

astic; the most intelligent, industrious and inspiring—in short, the greatest area of productivity peopled by the most progressive people in all the world.

This toast I give to you:

"Nebraska, the producer of the best of all things; of bad things the possessor of least; a state without a 'bread line' or a child sent breakfastless to school; with a future unlimited and a past to be proud of; a state of homes and schools and churches—her greater development our duty, her bounty our sufficient reward."

#### CURTIS WINS THE PRIZE

The Board of Public Lands and Buildings has handed Curtis, Frontier county, the juicy prize known as the **Southwestern Agricultural College**. No better selection could have been made, for Curtis is practically in the center of the section calculated to be benefited by the establishment of the college. Curtis is a beautiful little city, with one of the prettiest lakes in the west on her outskirts. It is easy of access and it offers the state rare inducements. But it should not be understood that because this new school is located in Frontier county that Frontier is a barren section. Quite the contrary. The fact of the matter is, southwestern Nebraska possesses soil as fertile as any in the world. The best results have not yet been obtained for the reason that the nature of that soil has not been well understood by all who till it. The college of agriculture will educate the people along that and similar lines, and in due time southwestern Nebraska will be as productive an area as may be found anywhere. Frontier is just the average southwestern Nebraska county. In 1910 it produced 1,032,000 bushels of corn, 523,000 bushels of wheat, 347,000 bushels of oats, 10,000 tons of alfalfa and 33,000 tons of other hay. It shipped to market in 1909 8,991 head of cattle, 26,135 head of hogs, 462 horses and mules and 600 sheep. It also shipped to market during the same year 11,000 pounds of dressed poultry, 53,000 pounds of live poultry, 5,000 pounds of dressed meats, 130,000 dozen eggs, 43,000 pounds of butter and 49,000 gallons of cream. Of its 600,000 acres only 271,000 are under cultivation, and most of the uncultivated area is as productive as that now cultivated. As a wealth producer southwestern Nebraska is going to loom large in the near future, and the establishment of that school is going to hasten the day.

#### THIS IS TO LAUGH.

Whenever an attempt is made to re-adjust any schedule in the existing tariff law numerous interesting shadows are mirrored on the congressional screen. The American Fork and Hoe Company, the "Farmers' Tool Trust" has a contract at the state prison at Jackson, Mich., in the name of the Withington & Cooley Company, one of its constituent corporations, and in the name of the

Iowa Farming Tool Company at the state penitentiary at Fort Madison, Iowa. The parent company is making a bitter fight against the lowering of duty on farming tools from Canada, advancing the usual "cost of labor" reasons. It seems hardly possible that the labor cost of manufacture in Canada is less than 30 or 40 cents per day, the price the trust pays for its convict labor in this country.

#### SOME INTERESTING FIGURES

While every utterance in congress is duly recorded by stenographers and appears in the Congressional Record, and while hearings before committees and commissions are likewise a matter of record, yet, owing largely to the voluminous printed documents the greater portion of vital matters are lost to view. Just recently in a speech made on the floor of the house the following facts were stated; having been collected by the New York Child Labor Commission:

Children's dresses are paid for at the rate of 50 cents per dozen, the average daily output for one person in thirteen hours is one dozen.

Violets are made for 3 1-2 cents per gross, and a mother, three girls and a grandmother earn 60 cents per day.

The average wage of an entire family at garment finishing is from 60 to 70 cents per day.

cents per 1,000, and a woman working Making cigarette wrappers brings 10 from 6 a. m. to 12 p. m. can make \$2 per week.

#### BROUGHT CLOSE TO HOME.

The wreck on the Burlington near Indianola Monday was the most disastrous wreck save one in the history of Nebraska railroading, being exceeded only by the Rock Island wreck south of Lincoln about twenty years ago. The Indianola wreck brought grief to Lincoln homes for Lincoln contributed many of the victims. Engineers John Hyder and W. T. Leahy, Firemen W. J. Dameron and A. J. Olson and Express Messenger Frazier, all of Lincoln, were among the killed. Tried and faithful servants, all of them, yet despite their own carefulness and experience, they went to their death without warning. The prayerbook contains a prayer for those who "go down to the sea in ships;" but they are in no more danger than the men who go flying across the country in charge of our great trains. The human be perfect, but fallible men must run equation in the problem still makes it impossible of solution. Machines may them. System may be ever so perfect, but fallible man must work them out. The dead trainmen were well known and universally liked in Lincoln. Year after year they faced the danger, and wives and little ones at home waited and dreaded until husbands and fathers returned. And now the long-dreaded blow has fallen on these homes. Husbands and fathers will return no more.

Words avail little in a time like this, but the bereaved wives and little ones well know that they have the heartfelt sympathy of the public. But better than all that, they know that in the strong fraternal and beneficial brotherhoods to which husband and father belonged there will always be a bulwark against want or lack of friendships.

#### A PERTINENT ARGUMENT

Congressman John G. McHenry of Pennsylvania delivered a speech in the house a few days ago on the farmers' free list, one portion of which is full of interest and deftly put:

"We have drifted away from our original moorings, and listening to the seductive plea of the dollar we have forgotten the interests of the man. The wageearner, from the standpoint of production, is in the same class as the farmer, but, unlike the farmer, he has not the help of the soil, the sun and rain, nor has the additional capital. He is dependent alone upon his own physical and mental energies which God has given him. He can do a certain number of days' work in his life and no more.

"There is no loss so great as the loss to labor of a day's work. It is the capital account of the workman. He cannot replace it. Nobody can. Nature has allotted him a given number of days. He cannot sell them twice. He cannot issue new stock and increase his capital like the manufacturer and corporation. In times of prosperity protection gives him the little end of the increased profit. In times of depression he must bear the big end of the loss, for he must bear a double loss—the loss of his earnings and the loss of a portion of his capital in every idle day, which he cannot replace."

Just about the time a lot of university students were indulging in that "shirt tail parade" a lot of fathers were doffing overalls after working like sin all day to provide the sons with pajamas, cigarettes and fraternity pins.

Banker Walsh will have to remain in prison a while longer. Banker Walsh is the perfervid patriot who so valiantly fought to preserve the credit and honor of the nation when it was attacked by that arch repudiationist and advocate of a dishonest dollar, William J. Bryan.

The tobacco trust has been declared guilty and given six months in which to reform. Some of these days those criminal trusts will just die a laughin' at the strenuous efforts made to reform them.

Of course Moses had the "blues" when he wrote some of his stuff. No man can feel cheerful all the time it takes to write as much as Moses felt called upon to write.

The doings of the Cudahy outfit are beginning to pall upon our taste. Cut 'em out.