

**EDITORS' IDEAS.**

**ELECTRIC LIGHT STEALS.**

Cumberland, Md., is a thriving little city, having by the census of 1890, a population of 12,780. For several years past the city has been "lighted" by electricity, paying a private company \$91.25 per year for each 2,000 candle power light—with parallel prices to private citizens. This was lower than the average, because the company sought to forestall and defeat the threatened project of putting in a municipal plant.

A municipal electric light plant was installed and the reports of the board of control for the first six months of the city's experiments in electric lighting with its own plant has just been published. Private companies are not circulating the document at their own expense. It shows that the city has been "lighted" at the astonishingly low rate of \$34.50 per light per year, \$2.88 per month; or one cent an hour. And the light furnished is conceded by all to be better than they ever had before.

**HELD THE LETTER.**

Perhaps the mischief caused by Otis was looking in that deferential respect that all of us are supposed to feel for military men, and Otis may have felt his dignity offended, at least he felt justified in "pinching" the letters.

Perhaps they carried some criticism of Major McKinley or Commander in Chief Mark Hanna, be that as it may, Mr. Otis held the letters back. He would not permit the boys, already sick of the heartless slaughter, to read the loving messages from home.

We would like to see a few treason suits brought. We should like to print a few extracts from the letters that Otis stole. We long for the American people to fully understand the depth of depravity underlying this administration and its war of conquest.—People's Champion.

**TRUSTS HIT 'EM.**

Traveling men from the east are beginning to feel the construction of the trust ax, and as somebody calls it, and one merchant in Omaha has had calls lately from half a dozen of them who were about to be put out of jobs. Hardware, implements, tobacco, thread, bicycles, were lines that had been represented by these men—all capable commercial travelers. Now there was no competition and no need to show goods. The retailer must buy them when he needed them, and the only price quoted was "at value"—that is whatever the price happened to be when the goods were shipped. "And you may be sure they will be higher than at present," added the merchant.—World-Herald.

**THE WORK OF THE DEVIL.**

The following is part of a speech delivered at the Chicago Imperialist meeting:

"Today there are those that wave the Declaration of Independence in our face and tell us that the thing to do is to deliver over those islands of the archipelago in the east to the people who are their rightful masters for all governments derive their just power powers from the consent of the governed." So wrote Thomas Jefferson. Do you remember that the Lord said to Joshua, "My servant is dead"? And so is Thomas Jefferson. I do not believe that Thomas Jefferson was infallible. I believe that a live president in the year of grace 1899 is just as much of an authority as a president that lived and died a hundred years ago. I am no worshipper of a saint just because he is dead. Let the dead bury the dead. As to that halcyon document that declares that all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, if that is to be literally construed there never was a greater falsehood palmed off by the devil upon a credulous world."

**HERE'S ANOTHER.**

Another republican editor told us yesterday, that while saying little, as yet, he was just as much opposed to the acquisition of territory across the ocean as we could possibly be, and that he regarded it as the death of that party in the west if the administration committed it to so suicidal a course.—Hamilton County Register.

**Tramways in Gothenburg.**

Consul Bergh of Gothenburg under date of April 6 writes to the state department:

"Referring to my report of Sept. 26, 1898, concerning street railways in Gothenburg, I have to inform the department that the city council at its last meeting decided to purchase the franchise and stock of the Gothenburg Tramways company for the sum of \$70,000 (\$340,000). It has not yet been settled whether the city will build and manage the road itself or lease the franchise to a Swedish or a foreign company. It has been proposed to organize a home company, but, owing to the present high prices paid for money, it is doubtful if this can be realized. A German company has offered to build and manage the electric tramways under certain conditions, but the council decided that these conditions were not sufficiently defined. I shall inform the department as soon as a definite decision has been reached by the city council."

**WALL PAPER**

**SPECIAL SALE**

We will Place on Sale for the Next Few Days

12,000 Rolls of fine wall paper at 5c Per Roll.

