



Rochester (Ind.) Herald: The purchasing power of the dollar is about three laps behind in the race with prices.

Zebulon (Ga.) Journal: Just as harmony was about to perch upon the flagstaff and fold its wings for a nap, ex-President Cleveland frightened it off with an explosive "I didn't say it."

Indianapolis (Ind.) Standard: Uncle Mark's prayer at the Ohio convention, "For God's sake keep on letting well enough alone," met a fervent response from the Rockefeller corner.

Ironton (Mo.) Irontonian: The republicans of Ohio have a millionaire candidate for governor and a multimillionaire candidate for senator. The republican party is fast becoming a millionaire's club.

Bonham (Tex.) News: The scandals concerning the conduct of affairs by the present government officials grow worse the more they are investigated, and if a full and fair investigation is made, and the whole truth is given the people, we shall yet learn many things that we do not know. The republican party has grown so accustomed to scandals among its officials that the exposure of a part of its corruption does not worry it much.

Randolph (N. Y.) Enterprise: That good old democratic platform plank, "the party in power responsible for the government while in power," is particularly applicable just at present to national as well as state administrations. The party of "high moral ideas" seems to be pretty well covered with the barnacles of loot and extravagance. It is becoming more and more apparent that the people will

insist upon a very vigorous housecleaning at Washington as well as at Albany a trifle over a year from now.

Monticello (Ia.) Times: Prominent republican politicians and editors are endeavoring to make it appear that President Roosevelt is a trust smasher and is being opposed by trust magnates and the Wall street financiers. No one should be deceived by such claims. Every trust magnate in the United States is satisfied with Roosevelt's administration and is ready to contribute to a campaign fund to secure his election.

Crete (Neb.) Democrat: Every corporation controlled republican paper in the west favors Grover and the reorganizers. Those republicans who love their party and honor its past achievements should keep an eye on these backers of Grover. They defeated two republican candidates for president in order to foist the stuffed prophet upon the country for reasons best known to themselves and for you to surmise. Democrats supported him because he was their candidate and unknown outside of New York state. He had never been even in Chicago. These same fellows have been the hardest fighters against Bryan and his supporters and never lose an opportunity to laud the reorganizers. This is evidence sufficient to convince most any sensible republican that there is a secret understanding or a powerful influence which directs both. Watch them during the next eight months and you will be fully convinced that they are seeking to control the nominations of both national conventions and then they can look on while their dupes fight in the campaign, over side issues.

SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST

The king of Italy is five feet three inches in height.

The United States has granted 3,500 patents to women.

Brazil is passing through a season of severe financial depression.

Eighty-five per cent of the children of Japan are now in school.

The entrance to the Mediterranean sea at Gibraltar is 12 milés wide.

Automobile building gives employment to 20,000 persons in France.

An elephant's jaw has been unearthed in Halleck Canyon, Wyoming.

Thirteen new theatres, to cost \$8,000,000, are building in New York city.

The head instructor of the naval college of China is to be an American.

Six hundred men are regularly employed on the new steamship Kaiser Wilhelm.

The state of New Hampshire gets more than \$5,000,000 each season from summer boarders.

A German scientist who has spent eight years in Patagonia says that Patagonians will soon be extinct.

The empress dowager of China is selecting 14 princes of her own blood for study in Europe, America and Japan.

At Troy a linen shirt is made in six and a half minutes; the working of the button holes occupies one-quarter of a minute.

The movements of the higher strata of air during monsoons is to be determined by means of kites at Simla, in the Himalayas, 7,000 feet above sea level.

The number of homesteads entered in British Columbia during April was 4,675, or 600 more than double the number entered in the corresponding month last year.

The condition of the Japanese woman, says Mr. Masujiima, before the New York bar, is fully as favorable to her development as that of the woman of America.

On the army this year we shall spend \$130,000,000; on the navy, \$85,000,000. The civil establishment will cost \$128,000,000. To the Indians we shall give \$13,000,000. The interest on the public debt will be \$27,000,000.

The oldest collection of moral maxims known is that of the Presse papyrus, dating 2,600 years B. C., recently found in a tomb at Thebes. They have been translated by Phillippe Vivey, the famous French Egyptologist, and rival in excellence the proverbs of the Hebrews.

For high-grade work requiring great precision and excellence there is to be found in nearly every leading machine shop in Germany a group of American tools—a silent tribute to the remarkable position held in the world today by the American machine tool's work.

A torpedo machine which can be steered and exploded by wire from a warship has been invented in Pittsburgh for destroying submarine craft. The submarine leaves a trail of bubbles on the surface, which will indicate its location to those operating the explosive "chaser."

The number of crimes increases nec-

essarily as civilization advances because new laws are made constituting new crimes. While the number of violations of law increases, the number of atrocious crimes diminishes. The fact is that the increase in the criminal statistics is almost entirely in the newer and lighter offenses.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

The Trout Rod on the Wall.

