- ant who has been in his employ for merce. In both these lines Turkey 15 years. It appears that the negro lags sadly now, being almost purely was given ten days' leave and money an agricultural and pastoral country.

but that air traved is not likely to su- quoting the servant; persede the present established modes of locomotion. The vast majority of men will have to continue confining their aerial ambitions to flights of

"worst sereet car line on earth" | suicker's I 'spected."



#### He Doesn't Like to Be Written Up



WELVE years ago, when Senatorelect William O'Connell Bradley of Kentucky, was governor of that state, a youth who at 15 was carrying the editorial burden of a weekly newspaper in a country town in Illinois drifted into Frankfort on a bicycle trip. There wasn't much to see in Frankfort except the state capitol, so he went up there.

It was the young editor's first inspection of a state capitol, and his eyes were open for everything, Naturally the sign "Governor's Office" interested him, and he quickly ture bearing the governor's autosent in his card and presently the doorkeper returned and said: "The governor will see you."

Then did the visitor really wish that his curiosity about the governor's office hadn't got the better of him. It would be manifestly improper to intrude on the governor's time witheditor couldn't think of any motive. On the way to the inner office he decided to take the governor into his wasn't any cause for the visit, except

small matter of editorial courtesy. Prompted, no doubt, by that spirit

him to win his fight for the senate against apparently overwhelming odds, Gov. Bradley talked to the boy journalist for an hour, speaking most interestingly on subjects that could not fall to interest even a youth that didn't have a news instinct

The governor described his early experiences as a Republican in a Democratic hotbed, when to go to the polls and vote the Republican ticket was only one form of committing suicide. He told how at one period of his political activity it became necessary for ail the Republicans of the town in in women's hair has been started, and which he lived to fortify themselves in a house and defend themselves to extinction. against Democratic raiders who were thirsting for blood.

There were so many of these stories that the hour had passed before either the governor or his visitor knew it, stitutions, where the matter came up and when the boy editor finally ex- for swift and decisive adjustment, but going to wear just as big a 'rat' as I cused himself he carried away a picgraph.

When Gov. Bradley won his successful fight before the Kentucky legislature a few weeks ago the editor, who had been reduced by lapse of time to just plain reporter, remembered these stories of the early days, and wrote of telling them to the whole country, out some motive, and still the young Gov. Bradley's reply stamps him as a disliked in Washington if he doesn't change his mind:

"There is nothing that is more distasteful to me than to talk about myself, and you must excuse me from entering into an account of my past exthat has made him the head of his perience as a politician. I have never party in the state and that enabled written it up, and never expect to."

## Pages in the Senate Mimic Big Men



T IS the custom for the senate pages to hold two or three mock senate sessions every winter. These sessions ment. In a few pages comparatively are held on afternoons when the senare condensed a very comprehensive ate is not sitting, and are conducted with all the solemnity and poise of a regular meeting.

One day the youngsters were conducting a mock trial of the Swayne impeachment case. "Billy" Annin was presiding. Another youngster was posing as Anthony Higgins, counsel for Judge Swayne, and was interrogating a witness. Senator Spooner of Wisconsin, came into the senate chamber unexpectedly, and, seeing what was going on, took a seat near the entrance

tion. Mr. Spooner thought he might every year.

be able to clarify the question. Accordingly he approached his seat and

called out: "Mr. President!" The irrepressible "Billy" was not taken back. "The chair will recognize the senator from Wisconsin," he said, as he brought down the gavel and nodded to Mr. Spooner.

The ease and poise of the youngster startled Senator Spooner, and it was nearly a minute before he could control his twinkling eyes. "Is it not out of order," he asked,

to permit so many senators to address the chair at the same time?" "It is decidedly out of order," said clothing in the bastile. he piping voice in the vice-president's

Wisconsin is well taken. The senate burned. "Stir" clothes are provided and in order to look the facts over will come to order." In the house of representatives

are 23 pages, and in the senate 16. page can be under 12 years or over 16 years of age.

The position of senate page pays salary of \$75 a month when con-Presently an intricate parliamentary gress is in session, and, like all other question arose, and half a dozen pages employes of congress, these youngwere on their feet asking for recogni- sters receive an extra month's salary

#### Hobo in the President's Private Car



A TRAMP got into President Taft's private car recently, and a very surprised tramp he must have been, for he was pounced upon by two of winds and the perlis of the fury of the had ever seen and then arrested by Secret Service Officer Sloan.

It was on the Federal express, running from Boston to Washington, on New Haven.

ahead of the presidential car, and they morning.

were so crowded that they couldn't have looked healthy to the most optimistic of tramps. But there was a Pullman, and it looked nice and dark. and so the wanderer strolled in and hid himself.

It was Letcher, one of the porters, who found the visitor crouched in a dark corner of the tiny kitchen. He made a dive for the man and got him in a clinch. Then he called his fellow porter, Anderson. The two of them had the tramp so scared that he could hardly see by the time the secret service men came in and put him under arrest.