W. A. BAILEY,

1546 O STREET

**BENEFIT BY TRUSTS.**

**WHAT MAY BE DONE BY THE METHOD OF COMPULSORY SALE.**

*We Have No Right to Growl at the Monopolist's Victory, but We Have the Right to Say, "Let's Change the Game."*

In our American fairy story the trust is playing the part of the giant. It is the Gulliver among the Lilliputians. In the industrial arena the common people are nothing but the sawdust beneath the feet of the wrestling monopolists.

While the people are struggling for bread, for clothes, for an eight hour day, for the right to work, for the privilege of mere existence, these trustmakers are battling with each other to see who shall be the first billionaire in the history of the world.

The trust is just now at the summit of its power. It is where the slaveowners were in 1859. Almost everything goes down before it. Hardly a politician dare speak freely of its operations.

The average American citizen gazes in alarm at the endless procession of trusts. He witnesses with consternation the wholesale destruction of small dealers, shopkeepers and farmers.

He realizes that it is as hopeless for them to contend against a trust as for a fleet of birchbark canoes to sink the battleship Texas.

He discovers to his horror that a trust can no more be demolished by legislation than a Curander can by a volley of goose feathers.

He hears the Standard Oil trust tell the Ohio legislature to shut up—to mind its own business—and finds, to his amazement, that the legislature is very likely to obey.

He sees the unrestrained growth of a new feudalism and cannot see how to avoid it or how to overcome these insatiable devilfishes of business whose tentacles suck the silver out of every workingman's pocket.

The question which we have to decide is whether the trust is altogether a social evil and excrescence or only a necessary and transient stage in industrial evolution.

What shall we do?

Shall we break up the trusts, snap the links of organization, pull down the department stores, legislate every large factory into a dozen small ones, restore the high prices of 40 years ago, and chase every organizer and consolidator out of the country?

Or shall we, in some just and orderly way, take possession of every trust which becomes a public nuisance and operate it for the benefit of the nation?

There is one unmistakable fact which stares us in the face and that is that the monopolist is the only man who knows how to do business in a systematic and scientific way.

The monopolist has simply landed where every business man is trying to get. He has won the game which we all agreed to play. We have no right to growl at his victory, but we do have a right to say, "Let's change the game."

The trustmaker was the first man who was shrewd enough to see that competition as a business principle was wasteful and uncertain.

He recognized the superiority of co-operation. He inaugurated socialism for his own advantage. He discovered the gold mine of organization, and, naturally enough, he wants to keep it for his own personal benefit.

The trust is the greatest industrial triumph the world has ever seen. It is the final result of centuries of competitive commerce.

It is the ideal of all industry. It transforms a chaos into a cosmos. It brings system, which is the mother of leisure, into the business world.

The trust builder takes hold of a thousand shaky, feeble concerns and transforms them into one large, solid, thoroughly organized industry which has complete control of its output and its profits.

He is the real empire builder and civilization of modern times. He has founded business upon a rock. He has shown us that organization is the secret of confidence and security.

Such is the educational work which has been done by monopolies. They have transformed business from a lottery into a science and have shown us a way whereby bankruptcy, poverty and overwork can be made as rare as smallpox and cholera.

But when one of these gigantic organizations of trade is controlled by two or three irresponsible individuals, when it is used to increase the army of the unemployed, to corrupt legislatures and congresses, to gag the press and even threaten the pulpit, it becomes no longer educational, but criminal.

A trust is like a razor—it is useful when in the hand of a man, but dangerous when in the hand of a baby. Babies are not big enough to be trusted with razors, and few individuals are fit to be trusted with monopolies.

The New York Journal, with a courageous patriotism which has been seldom equaled in the history of the press, is calling for remedies for the trust evil.

Allow me, as one of many, to suggest a method of obtaining public ownership which to my mind would be more speedy, just and economical than any other—the method of compulsory sale.

Treat the trusts as they have treated their competitors. That is certainly fair enough.

