ROOSEVELT'S CAMPAIGN

Smarting Under Congressional Rebuke President Engages Little-Head Littlefield to get Even by Sham Attack on Trusts

Washington, D. C., July 15, 1902.-(Special Correspondence.)-The republican leaders do not wish to be uncharitable to our chief executive, but they rejoicing with a thoroughness, that fervently wish that some combination of circumstances would make it impossible for him to do any more talking until after the congressional cam. paign closes. The democrats are mak- nually celebrated by tout Paris. The ing no objection. Roosevelt furnishes us daily with good and sufficient rea- does not consider that in doing this sons why the party which he is doing it is necessary to make Paris uninhis egotistical best to ruin should not | habitable for quiet-loving people, and control the next house.

It is true as some republican papers try to comfort themselves that the magnificent review of troops at Longcontrol of the next house would not champs. Every one goes, and unless mean anything very decisive in itself exposure to the sun upsets them all for either party. But it is pretty cold comfort when they reflect that the Parisan dwadles for a while in the coming democratic control is the entering wedge for the next presidential | selves innocently on the grass. It oucampaign and means that the people- curs to no one to make a hideous that mass which moves so slowly-is getting ready for a complete overturning of the republican party, not ly weapons. Fapa and mamma and primarily because it is the republican the youngsters are well and happy party, but because it is committed to when they sit down to their evening trust domination at home and to a meal. most despotic system of militarism abroad.

ministered when it ignored his message on Cuban reciprocity. The well known line of poetry might be paraphrased to read-

"Hell hath no fury like an egotist scorned

Roosevelt had no intention of interfering with the trusts after conto so narrow a cranium that it never can see anything farther than its owner's interests

The short cut to notoriety for Littlefield was to oppose the house leaders. In a way it is his good fortune rational mode of celebrating the that the president is a man after his own type. Both of them are looking greater safety and comfort, and for for personal gratification in the dis- the preservation of our standing as 2 party and not for the welfare of the people. Neither of them have the breadth of statesmanship which would put party success before personal feel-

The most unlettered and ignorant voter cannot be deceived by the republican pretense of desire to curb the trusts. A five-year-old child would scorn the politician who waited until congress had adjourned to begin a howl about the trusts. Instead of deceiving the people it simply calls attention to the failure of congress to exert itself.

Then, too, Payne, Dalzell et al, who are already committed to the trusts cannot see their way clear to even a Littlefield campaign. The machine has been pledged to the most diplomatic silence on trust iss es and there will be republican campaign funds forthcoming if this silence is broken.

The democrats can win simply on the republican record of the session of congress just closed. The Philippine atrocities have been defended by the republican party; therefore a repetition of them may be expected every time the Filipinos rebel afresh. They rebelled for three hundred years are called "continuing appropriaunder Spanish rule and ours has been worse than that.

The recent congress not only ignored trust aggression, but put its seal of cases were which came to light, they are still more significant as indicating what the future policy will be. The democrats by their watchful and patriotic attitude exposed the practices which the administration had thought safely hidden. The democrats, through a widespread distribution of literature and a most active the facts before the voters and there cannot be any doubt as to the result

The democratic campaign is already beginning vigorously. Chairman Griggs in Washington and Ben Cable although the actual fight must be made in each district as local judgment dictates. Notwithstanding the sneers of the republican press the democrats were never so harmonious as at the present time. All sensible men realize that the issues themselves change from time to time and the relative importance of certain issues varies from first thing. Every vital issue will be met when the machinery of congress and administration is in our hands.

The democratic victory is conceded at republican congressional headquar- but are required to keep the service ters and it is many years since the lat- up to a certain standard; this was the ter put up so perfuncotry a pretense era of the canal and turnpike trusts or oi a campaign.

With Roosevelt past and to come there is very little hope of enough re but manages it for profits, as is still publican unity to compass success in the case today in some countries with the next presidential campaign. All the post and railway system. In the of which helps the democratic pros- fourth stage, the government charges pects.-D. P. B.

FRENCH FOURTH OF JULY

It Comes on the Fourteenth Instead of the Fourth and They Celebrate it Without Filling Their Hospitals

wounded was unusually large. There was scarcely a town or village that did not have one or more victims.

