

been projected, he had put up a bond to assure his elevating the buildings without cracking the walls or plastering anywhere. Well, he explained that he did not have quite money enough to build a sleeping car. He told me, with that assuring nod of the enthusiastic inventor, that this scheme was the greatest of all and that inside of three weeks he would be worth \$1,000,000. He said I could have a half interest if I would advance the money, but I told him I did not care to go into the deal. As a matter of fact, I was afraid it would encourage him to ask for more money. He was living in one of my houses then and paid \$8 a month rental. But he was not daunted by my refusal. He said he would go down to Marshall, Ill., to the railroad shops and get the master mechanic to build his car and advance what money was lacking. He said that when the job was finished he was going up to Detroit and invite my uncle, James F. Joy, president of the Michigan Central railroad, and his board of directors down to Marshall to ride up to Chicago in the first sleeping car in America. Sure enough he did just what he said he would do, but he did not sell his invention to them. He wanted \$1,000,000 for 45 per cent of the stock. But a week later he sold the stock for a cool \$1,000,000 to the Pittsburg & Fort Wayne railroad. From that day George M. Pullman was a rich man."

DR. LALOY, writing in *La Nature*, a Paris publication, says that a man does not hear his own voice as the rest of the world hears it. According to a translation made by the *Literary Digest*, Dr. Laloy explains: "If a person records on a phonograph a few sentences pronounced by himself, together with others by his friends, and causes the machine to reproduce these at the end of a brief period, it generally happens that he easily recognizes his friends' voices, but not his own. On the other hand, the friends recognize his voice perfectly. This singular fact proves that every one hears his own voice differently from others. As is remarked by Professor Exner, the difference must lie in the quality of tone. It must be remembered that one hears his own voice not only through the air, as do his auditors, but across the solid parts situated between the organs of speech and those of hearing. The sound thus produced has a different timbre from that conducted to the ear by air alone. We may show this as follows: Take the end of a wooden rod between the teeth and pronounce a vowel continuously. Let the other end be alternately taken between the teeth and released by another person, who at the same time stops his ears. The latter will find that every time he seizes the rod in his teeth, the sound becomes stronger than when it reaches his ear through air alone, and has a different quality. The experiment may be varied by applying a wooden rod to the larynx of the person observed and touching it, from time to time, to the observer's own larynx. As in the preceding case, it will be found that its passage through a solid body augments the intensity of the sound and modifies its quality."

THAT nature provides an antidote for every poison and for every insectiferous pest as promptly and effectively as the wisdom of one proverb is provided with antidotal wisdom of an opposite, is the opinion of a writer for the *Cincinnati Commercial Tribune*. The boll weevil is cited as an example. This writer says: "In far-off Guatemala the agricultural department has found an ant that just fairly revels in fighting the boll weevil and exterminating him wherever found. The direct discovery was made in Guatemalan fields of cotton by Botanist Cook, and to him Secretary Wilson has cabled asking him to indicate how many men and how much money he will need in corralling a sufficient number of ants and shipping them to the cotton fields of their Uncle Sam. So far so good. But it is sometimes well to look upon exterminators of other insects as being very often in themselves something of nuisances. The story of the farmer who was discovered sitting on the fence bemoaning that the worms had eaten his tomato plants, his chickens had eaten the worms, his cats had eaten his chickens, and he was only waiting for some sort of animal to come along and eat his cats, is a story in point. The English sparrow was imported and turned loose for the purpose of exterminating tree worms, and not only succeeded, but has about exterminated the song birds and is a nuisance in many other respects—principally in the way of roosting on telephone wires. The Australians imported the mongoose for the purpose of ridding the bush of snakes, and are now praying vociferously for riddance from the mongoose, and the line might be extended indefinitely. However, it is up to Uncle

Samuel, whose head is level and whose intentions are always just right. Let the ant come to her uncle. The natives of Guatemala are stuck on the little darling, and no well regulated Guatemalan cotton field is without its presence, for when she comes in sight the boll weevil just takes to the woods and admits the jib is up. At least, that is what the Guatemalans say, and they are all George Washingtons down there."

A MECHANICAL ENGINEER who resided in Chicago and who was recommended by the city engineer as being "sober, industrious, and a first-class mechanical engineer," committed suicide recently. This man's name was A. Wermillen. He was 45 years old. The man had been out of employment for several weeks and had spent his time in a fruitless search for work. Wherever he applied, he was asked his age and he was told that while his skill was not doubted, they were not hiring men who were more than 45 years of age. No one seems to be able to explain just why 45 is the fixed age limit, and yet, investigation discloses that men who have passed that age have serious difficulty in obtaining employment.

A STUDY of the fungus growth of trees is contributed by Professor Schrenk to the "Genie Civil" and the translation of Mr. Schrenk's statements made for the *Literary Digest* is summarized as follows: "Most of the maladies of trees are to be attributed to fungi, which attack sometimes the roots or the trunk, and sometimes the branches of the leaves. A wound in the trunk is an open door to insects or fungi, unless the exudation of gum cicatrizes the injury. Certain fungi may thus penetrate even to the heart of the tree; their filaments grow there at the expense of the plant cells, and the whole is finally changed into a spongy substance. The older the tree is the greater its liability to fungous attack; hence trees should be felled before they are too far gone, for disease always involves weakening of the mechanical properties of the wood. The signs of disease are well known to foresters. Thus, for conifers, the presence of a quantity of resin or turpentine shows that the tree is infected. Mr. Schrenk has made a detailed study of the divers species of fungi that must be fought and of the means for combating them. The injection of antiseptic salts under pressure is said, for instance, to be at present the best-known means of preserving railway ties, which fungi are destroying by thousands yearly."