Whenever a trust is being formed, agents are sent to all manufacturers who are outside of it and who are in the same line of business, and they are offered by the agent a certain sum of money for their plant. If they refuse, then the trust lowers prices and runs them out of business. They must either accept the first offer or be ruined.

This has been done in thousands of cases, and the government has never

interfered to prevent it. It has been called legitimate business, and it has certainly been legal.

What is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander. In America there are supposed to be "special privileges to none." And why should not the nation have the right to do what has been repeatedly done by trusts?

If trusts may swallow all industrial competitors, why may not the whole people swallow the trusts?

As soon as any monopoly becomes despotic and dangerous to the public welfare, let a board of impartial appraisers examine its books and property and set a fair purchase price upon it which it will be obliged to accept.

This amount will be paid out of the public treasury, a trust tax, which the people will willingly pay.

Again and again railroads have compelled farmers to sell the right of way through their farms. Again and again monopolies have dictated the terms of purchase to their competitors. Why not then allow the nation to exercise its legal right of eminent domain?

Trusts are larger than individuals, but they are considerably smaller than this whole country. We must choose between hurting the feelings of the few and starving the bodies of the many.

This is not an affair of sentiment, but of business and square dealing. There can be no fairer way of dealing with obnoxious trusts than to apply the teachings of the revised golden rule, which says, "Do as you've been done by."

Give them a dose of their own medicine. To purchase a trust at its own valuation would be preposterous, and to pay it in proportion to its power to earn dividends would be equally absurd. The more a trust has unjustly taken from the people, the less it justly deserves when the day of settlement arrives.

The trustmakers should be reimbursed for all the capital they have actually invested and for their skill in organizing and systematizing the business—and for nothing else.

The strictly correct method of valuation would be to take over the trust at its assessed value, and no more. This would put every trust on the bargain counter and make public ownership a cheap and easy undertaking.—Herbert N. Casson.

**MUTUAL HOG INSURANCE**

Company Organized to Protect Hog Raisers From Loss by Disease.

The Capital Mutual Hog Insurance Co. met at its office in the Burr block this week and elected F. J. Hale, president; J. T. Jones, vice-president; C. M. Loomis, treasurer; and W. C. Crooks, secretary and manager. The following well known gentlemen are directors of the company: F. J. Hale, Battle Creek, Neb.; J. T. Jones, J. F. Cornell, Lincoln; J. H. Badger, Arlington; C. M. Loomis, Lincoln; Isaac McCann, Kearney, Neb.; H. Wortendyke, Lincoln; S. S. Griffin, Rocky, and W. C. Crooks, Lincoln.

This company offers to the farmers of the state something entirely new in the line of insurance. The plan of insurance covering the droves of hogs of a farmer guaranteeing to pay him two-thirds market value of the hogs in case of their death from disease. With a sure thing on hog raising no farmer can help making money. The hog is the largest source of revenue on the Nebraska farms. The difficulty has heretofore been that when a nice bunch of hogs had been fattened and the profits were about to be realized an epidemic of cholera would come along, take the hogs and necessitate a few years of successful hog raising for the farmer to recoup the loss.

The plan of the Capital Mutual Hog Insurance company eliminates the element of chance which has heretofore attended this business and makes profit certain.

Experience has shown that disease in hogs is not a wide spread epidemic but is local and spasmodic and by covering risks all over the state the company is able to make the expense to each party carrying insurance very small.

While this proposition is something entirely new in the way of insurance the character of the men at the head of it once give it an air of stability and permanency. The names of some of the most substantial farmers in the state appear on the board of directors and the management is in the hands of experienced insurance men. Many of the leading farmers are availing themselves of the insurance thus offered. The effect will undoubtedly be to stimulate the hog industry in the state.