The French celebrate their Fourth, which comes on the 14th, and commemorates the fall of the Bastile, in a different way. It is the fashion to call the French "volatile" and "pleasureloving," but they are, nevertheless, capable of practicing common sense and restraint on occasions of public ought to put to the blush an American engaged in the pleasing art of "making Rome howl." On the 14th of July the fall of the Bastile is ancity gives itself over to joy. But it a place of menace to life and limb for 24 hours. During the day there is a return intact. On the way home the Bois. He and his family amuse themnoise, to set off ill-smelling and dangerous firecrackers, or to handle dead-

After dinner they swarm out upon the boulevard, which has been turned Roosevelt is undoubtedly smarting into a fairy bower. Flags, foliage and under the rebuke which congress ad- innumerable little colored lamps inclose what is practically a gigantic ball-room, the traffic of all vehicles beneath the decorations having been suspended, and to the music of bands stationed at hundreds of corners the populace dances till it is tired. It is tired, but that is all. There is little if any drunkenness. There are few quargress adjourned any more than he had rels. There are no "casualties" from while it was in session. His picking up fireworks, for the displays on the Seine of Littlefield is to administer a rebuke are in the hands of the authorities, to the party leaders of the house. Lit- and delight thousands without hurttlefield is the bull in the China shop. ing a fly. Is there not a lesson for us

Elaborate pyrotechnical displays could be organized in some of our pleasure grounds. Even if these or other diversions are impracticable, however, it is to be hoped that a more Fourth may be developed, for our comfiture of members of their own civilized nation. Intelligent Londoners have recently bewailed the excesses of some of the "coronation crowds," as they bewailed the orgies of "Mafeking night" and "peace night." Must we go on, indefinitely, bewailing the humiliations of the Fourth of July?

ENORMOUS TAXATION

The Appropriations Made by Congress Greater Than was Ever Imposed on Any Nation Before

If we mistake not the appropriations made at this session of congress are greater than were ever imposed on any nation in one year in all hispretense of following the Roosevelt- tory. The total of this year's appropriations exceeds the aggregate of our government's net ordinary expenditures, including interest, from its birth in 1789 down to the year 1847; that is to say, the cost of running the United States during the first 58 years of the nation's existence.

This is a great nation—the greatest on earth—but The Independent very much doubts whether the people can stand such a strain as that for any great length of time. There are what tions," that is, great works have been planned, costing millions, and the appropriations are made from year to year as the work advances. Such is approval on every sort of departmen- the case with the navy. That makes tal and official lobbying. Bad as the it impossible to greatly reduce the bur-

den for many years to come. The aggregate of the direct appropriations contained in the several regular bills of the session, including the first appropriation of \$50,130,000 for the isthmian canal, is \$800,193,837. The contracts authorized on river and harbor improvement, public buildings and other federal work, including the campaign in every district will put estimated cost of the canal, this last to be provided for by a bond issue, add \$259,373,215; so that the total of amounts to \$1,059,577,052. This justiin Chicago will keep things moving, fies the description of the recent session as a billion-dollar session.

The Five Stages

In all the media of transportation and communication there seems to be a definit law of evolution. Everywhere at first they are in private hands and used for purposes of extortion or year to year. To accomplish the most of profit, like the highways in mepressing and necessary reforms is the dieval Europe, or the early bridges and canals. In the second stage they are "affected with public interest," and are turned over to trustees, who are permitted to charge fixed tolls, companies. In the third stage the government takes over the service, tolls or fees only to cover expenses, as until recently in the case of canals and bridges, and as is the theory of the postal system and of the municipal water supply with us at the present time. In the fifth stage the government reduces charges until finally there is no charge at all, and the expenses are defrayed by a general tax The enormous number of casualties on the community. This is the stage which occurred on the last Fourth of now reached in the common roads and July is causing comment both in this most of the canals and bridges, and nard, the successful sugar trust lob- in a republican convention they get 27 million bushels against 181 millions changers will soon make an attempt

SEWARD'S PURCHASE

Samuel Con La Marie

Treasury Department Says Alaska Ha Produced Revenues in Excess of Original Cost

A million dollars a month is the estimate made by the bureau of statistics of the present value of the market which "frozen Alaska" offers the producers and manufacturers of the United States.