This slender rod of mine;
This delicate silk line,
And the creel;
This landing net, these flies
Of every shape and size;
With the reel,

Now hanging on the wall
Such memories recall
Of the past,
That I live them o'er again,
And rejoice as I did when
I made a cast.

I can see the shady pool,
Underneath the alders cool—
Bending o'er,
Specks of foam about an eddy,
Circling round with motion steady
To the shore.

Now I see the beauty rise,
As the artificial flies
Strike the pool.
I can hear the water boil,
And the crazy reel uncoil
From the spool.

Ah! he's out upon the bank!
And the specks upon his flank—
How they shine!
Oh! none but anglers know
Why my eyes with tears o'erflow,
As I think of days gone by,
Of the rod, the reel, and fly,
And the line.

—James H. Hoadley.

A Remarkable Tree.

A Los Angeles, Cal., dispatch to the Cincinnati Enquirer says: A wonderful tree of unknown variety has been discovered in a mountain canyon in a spur of the San Jacinto mountains, down near the Mexican line. It was discovered by a party of prospectors who penetrated the canyon in search of water. A branch of the tree and its blossoms were brought to this city for classification, but it is unknown to botanists in this city.

The leaves of the tree resemble, in size and shape, the fig leaf, but they are of a vivid purple color and the under side of the leaf is thickly covered with stiff hairs which stand out from the leaf fully half an inch. These hairs are sharp and thorn-like, and easily penetrate the skin, and when they do so they are poisonous, causing swelling and much pain.

The blossoms are as peculiar as are the branches and leaves. They are of a rusty red color, and are about two inches in diameter. In shape they are a very good representation of the tarantula. There is a huge hairy bulb, in shape resembling the abdomen of the poisonous spider, and there are several chives or stamen corresponding to the legs of that insect.

The most peculiar feature of the plant, however, remain to be told. Whenever one approaches the plant or when the wind agitates the branches of the tree the flowers give off an abundance of perfume—heavy, sickening and deadly. This perfume has the quality of chloroform, and a few inhalations of the odor produces unconsciousness. The prospectors who made the discovery of the plant were rendered insensible upon approaching the tree to examine it.

As the plant seems to have no botanical name two names have been suggested by the qualities of the plant itself. One is "Tarantula Plant;" the other, "Chloroform Tree."

FRIDAY A LUCKY DAY.

Friday, it has been discovered by a painstaking and laborious statistician, is not the unluckiest but actually the luckiest day of the week.

Taking all the great calamies which befall humanity, the painstaking gatherer of facts has discovered that the general average gives the title of "luckiest day" to Friday, and that of unluckiest to Monday.

The moral is plain. Beware of Monday.

In one line alone it has been found that Friday deserves its present title. In railroad accidents Friday heads the list. So it is wise, if you be superstitious, to avoid beginning a journey on Friday.

The "thirteen superstition" was knocked in the head long ago, and it was to be supposed that an iconoclastic age would "take a punch" at the Friday dread before long.

Sir William Churchill was one of the first to discard the superstition.

"Friday is my lucky day," he wrote. "I was born, christened married, and knighted on that day, and all my best accidents have befallen me on a Friday."

It has not been necessary for a person to admit being superstitious to acknowledge a preference for beginning certain things on any other day than Friday. This feeling is inborn in nearly all nationalities except the Scandinavian.

Sir William Churchill's experiences might not be accepted as disproving the general rule against Friday undertakings, but the conclusions of the statistician may have more weight.

First he takes the record of assassinations. In these he discovers that Sunday is pre-eminently the conspicuous day. Wednesday comes next, counting attempts which did not succeed as well as attempts which did. Saturday is third, and Monday fourth. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday are equal.

There is a possibility that the person having in mind such an attack chooses any other day than Friday, in the belief that the day will prove unlucky for him. An examination of the records of such attacks in the last 150 years has disclosed the fact that the would-be murderer looks on Friday as an unlucky day for his attempt. That might be construed to prove either side of the argument, but it is fair to accept the statistician's conclusion in favor of Friday as the lucky day.

As a side issue, he has discovered something which might be used to bolster up the "thirteen superstition." Of all the assassinations, attempted or accomplished, during the last century and a half, 91-3 per cent have fallen on the 13th of the month. A proper proportion would have been about 31-3 per cent.

Three famous men, among others, he finds were assassinated on Friday—Abraham Lincoln, William McKinley, and Nasr-ed Deen, shah of Persia. Three attempts were made to kill Alexander II. of Russia on Mondays, two to kill Bismarck on Mondays, and three to kill Louis Philippe on Tuesdays.

The sailor has a right to consider Friday his luckiest day if exemption from ship-wreck be considered. It has been a pet superstition of the sea that Friday is the unlucky day for sailing. This is found to be extraordinary, as the number of ship-wrecks occurring on that day of the week is the smallest.

To secure this conclusion, the statistician examined the records of the disasters to British vessels from 1895 to the present day. He found that 24 per cent happened on Thursday, 16 per cent on Saturday and Sunday; 14 per cent on Monday and Wednesday, 12