At Bridgeport the tramp was turned over to the police. He tried to say that he was a brakeman on the New York, New Haven & Hartford road, but the trainmen knew better. Mr. The tramp got on somewhere along Taft slept right through it, and never the line. There were two day coaches knew a thing about it until the next

### This Kind of Servant at a Premium



WASHINGTON housekeepers are in-clined to think that T. B. Witherspoon of St. Louis was romancing reto spend for a trip down to New Orleans, but in three days turned up Orville Wright says that flying is again, and here is the way Mr. Withernot as dangerous as automobile racing, spoon explains the negro's return,

"'You see, suh, it done get mighty miserably cold night after I lef' you, and I knows dat Miss Kate (my wife) ain't got no business tryin' to work dat furnace, and I know you in't gwine to bother with it. Nary one of you got enny business with a dirty Spain has come upon unhappy days old turnace, least of all Miss Kate, who and its troubles seem to have no end. | sin't got no right to sail her little In almost every prominent center of lam's. I couldn't sleep good thinkin'

"There is a specimen act of an oldtime, true-hearted darky, whose first thought is of the comfort of his employer." If Witherspoon could find about a thousand like that servant. the St. Louis man could make a good commission by shipping them to Washington.

The Barriers Down.

John Ford, who, as the English hushand of Miss Cavendish-Bentinek, is related to the Ogden Millses, the Maturin Livingstons and many other noted New York families, talked, at a quiet dinner at The Plaza, about Engish society.

"New York society," said Mr. Ford. "is really more exclusive now than that of London. In London last season an episode was narrated that Illustrated well the breaking down of the old barriers.

'Society is going to the bow wows," grumbled a young marquis at a Piccadilly clab. What's the matter now?" a friend

nquired. "'Moneylender's wife at a reception in Belgrave square this afternoon, population you will be sure to find the about it, an' dat's why I gits back said the marquis, 'wearing all my wife's emeralds."

## Rats Under Ban in New York Schools



EW YORK .- The interest in various important features of the day's news recently was completely overshadowed in certain sections of the city by a rumor that a great public uprising against the wearing of "rats" that the hirsute rodents were doomed

"Down with the rat!" it was asserted was to be the battle cry.

The rumor caused consternation, not only in several co-educational inin department stores and other places. like, and I don't care if the floorwalkwhere mere man had put his foot down hard on the familiar feminine head heard wherever the question was discussed.

down the law forbidding "rats" or switches," and the following day enman who is going to make himself forcing the law against violators by forcably removing the offending adornments.

> transpiring in the borough across the Please govern yourselves accordingly. bridge, indignation was at an even higher boiling point in the department tremely gloomy over the situation, for store district in Manhattan. In sev. it was prophesied that the order would eral of the big stores notices were reach New York next and that the

in the hair of employes would not be tolerated, the penalty for ignoring the

order to be dismissal. During the luncheon hour nothing but the new order and plans for com-

bating it were discussed. In one store it was decided that a committee should wait upon the manager and ask him to rescind the order or face a general strike. This is the most outrageous proceeding I ever heard of," said one

young woman, "and I think we would be fools to submit to it. The very idea of a man telling us how to wear our hair! It was bad enough when the manager said we must wear black gowns and white collars, but it is going too far when they tamper with our pompadours. "Why, they wouldn't dare to do such

things in Siberia or China or wherever it is they have a czar. I for one am er does report me."

That the last crusade against talse adornment, and there were unmistak- hair adornment is not being confined able rumblings of a revolution to be to high schools and department stores was further evidenced when the women employes of the telegraph com-The trouble started at the Erasmus panies in the city held animated dis-Hall high school, where the assistant | cussion over the report from Kansas the senator-elect asking the privilege principal, Miss Kate E. Turner, laid City that A. B. Richardson, district superintendent of the Postal Telegraph Company there, had issued this

"On and after November 1 all women clerks and employes must discon-While these momentous events were tinue the use of 'rats' in their hair.

The women employes here were exposted in prominent places that "rats" much-abused "rat" would have to go.

## May Go to Penitentiary in Barrel



CT. LOUIS .- The law of the State is I responsible for Albert Kapp, son not bear to come back and see the of a poor widow being a jail prisoner, lad, mancled and leg ironed to the The rule of the penitentiary is rellong chain. Neither did the boy wish sponsible for his being almost without

Prisoners who reach the peniten hension was not necessary. tiary under sentence, are divested of a prey for the keen eyes of the penitentiary,

sleuths this from the old-timers and there is ments. a rule in the city jail that men going start because the inscription of Dante laughed good naturedly and told the gates of the prison.

said it was an attempted robbery. The police, because Albert had been in trouble before, insisted on a two-years' sentence. So, following the custom of the jail, he sold to other inmates of the cells his possessions save a torn and frayed pair of trousers, a tattered shirt and a worn pair of shoes. His mother brought him some dainties and left him. She could her to come to see him go. He dreaded the scene. Their appre

Then the State decided there were "The point made by the senator from their clothes and the garments are extenuating circumstances in the case and in these the unfortunates must again, and with a view perhaps to palive till their sentence expires and rolling the boy, the sheriff was asked then in garb furnished by the hig not to take Albert with the thirty-According to the regulations, no prison they fare forth into the world, eight other convicted persons to the

"But what am I going to do?" he Every man who is sentenced learns; asked Jafler Wolf, surveying his gar-

They were just sufficient to prevent up sell all their belongings before they him appearing a la Adam. The jailer is paraphrased into, "All property story of how Albert had divested abandon ye who enter here" over the himself in order that the State should not get any the better of him and Kapp is a youth. He had some how he would have to attend services trouble with a man, and the man Sunday in a blanket.