"Commercial Alaska in 1901" is the title of a monograph just issued by the treasury bureau of statistics. In it are presented some striking figures about this (until recently) little explored and little understood territory of the United States. By reason of the application of modern systems of travel and transportation, Alaska is now as accessible as Arizona. Three days of travel by modern ocean steamers from Seattle, among the islands and along the coast which forms the southeastern extension of Alaska. lands the traveler at Skagway; twelve hours by rail over the mountains carries him to the head waters of the Ynkon where comfortable and well equipped river steamers carry him to the gold field of central Alaska or down the Yukon river which is navigable for more than 2,000 miles at this season of the year. From the mouth of the Yukon another comparatively short trip, by steamer, carries him to Cape Nome-the latest and greatest of in the Philippines, is easy to underthe gold fields of Alaska.

Gold, fish and furs are, according to this monograph, the principal industries of Alaska at the present time and they send to the United States 15 million dollars' worth of their products, 8 millions of gold, 6 millions of fish, chiefly salmon, and the remainder furs.

The cost of Alaska was \$7,200,000. The revenue which the government has derived from it since its purchase amounts to over 9 million dollars, and the value of the products are now twice as much every year as it cost. The total value of the products of Alaska brought to the United States since its purchase is (according to the best estimates that the bureau of statistics is able to make) about 150 millions, of which 50 millions is precious metals, 50 millions products of the fisheries, chiefly salmon, and 50 millions more furs, chiefly seal fur. Probably 50 million dollars of American are powerful in other quarters than 1900 gives these statistics of factories capital are invested in Alaskan indus- the Philippines, and their whole tries and business enterprises, including transportation systems. In the salmon fisheries alone, the companies engaged have a capitalization of 22 cording to report, would prefer that million dollars and the value of their | the American government should explants, including vessels, is given at 12 million dollars. In the mining industries there are large investmentsthe largest quartz stamp mill in the world, while several other quartz mills to maintain good relations with the represent large investments. With the inflow of capital, the development of transportation systems, and the gold discoveries, has come the building up of towns and the development of cities with modern conveniences of life. Nome City, which is located but a comparatively short distance south of the Arctic circle, has now a population of over 12,000; postal facilities have been so extended that the number of postoffices is now about 60, and mails are being regularly delivered north of the Arctic circle.

Agricultural possibilities in Alaska have, until within a recent period. been considered of but slight importance. As the country was explored, however, and its conditions of climate and soil studied, its natural products observed, and experiments made with and noble spirit. It is short (less various classes of agricultural pro- than 350 words), and perfectly simple. ductions, it became apparent that the agricultural possibilities of the country, and especially of the south and southeast, where the climate is modi- fidelity; tells of the provision made fied by the Japan-current, were of con- for widows and orphans, expresses siderable importance in view of the practicability of furnishing at least a part of the food supply of the population which the varied resources of Alaska seem likely to sustain and make permanent. These observations and experiments lead those who have participated in them to the belief that vegetables in great variety can be produced all along the southern coast, and in the valley of the Yukon, and by some the possibility of the successful production of wheat and oats is strongly supported. The grasses for expenditure actually voted for at the the support of cattle are abundant, first session of the 57th congress and the experiment with live stock thus far justify the belief that this feature of the food requirements of Alaska may be furnished by the development of stock farms in the southern sections. In the north vast areas are covered with a moss similar to that upon which the reindeer thrives in other parts of the Arctic regions, and in view of this fact the introduction of reindeer from Siberia was begun a few years since and has proved extremely successful, about 3,000 now eing distributed through northwest Alaska, and the experiment has advanced sufficiently to justify the confident belief that the reindeer will within a few years prove an important feature in furnishing both the transportation and food supply of northern and northwestern Alask

