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The Consumer Pays It.

The Chicago Record-Herald is quite correct when it says of the report of the anthracite coal commission that Roosevelt praises so highly that "the trust can certainly regard it with great equanimity because the illegal acts that are charged against it are ignored, its business methods are not condemned, its treatment of its employees receives practically no censure." The miners got a raise in wages and the only fellow who got left is the householder who has to pay an extra price for coal and thus is made to foot all the bills including the cost of the strike and the raise in wages.—Lincoln (Neb.) Independent.

A Great Scheme.

All Havana is talking of the novel "get-rich-quick" scheme inaugurated by John G. Neumeister, of Chicago, a financier and cheese manufacturer, who spent eight weeks in Cuba investigating the island's opportunities.

An ordinance recently passed provides for the payment of bounties for the slaying of sharks. For every female shark killed in Havana waters \$3 is to be paid, for every male \$2.

Mr. Neumeister was here when the ordinance was first published. He began immediately to "work the wires" between Havana and Chicago. He interested Chicago friends, and in less than a week the Havana-American shark syndicate (unlimited) was prepared to begin operations.

A large quantity of a peculiar high explosive was ordered shipped to Havana at once. At the same time 50 men were put to work capturing and corralling all the stray dogs to be found in the city and country adjacent. These men were given authority to buy dogs, if they could not obtain them otherwise. A small farm was rented near the city for the accommodation of the canines.

Dog flesh is the daintiest epicurean morsel that could possibly be served to a hungry shark.

Mr. Neumeister and his associates also knew that sharks could communicate with each other with wonderful facility. Given one dead dog in the waters of Havana harbor the system of communication practised in Sharkdom would soon summon every dog-loving shark reachable in the gulf and the Atlantic.

The syndicate proposed first to feed a few unloaded dogs to the sharks, in order that the news might become generally circulated. A few days of this sort of baiting, then the high explosive was to get in its deadly work. The dogs were to be sent adrift with an explosive cartridge tied to each of them. A hundred or more hungry man-eaters would begin a combat for the prize, a man in a boat would press a button and the cartridge would do the rest.

The supply of dogs in Cuba and the supply of sharks in the ocean being alike inexhaustible, the established fact that four pounds of the explosive attached to one dog would furnish the syndicate with at least a dozen sharks, averaging in municipal bounty \$2.50 each; a "catch" from one boat not consuming more than 30 minutes; 100 boats in operation, bringing in 2,400 sharks an hour, or \$6,000 bounty every 60 minutes—why, it was a Klondike game that made the cheese factory and the stock market seem a waste of time.

The question that is affording the greatest concern is, which will last longer, the dogs and sharks or Havana's treasury?—Havana, Cuba, correspondence New York Herald.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

Tribute was paid last night to the memory of Thomas Jefferson, not as president of the United States, not as the founder of a great political party, but as the author of the Declaration of Independence. The one hundred and fifty-ninth anniversary of Jefferson's birth was celebrated by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial association with an elaborate banquet at the Hotel Barton, at which covers were laid for more than 150 guests.

The celebration was devoid of all that smacked of partisanship. Eulogy to the memory of Jefferson was pronounced by Senator Hoar, the venerable republican statesman from Massachusetts, and Charles Emory Smith, formerly in the cabinet of President McKinley as a republican, as well as by William Jennings Bryan, twice the democratic nominee for president, and Andrew Jackson Montague, the

democratic governor of Virginia. Commissioner Henry B. F. Macfarland, a republican, welcomed the banquet guests, and Thomas Nelson Page, the author, a democrat by birth and training, but to whose name no political significance attaches, presided as master of ceremonies. The other speakers were Dr. Charles W. Needham, president of Columbia university, and Mr. Andrew A. Lipscomb, a prominent lawyer and one of the founders of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial association.

The occasion was the first at which Jefferson's memory has been publicly celebrated solely as the author of the Declaration of Independence, and was the inauguration of the work which the Memorial association has undertaken, that of erecting in this city a fitting memorial to the man to whom the American republic owes so great a debt.—Washington Post.

Paragraphic Punches.

Providence Telegram: If Governor Odell and Senator Platt would just go in and make a dual finish, the price of mourning in New York wouldn't advance a single point.

Houston Post: Buffalo Jones' offer to round up a couple of lions for the president has been declined. Now if Buffalo Jones had offered to round up a few votes it might have been different.

Memphis Scimitar: A dispatch from Philadelphia says the Cramps have been relieved by raising \$5,000,000 for pressing needs. We have known cramps to be relieved at a much smaller cost.

Joplin Globe: The report of General Miles on affairs in the Philippines is kept very quiet by the authorities. The national administration seems to think that public information is designed for its private use.

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