A NUMBER of Chicago's leading citizens have agreed upon a plan whereby the July 4th accidents may be reduced to the minimum. The plan is explained in an address to the people of Chicago recently issued by a committee of prominent citizens, as follows: "By the authority of the city council of Chicago the undersigned aldermen have been appointed by the mayor to act on behalf of the municipality in an effort to provide proper amusement for the children of the city on July Fourth. In accordance with a resolution of the city council, the Chicago Amusement association has been incorporated with the mayor as honorary president. The association is without profit and its affairs are administered by 255 trustees. The purpose of the association is to act as steward for those citizens who may wish to contribute toward a proper celebration of Independence Day and provide the entertainment if sufficient funds are received for that purpose. A tentative program includes the distribution of fireworks, the gathering of the children in various public parks, where there may be military drills during the day and fireworks displays at night. It is also the plan to have in attendance an efficient corps of surgeons, firemen and policemen, and by properly caring for the children on the Fourth of July reduce the number of casualties and minimize the fire loss, which is about \$750,000 annually in Chicago, due wholly to the improper use of fireworks. The association has established headquarters at 237 Fifth avenue and has already issued an appeal for funds. The amount necessary to insure the success of the proposed plan is estimated at \$50,000. The charter of the association distinctly provides that no indebtedness shall be incurred until the money to cover it is in the hands of the treasurer. About \$2,000 has been raised, and the balance must be in sight not later than June 10 if the plan is to be successfully consummated."

ALTHOUGH many people have thought it was settled that Mr. Hitt of Illinois would be nominated for the vice presidency on the republican ticket, Jesse Overstreet of Indiana has announced that Senator Fairbanks will accept the

honor. Mr. Overstreet says he is practically certain of Senator Fairbanks' nomination and thinks that by the time the convention meets, all other candidates will have retired.

## Cleveland and the Strike.

Ex-President Cleveland recently delivered an address at Princeton, N. J., in which he discussed the action of his administration in connection with the Chicago strike. The fact that he is explaining and defending his administration would indicate that he is either very sensitive to the criticisms that have been directed against him, or that he is trying to put himself in shape for another race. It is fortunate for him (even if not intentional) that he has waited until after Governor Altgeld's death to make his defense, because if the governor were alive he would be able to analyze, as no other person can, the president's action in that strike.

On another page will be found Governor Altgeld's telegraphic protest, together with Mr. Cleveland's reply and Governor Altgeld's rejoinder. These state the position of the two men, and it will be noticed that Mr. Cleveland's telegram does not give any logical or legal defense for his action. The point involved is not so much a matter of law as a matter of fact. If Mr. Cleveland had had a proper regard for the dual form of our government, and a proper conception of the importance of local self-government, he would not have called out the federal army to do what state troops were ready to do. The position taken by Mr. Cleveland is that the federal government is entirely independent of the state government and need not ask whether the state government is willing or unwilling to enforce the law and maintain order. Those who believe in local self-government and who prefer to have the local means of preserving order exhausted before a call is made for outside troops, are not the enemies of law and order. They are, on the contrary, the best friends of law and order, for they believe that the people of each community are in the best position to know what ought to be done, and are most interested in what is done. To assume that the president, a thousand miles away, is either more interested in the local community, or better informed of its needs than the people themselves, and better informed than those officials directly responsible to the people, is an assumption entirely antagonistic to the theory of popular government.

Mr. Cleveland pretends a deep interest in the enforcement of the law and in the preservation of order, but as a matter of fact he was simply in sympathy with the corporations and was using the powers of the government to assist them in a contest with their employes. All his information at Chicago came from railroad sources, and his efforts were inspired by his bias in favor of the syndicates and large corporate interests. If he had been in sympathy with democratic principles and with the interests of the people at large, he would have had no difficulty in co-operating with Governor Altgeld and in preserving order without raising the question of militarism. Governor Altgeld, as stated in his telegram, had already called out soldiers where they were asked for; he had even called them out where he afterward found that they were not needed. It may seem to some a matter of indifference whether a riot is suppressed by state troops or by federal troops, but no one who understands the menace of a highly centralized government can ignore the difference. The right to ignore the state authorities, even in the suppression of a riot, involves the right to decide, without consultation with local authorities, when outside troops shall be sent in. And when this right is firmly established and fully recognized a president can use the army to obliterate local self-government and install imperialism.

Mr. Cleveland has attempted to hide behind his reverence for law and order, but history teaches that imperialism is not the friend of law and order; that local self-government is the best and only protection against the disorders that accompany the exercise of arbitrary power. This is "an indissoluble union of indestructible states," not a federal government whose authority can be used indiscriminately at the caprice of an ambitious chief executive.

With men like Grover Cleveland, the federal government is omnipotent when it is backing up the demands of capital, but impotent when called upon to protect the masses. Mr. Cleveland found the law strong enough to punish a representative of a labor union, but not strong enough to punish the trust magnates who are constantly violating the federal statutes.