The gross area of Alaska is, according to the 1900 census, 590,804. The governor of Alaska in a recent report states that this is equal to the combined area of the twenty states of Maine, New Hampshire. Vermont. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Penusylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Oxnard-Shylock

fies perfectly the republican theory of exclusion, both as represented in its tariff policy and its system of finance. The democrats, for the sake of the Greenbacks Killed by Cry of "Rag Baby" small traders and minor money skinners, have advocated a sort of "liberal" Sabbath in these matters, or else the complete elimination of all bounds. The republican party won, and Oxnard is its chief protector. Though others be misled by sentiment, and be induced to give aid and com-fort to Cuba, Oxnard, swearing by the McKinley bill—the basis on which is built the present administration-and the Dingley bill-which has materially aided the administration—refuses to bate one jot of his pound of flesh, and will have every dollar that is coming to him from the particular system of capitalist government that he and his fellows have been able to institute. carry a single northern state, and in Roosevelt may rave and pound, and the Times may scold, but Mr. Oxnard is carrying out in all their glory and purity the principles of the g. o. p .-Weekly People (soc.) New York.

THE PHILIPPINE FRIARS

Governor Taft Meete With Difficulties at Rome and the Pope is in a Quandary

That the vatican is somewhat embar rassed in meeting the requests of Governor Taft, in the matter of the friars stand. It is embarrassing business on both sides. The United States is a country where religious freedom prevails, and the same religious freedora must prevail in its dependencies, or there would be a terrific protest at home. For the American government islands, therefore, could not be thought of, since the expulsion would have to be based on religious grounds. But the American government would be only too glad if the vatican would recall them or order them away from the archipelago. The vatican, on the People in the East are Astonished at the other hand, does not like to order cerof particular fields which were originally Christianized by those organizations. Looking at the case from the viewpoint of Rome, one can understand somewhat the difficulties of the invested in that industry must be apsituation. Those orders themselves parent to any man. The census of strength will be exerted in favor of the friars in the eastern archipelago. It is not surprising that the vatican, acpel the orders, and then the Roman hierarchy appear to acquiesce in something which it had had no power to the great quartz mill at Juneau being avert. The position is difficult, sure enough, for Rome, which is anxious United States government. The chances are 2 to 1 that if the Presbyterians were asked by any government to withdraw their missionary societies from a similar field they would take a long time in complying with the request. Every church likes to stand by its own children.

VICTORY IN DEFEAT

The Boer Address to the People of Their Nation Reminds Every one of the Immortal Words of Lincoln

The letter of the Boer leaders, announcing peace to their countrymen, is of an admirable dignity and a wise It thanks the Boers for their heroism, their sacrifices, their obedience and sympathy for those who mourn, and praise and thanks to women and chilmost bitter sacrifices and suffering." Then it continues:

"Now there is peace, and although not the peace such as we longed for, yet let us abide where God has led us. We can with a clear conscience declare that for two and a half years to the United States. One thing is our people carried on the struggle in a manner almost unknown in history Let us now grasp each other's hands, for another great struggle lies before us for the spiritual and social prosper. no one else will. ity and welfare of our people.

"Casting aside all feeling of bitterness, let us learn to forget and forgive, so that the deep wounds caused by this war may be healed." We have all read before something

like that. Is not this it?— "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in, to pleted its preliminary figures on the bind up the nation's wounds, to care exports of breadstuffs and provisions for him who shall have borne the and, as they show about 97 per cent of battle and for his widow and his or- the total exports, a reasonably accurphans, to do all that may achieve a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

These were the words of a great fighting for.—Harper's Weekly.

THE TREND OF EVENTS

Silver by "Fifty-Cent" Dollar-The Old Issue Forging Ahead

A prominent eastern democrat, in a 123,412 bushels while for the year just private letter to the editor, says: "I ended the complete figures will amount congratulate you on your large subto about 27 million bushels. scription list-hope you will find profitable advertising during the coming year. . . . I had hoped that the democratic party-especially Mr. Bryan's wing-would drop the old dogma of tariff-for-revenue-only and substitute an income tax for revenue only; but it now seems that the democrats are going into the fall campaign on the same old basis. This will certainly defeat them. I don't believe they will the south the republicans will gain.

"I have avoided the money question partly because I have never had much enthusiasm for free coinage of silver. I have only supported it because I thought it was less dangerous than free coinage of gold. I am beginning to think now that the money question will bear more discussion in the fu-

"In 1876-78 I became an ardent greenbacker. In connection therewith the convertible bond was slightly discussed. But they killed the greenback by calling it a 'rag-baby.' I went into the free coinage of silver movement, thinking that they could not kill the old standard silver dollar by calling it a rag baby; nor could they to 300 million pounds in 1902, and the -but they killed it by calling it a 'fifty-cent' dollar.