**HONOR STOTSENBERG**

Governor Poynter sent the following telegram to Secretary Alger at Washington:

Lincoln, May 24.—Secretary Alger, Washington, D. C.: If consistent with arrangements of the war department and with the wishes of Mrs. Stotsenberg, Nebraska requests that the body of Col. Stotsenberg lie in state at Lincoln for memorial services and that we may be accorded the privilege of sending a military escort with the remains to their final resting place.

(Signed) W. A. POYNTER, Governor.

The great special sale at Mrs. Gosper's is a grand success as Mrs. Gosper is selling goods at a great sacrifice.

**HAIL INSURANCE**

To Those Interested:

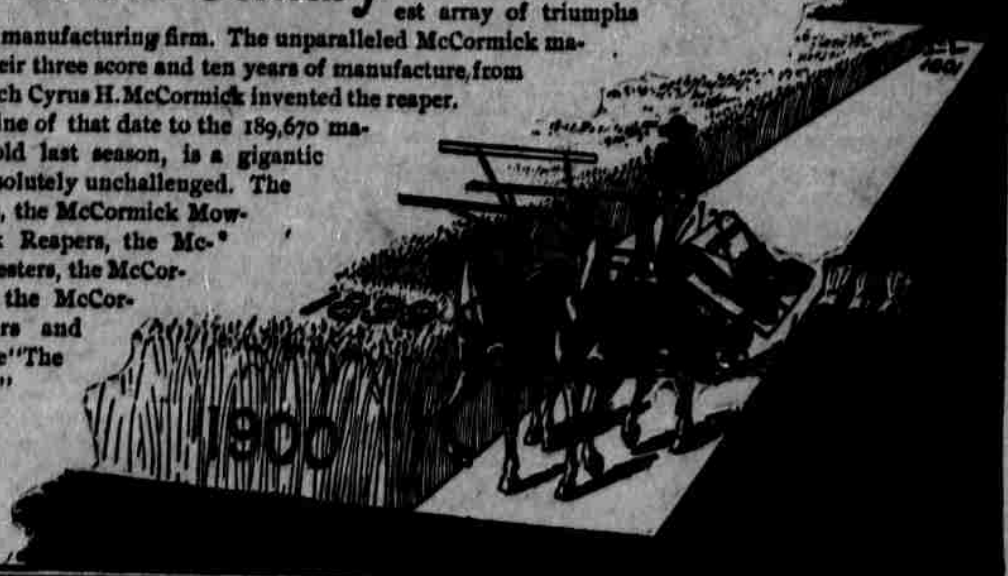
Fairfield Neb., May 12, 1899.—In addition to what we said in last week's issue regarding the Grain Growers Mutual Hail Association, of Omaha, Nebraska, of which P. W. Miller is president and B. F. Hilliker is secretary, in which I showed you the exceedingly bad record of those men while managing the Minnesota Mutual Hail & Cyclone Insurance Co. of Ansonia, Minnesota, during the season of 1897, we have now to offer you the

RECORD IN SOUTH DAKOTA For the year 1898, which is as follows:

**The End of the Century**

approaches and brings with it the celebration of the greatest array of triumphs ever credited to one manufacturing firm. The unparalleled McCormick machines will reach their three score and ten years of manufacture, from 1837, the year in which Cyrus H. McCormick invented the reaper. From the one machine of that date to the 189,670 machines built and sold last season, is a gigantic growth of output absolutely unchallenged. The McCormick Binders, the McCormick Mowers, the McCormick Reapers, the McCormick Corn Harvesters, the McCormick Hay Rakes, the McCormick Corn Huskers and Fodder Shredders are "The Best in The World."

McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, Chicago.



**M. & P. O & 13th Streets. M. & P. O & 13th Streets.**

**Bargains in Hosiery** We want any one who ever shops in Lincoln to become acquainted in our hosiery department and while we have good values there every day of the year we are offering some special attractions this week. A few of these we mention below.

**Ladies Hose 11c** At 11c a pair we will sell a case of ladies hose bought to sell at 15c a pair. They have the Wayne "matchless" dye, are made of superior quality yarn, have high spliced heels and double soles and toes. They are a decided bargain at 11c a pair.