# Cat Aids Auctioneer in Realty Sale



CHICAGO.-A big office cat, the pet of the real estate board, was, "assistant auctioneer" at a recent sale in the exchange rooms, and to tabby is given the credit for many raises in prices.

George L. Warner of the firm of Baird & Warner was the "emergency auctioneer," but before he had become initiated in his new task the cat appeared on the scene and perched herself upon the desk in front of the 'realty salesman.'

Mr. Warner started in as if he had been in the auction business all his ing the day's sale successful. life: The bids came in fast and in large sums. All the time the cat peera chance at a certain desirable piece of property.

Suddenly there was a lull in the proceedings. Bids were slow and the "raises" came dribbling along in small amounts. Auctioneer Warner couldn't understand it. He began to think that his success as a forceful auctioneer was to be short lived.

True, it was his first experience but he had started out with such a rush of business that he was congratulating himself. He looked at the desk where tabby had been. She had deserted her post. That

seemed to explain the situation. A hurry call was sent for the cat. Scarcely had she resumed her place on the auction desk than the bidding livened up. Prices went soaring and the former enthuslasm was revived "And the cat came back," some one remarked.

After the sale was over it was agreed by all, including Mr. Warner, that tabby was responsible for mak-

Several raises of from \$25 to \$50 were admitted by the "emergency ed down at the men struggling to get | auctioneer" to be due to the presence of the cat. She will have a prominent place in the future sales of the board.

#### Hotel for Chinese Planned in Chicago



HICAGO.-If Ah Sing, here of hand bis grip to a Chinese bel boy, feet perfectly at home. affix his signature to a Chinese regis-Chinese bed.

e merning by a Chinese servant, to establish their own hotel.

call for a cup of real Chinese ten and eat a dish of breakfast food-halling not from Baitle Creek but Canton. And he could hear a Chinese orchestra playing Chinese popular songs.

For Chicago is to have a Chinese hotel, the first in the city operated on the "Oriental Plan." It is to be as complete and as modern as the best American hostelry. Everything in it Bret Harte's world-famous poem. Is going to be Chinese, from the guests were to pay a visit to Chicago within to the chop-sticks in the dining-room the next morth or so, he would find Everything will be designed to make himself able to enter a Chinese hotel, Ah Sing or any other oriental guest

The new hotel will be located in the ter, cut a Chinese meal and sleep in beart of the Chinese industrial center, Chinese bed. at 112 Federal street. The lease for Also, he would be able to read a the bulling has been applied for his blaces nawspaper, to be awakened in the Chinamen behind the move to

#### The Exceptional Equipment

of the California Fig Syrup Co. and the scientific attainments of its chemists have rendered possible the production of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, in all of its excellence, by obtaining the pure medicinal principles of plants known to act most beneficially and combining them most skillfully, in the right proportions, with its wholesome and refreshing Syrup of California Figs.

As there is only one genuine Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna and as the genuine is manufactured by an original method known to the California Fig Syrup Co. only, it is always necessary to buy the genuine to get its beneficial effects.

A knowledge of the above facts enables one to decline imitations or to return them if, upon viewing the package, the full name of the California Fig Syrup Co. is not found printed on the front thereof.

BUT SHE HAD ENOUGH.



Johnny-Mother, let's go in here and buy a baby; they're cheap to-day.

Purchasing Power.

A young gentleman of our acquaintance, who had just reached the age of six, was recently waiting with his mother for a train at a railway station, when he noticed a penny-inthe slot weighing machine. He asked his mother a great many questions about it, and at last received permission to drop in his penny and be weighed. Having obtained that important information, he said: "How much would I have weighed, mamma, f I had dropped in a dollar?"

Christmas Post Cards Free. Send 2c stamp for five samples of our very best Gold and Silk Finish Christmas, Flower and Motto Post Cards, beautiful colors and loveliest designs. Art Post Card Club, 792 Jackson St., Topeka, Kan.

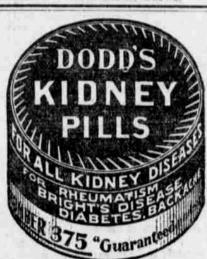
The Hint That Failed. Wife-A tree, you know, gets new clothes every spring-hat, parasol, everything!

Husband-Yes, darling, and makes them all itself.-Fliegende Blaetter.

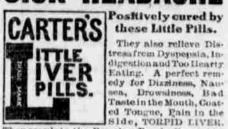
Lewis' Single Binder made of extra quality tobacco, costs more than other 5c cigars. Tell the dealer you want them. In the opinion of the beauty do tor many a homely woman has a fine face

for business Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrop. iren teething, softens the garas, reduce on, allays pain, cures wind colks. 25c a bo

The less a man knows about women the more he thinks he knows.



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