"Now we shall have to put an end to further free coinage of gold and revive the old greenback and convertformally to expel the friars from the | ible bond theory with certain modifications. There is plenty of work on this line and the laborers are few."

THE SUGAR BEET

Way Oxnard Has Been Able to Hold up the Whole Government

That there is something behind this sugar beet "hold up" of the president and congress besides the few millions

No. of establishments..... Capital invested\$20,958,519 Av. No. of wage earners. Wages paid\$1,092,207 Cost of materials..... 4.803.786 Value of product..... 7,323,857

In point of capital invested this industry figures to the extent of about two-tenths of 1 per cent in the total manufacturing industry of the United States. In point of value of product, its relative position is measured by about six one-hundredths of 1 per cent. Nor is it apparent that reciprocity with Cuba would affect in the slightest degree adversely this very small beet sugar interest. Occasionally we read of two or three men on horseback holding up and terrorizing a whole town out west, but here is a national hold-up comparable only with that of a city like New York held at bay by

single cowboy. What is it that is behind Oxnard? States like West Virginia, that never raised a sugar beet and never will, are lending their aid to the movement. The power that is doing it is either financial or political, or both. Most probably it is politics. There is a certain clique of senators who are determined to down Roosevelt. That is made then it would have been made evident to all. But this seems to be a later and perhaps would have been as poor way of doing it, for this assault is likely to make the president more popular. The most likely thing that The Independent can think of is that a clique of financiers having secured mortgages on most of Cuba, are playdren "who have heroically borne the ing a game of their own. They want to pauperize the island, just as they pauperized the people of this country are not standing alone this year. It of today, yet that road was finally to by the Cleveland-Sherman policy. is not a favorable time for a divorce come to sale, and that corporation was Then they propose to take in the between the two parties in those to go out of business, and it could no property on mortgages and force Cuba states. The fact that the democratic longer pay dividends upon its stock. into a revolution and final annexation party as a national organization is and the result was that the stock of certain. It is not their love for a few farmers who raise sugar beets that inspires these men. The mullet heads will believe that sort of a story, but

THE DROUTH OF 1901

Effect of Dry Weather That Year Upon the Exports of the United States

It is now practicable to determine the effect of the drouth of 1901 upon the export trade of 1902. The treasury bureau of statistics has just comate measurement of the exportation of articles affected by the drouth of last year can now be made. The tables show the exports of quantities and leader with victory in sight at the close value of corn and cornmeal, oats and be long before that be plain that the can be cashed on Wall street before of a prodigious struggle. The Boer oatmeal, wheat flour and other breadleaders are beaten men, talking to stuffs, also live cattle, fresh beef and of the same influences that shaped its losers. But the likeness in the spirit other beef products as well as other of the two addresses is strong enough provisions. The direct and most to suggest that if there is such a thing marked reduction of course is in corr, as winning a defeat, the Boers have which was most largely affected by won theirs. Men who come out of the drouth of 1901. The exportation such a war with such a spirit are very of corn at the principal ports, shown like victors. They have won some- by the preliminary report of the buthing that is worth while, though it reau of statistics, amounts to 26 milmay not be the precise thing they were lion bushels in the fiscal year ending dollars of gold in the next 25 years. June 30, 1902, against 176 millions at | Four billion dollars is four thousand | or represent water-whether they repthe same ports in the preceding year, million. That means double, perhaps resent value in dollars or cents, or Platt of New York and Quay of the value for 1902 being 16 million dol-Pennsylvania have both announced lars against 82 millions in the preced- tion money. That doubles the price that they are for Roosevelt's nomina- ing year, a reduction of 66 million of produce, houses and land. That the bonds and stocks to two-thirds of The republican, democratic and er- tion and Quay says that when New all prob- spells prosperity for 25 years. It is their extent were of the Union Pacific atic press is hot on the trail of Ox- York and Pennsylvania pull together ably show the total exports at about dollars to doughnuts that the money railroad. country and Europe. One Chicago which has been proposed by officials biest. The Times, which has run what they want. Roosevelt may be a in the preceding year. Exportations to demonetize gold as too plentiful.