**Boys hose 10c** You can buy any quantity of boys hose at 10c a pair or less but seldom such a bargain as we offer in this lot. They are extra heavy and made for hard service; equal in weight to such as we usually sold for 25c and equal in quality to regular 15c goods. We have all sizes from 6 to 9½ and while they last you can take your choice at 10c a pair.

**Misses Hose 12 1-2c** Of these we have about half a case. They are made of extra fine spun silk finished yarn, have full fashioned heels, seamless toes and two thread knees, equal in appearance to 25c goods. Our price this week 2 pair for 25c.

**Mens Underwear 21c** Early in the season we bought a large lot of mens shirts and drawers to sell at 25c each. They are well made and good yarn, the best quality we have ever sold at 25c. We have too many, however, and this week to reduce the stock the price will be 21c each. We ask you to compare with goods sold elsewhere as high as 35c.

**Mens hose** One case of mens fast black seamless half hose, extra fine quality yarn, high spliced heels and double soles, a good value at 12½c a pair. Our price this week 3 pairs for 25c.

**Ladies Hose 3 for 25c** At 3 pairs for 25c we will this week sell our case of ladies hose worth 12½c a pair. They are fast black, seamless, medium weight, made of fine quality yarn, have three thread heels and toes, narrowed ankles and are well shaped. We invite you to see them.

**Bargains in Underwear** We have some surplus stock in a few very desirable numbers of summer underwear which we want to dispose of this week. For special bargains in underwear we invite you to come this week. We are sure you will find what you want and be more than satisfied with the price.

**Ladies Vests 12 1-2c** We have ladies jersey ribbed vests at 5c and a very good quality at 8½c but the particular line we wish to call attention to now we are selling this week at 12½c. They are jersey ribbed, list finished; short sleeves or sleeveless; white or ecru.

**Ladies Underwear 35c a Suit** We have one case of ladies medium weight jersey ribbed vests and pants to sell this week at 35c a suit. The vests are high neck, long sleeves and have shaped bodies; the pants are cut full size and are well made.

**BARGAINS IN NOTIONS**—We are offering a number of very special bargains in our notion department. We have a lot of tooth brushes worth as high as 10c each, this week the price is 3c each. A lot of hair brushes some of them worth 50c, this week 25c each. Leather belts at 5, 10, 15 and 25c each that are worth double these prices. Belt buckles sold last season at 25c each, now 5c each. Bargains in fancy ribbons, pearl buttons, fancy combs, shirt waist sets etc.

**MILLER & PAINE**

**Use Kansas Lump Rock Salt For Stock.**

Purest, Healthiest, Best, Highest Awards and Medals for Purity, World's Exposition, Chicago, 1893; Trans-Mississippi Exposition, Omaha, 1899.

**WESTERN ROCK SALT CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.**  
Sole Agents for Nevils Rock Salt Co. and Royal Salt Co.

Ground Rock Salt for Stock. Use Rock Salt for Hides, Pickles, Meats, Ice Cream, Ice Making, Fertilizing, &c., &c. Mines and Works, Lyons and Kanopolis, Kan.

**THE NEW LINCOLN FLOURING MILLS**

Situated at Ninth and V streets are now ready for business. We give in exchange for good 60-lb. wheat 32 pounds of fancy flour—guaranteed, and 10 lbs of bran.

Try a sack of "Honest Abe" Flour. Warranted to equal the best. All first-class grocers keep it.

**C. SEELEY & SON.**

against them. We also find this clause in the Grain Growers application blanks: "I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to vote my proxy at the annual meeting of the members in my absence."

So that any person can write his name in the blank above in all applications and vote for all the members at the annual meeting.

It rests with you, farmers of Nebraska, as to whether or not they shall oppose the patronage from the farmers of this state with their justly earned supporting vote. What will they do?—Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Association, B. Hilliker, general manager, Fairfield, Nebraska.

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