corn exports in round terms, as shown by the preliminary figures, 67 million dollars. Compared with the fiscal year 1900 the reduction is still greater; the corn exports of the fiscal year 1900 were the largest in the history of our export trade, having amounted to 213,-

But the effect of the drouth upon the export trade did not stop with corn, though in this item it is most largely apparent. The reduction in the quantity of corn available for live stock naturally increased the consumption of oats and, as a result, the exportation of oats fell off from 37 million bushels in the fiscal year 1901 to 10 million bushels in 1902, and the value from about 12 million dollars in 1901 to 4 millions in 1902. In oatmeal, exportations fell from 90 million pounds in 1901 to 59 million pounds in 1902, while the value fell from two and a quarter million dollars in 1901 to a little over one and one-half million dollars in 1902. Thus the reduction in value of the exports of breadstuffs, clearly traceable to the drouth, was:

total, 75 million dollars. Two other marked reductions in the exportation of products of agriculture are beef, including live cattle, and cotton. The exportation of live cattle has fallen from 401 thousand in 1901 to 319 in 1902; the exportation of fresh beef from 350 million pounds in 1901 total value of cattle and beef products has fallen from 80 million dollars in 1901 to 69 millions in 1902, a loss of 11 million dollars. In cotton the reduction is wholly due to the reduced prices, the quantity exported for the year being 160 million pounds greater than in the preceding year, while the value was 24 million dollars less than

Corn and cornmeal, 67 million dollars;

oats and oatmeal, 8 million dollars;

the preceding year. One other item of exports which will show a marked reduction during the last year is iron and steel. While the total figures of exports have not been received by the bureau of statistics, sufficient have been received to justify an estimate that the reduction in exports of iron and steel will amount, in round terms, to 20 million dollars, due in a large measure to increase in the home demand upon our manufacturers, and in part to the decreased demand engaged in extracting sugar from the abroad. The principal reduction in the export trade of the year will then stand: Corn and cornmeal and oats and oatmeal, 75 million dollars, due ch fly to the drouth of 1901; beef and beef cattle, 11 millions, due to increased home demand and shortage in material for feed of stock; cotton 24 millions, due to reduction in prices; manufactures of iron and steel, 20 millions, due to increased home demand

and decreased foreign demand. Thus in the four items of exportscorn and oats, beef and beef cattle, raw cotton, and manufactures of iron and steel, the reduction for the fiscal year will amount to about 130 million dollars, while the total reduction in all exports is but about 90 million dollars, thus indicating that the general exports aside from these four classes, in which conditions were abnormal, will show a satisfactory growth when the complete figures of the fiscal year are presented.

A Mid-Road Look Ahead

It is well enough, perhaps, that the reform movement was temporarilly sidetracked in 1896, for had that flank movement of the old parties not been be learned again. Fusion still preclear in Kansas and Nebraska and road is taken in 1904, because it will ing worth \$5 a share, it is worth and democratic party is under the control noon tomorrow for \$107 a share. course when it ran Cleveland for the presidency three times.-Missouri bute; the right to make rates and in-World.

Demonetize Gold

South Africa will produce four billion and dividends and pay interest on their treble the present supply of redemphospital reported 125 patients, the result of fireworks and fire-arm accisult of fireworks and fire-arm accisult of fireworks and fire-arm acciservices, like the water supply.—Prof. other paper, calls Oxnard the meanest all the rotten political bosses in the million dollars in 1901 to 1 million perity.—News-Champion, Gunnison,

HARRINGTON'S ARGUMENT

Before the Supreme Court in the Mandamus Suit Against State Board of Equalization

Upon the argument of the case of State ex rel Bee Building Company vs. State Board of Equalization, Hon. M. F. Harrington, of O'Neill, one of the relators in the case, said:

The questions involved here are of so much importance that it should be the duty of all parties interested to furnish the court all possible light

upon the transactions. I think that the first thing to be considered, and in the end the main thing, is whether or not the railway companies of the state are paying a

tax in proportion to their property ownership. In the first instance we will have to ascertain the general rule of assessment of property in the state. Our basis here is not founded upon imagination, it is founded upon the public records, it is founded upon the testimony in this case. The returns made by the assessors and county clerk of Douglas county certify that in that county for all county and state purposes the property of the county is assessed at one-sixth of its fair cash value. As to the assessors and county clerk of Lancaster county we have their certificate that the property in this county is assessed at onefifth of its fair cash value. These are the two heavy tax paying counties of the state, and the lowest valuation 's one-sixth of its fair cash value.

We do not need to stop with these counties. Thirteen of the counties return that their property is assessed at one-fourth of its fair cash value, nine counties return that it is assessed at one-third of its fair cash value; four counties return it is assessed at onesixth of its fair cash value; two return that their property is assessed at oneseventh of its fair cash value; twentyone return that their property is assessed at one-fifth of its fair cash value, one returns one-eighth of its fair cash value, and the others range ing from one-fifth to one-tenth-with two exceptions. There is not a county in Nebraska that returns its property at less than one-tenth of its fair cash value, and there are only four counties out of the ninety in Nebraska that return at less than one-sixth of its fair cash value. So I am within the bounds of truth, my statement here is conservative, as based upon this testimony, that property, generally speaking, in Nebraska is assessed at one-sixth of its fair cash value. All we expect these railway companies to do is to pay that same rate of taxation. We expect the state board of equalization to assess the railroad property at one-sixth of its fair cash value. The relief sought here should be awarded. If it be true that the franchises and other intangible property of these railway companies have been omitted from the tax list, if they have not been assessed, then it is the duty of this board to reassemble and assess that property which they have by their act exempted from taxation. If, upon the other hand, they took into consideration the franchise, and if they made the assessment so low that it is a fraud upon the taxpayers in the state then that assessment so made by them is utterly void in law, and it is their duty to reassemble and make a new assessment of the property. So that if either one of these things has occurred, or if both of these things have occurred, it is the duty of this board to reassemble and make a new assess-

ment of the property. . What is a franchise, it is said, and what is its value? It may be defined successful. But now that lesson has more easily by illustration or by negabeen learned and it will not have to tives than by an affirmative answer. could illustrate it by a plain case that vails in the west, but it is the final we all know about, occurring in rewindup of that policy, in our opinion. | cent years. Here was the Union Pa-We do not know but what after the cific railroad in the hands of receivers six years of fusion in the west it is but a few years ago, with a bonded well enough that the populists there debt much less than the bonded debt done with Bryanism; done with the that corporation went to as low as a Chicago platform, has not been made few cents on the dollar per share, and that was for the reason that the franfarther west. But the truth will come chise was practically taken away from cut immediately following this year's that corporation; its right to levy elections. Their confidence in the sin- tolls practically ceased to exist, but cerity of Mr. Bryan may continue and just as soon as that corporation was events may prove that he is entitled to reorganized; just as soon as there even more credit for sincerity of pur- was new life given to it; just as soor pose than has been given him by a as it had the right to take tolls upon great many. Nevertheless it will be- the grain and upon the cattle and on come as plain as daylight that the cx- the product of our mills, and to take perienced and tricky politicians of the toll for carrying passengers and to democratic party, let the Chicago con- levy tribute not only on the crops and vention go as it did for the purpose of manufactures of this year, but for the killing the reform movement and ab- years and ages to come whether under sorbing its membership. For the pop- public or private control; just as soon ulists of Kansas and Nebraska to as it became that in perpetuity they break away from their fusion policy might collect the levy tribute upon now might leave many populists in trade between the occident and the the democratic party and many demo- orient-as soon as that occurred, this crats would remain in the democratic franchise gave life and tremendous party who will not separate from the value to the common stock of the people's party when the middle-of-the- Union Pacific and today, instead of be-

That is what a franchise is, the right to collect tolls; the right to levy tricrease them at will-that is what a franchise means. It is in perpetuity: it is because it lasts for the ages to come: because it is in itself the very John Hays Hammond estimates that | means by which they collect tribute bonds, whether they represent value whether they are conceived in iniquity and born in fraud as I propose to show

> Now we can get some things by comparison. Back in 1874 the lines of railroads in this state, which were but streaks of rust in comparison with